

From: Cooper, Ginnie (DCPL)
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 10:56 AM
To: Argo, Linda (DCRA)
Cc: Bonvechio, Jeffrey (DCPL); Coard, Eric (DCPL)
Subject: Fwd: Follow Up From Mt. Pleasant Library Visit

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Rubin, Dennis (FEMS)" <Dennis.Rubin@dc.gov>
Date: June 2, 2010 9:36:40 AM EDT
To: Jim Graham <Jim@grahamwone.com>, "Graham, Jim (COUNCIL)" <JGRAHAM@DCCOUNCIL.US>
Cc: "Faust, Bruce (FEMS)" <Bruce.Faust@dc.gov>
Subject: Follow Up From Mt. Pleasant Library Visit
Dear CM Graham:

I visited the Library site along with the Fire Marshal last evening to supplement the plans review process and to consider the concerns expressed by the external consultants discussing the need for an access road in the rear of the building. I do not see the need nor can I support this suggestion as improving the fire operations and life safety requirements for any of the buildings that are adjacent to the library. The very small area that would be added will not allow for the placement of fire & emergency apparatus, so therefore portable ladders will be required if elevated rescues are in fact needed from these buildings. By fully sprinkling the library building the risk of it becoming a significant hazard is reduced dramatically. I am sure that the consultants would agree that the very best plan for fire protection of the apartment buildings in question would be to have them sprinkled also. I am certain that our Department along with DCRA would work closely with the building ownership/management to facilitate this true life saving effort.

Finally, The provision of Appendix D of the International fire Code have not been adopted by the DC Government. Additionally, the requirements specifying a 20' wide access road are codified for design and new construction. They are not intended to be applied to existing buildings and structures. The intent of the code is to allow for fire department access while not being unreasonable. Generally, the goal is to get a fire engine close enough to a structure so that with only 150' of fire hose it can reach all sides of a building.

I hope this helps.

Chief Rubin

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT
District of Columbia
CASE NO. 18240
EXHIBIT NO. 49

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