

Permit No.: REZ-22-06
Date: 10 | 20 | 22

TO:
Building Officials
City of Tampa
Construction Services
1400 N. Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33607

FOR:
Existing Historic Building | ADA Exemption Waiver Request
407 E. Palm Ave., Tampa, FL 33602

Dear Building Officials,

Please accept this letter as written formal request for approval of an ADA Exemption Waiver for the vertical accessibility requirements to a Qualified Historic Building under the above referenced address and permit record.

The existing historic building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a contributing structure to the Tampa Heights Historic District. During the rezoning process from RM-24 to PD, the City of Tampa required installation of an ADA compliant ramp and/or limited application wheelchair lift due to the existing first floor level being elevated four feet above the surrounding grade.

Due to the historic designation of the building, coupled with the proposed first floor use as a commercial business that does not deal with physical clients, installation of a wheelchair lift would generate a disproportionate cost for its proper implementation and continued safe operation as it would require additional modifications to protect the lift from the elements, which would detract from the historic nature and character of the existing structure.

The 2020 Florida Building Code, 7th Ed., Accessibility; Chapter 2: Scoping Requirements, Section 202.5 - Alterations to Qualified Historic Buildings and Facilities Exception advises to seek consultation from a State Historic Preservation Officer when an entity believes that compliance with the requirements for, specifically the entry element in this case, would threaten or destroy the historic significance of the building.

Please refer to the attached letter from the Florida Department of State indicating that the State Historic Preservation Officer confirms this building is eligible for use of the exemption provided in Section 202.5 citing the intent for the building to continue to read as residential rather than commercial based on the intended use per the rezoning request.

It is my professional recommendation that the proposed ADA Exemption Waiver request to remove the requirement for an ADA compliant ramp and/or limited application wheelchair lift be approved by the City of Tampa as conformance with the prevailing code has been demonstrated as necessary to warrant consideration and approval of the exemption waiver.

If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me via email at patrick@allegedlydesign.com, or by phone at (813) 938-0112 at your convenience.

(allegedly)® yours,

Patrick Thorpe | AIA, CEC USNR
NCARB No. 82696 | Notary Public

This document has been electronically signed and sealed by the professional of record on the indicated digital date & time stamp. Printed copies of this document are not considered signed and sealed and the signature must be verified on any electronic copy. Digitally signed and sealed in accordance with 61G15-23.004. Should there be any issues contact the professional of record indicated on this document.