



City of Saint Paul

City Hall and Court House
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Master

File Number: RLH FCO 15-173

File ID: RLH FCO 15-173	Type: Resolution LH Fire C of O	Status: Passed
Version: 2	Contact Number:	In Control: City Council
File Name: 901 Portland Avenue		File Created: 08/03/2015
		Final Action: 09/02/2015

Title: Appeal of Chris Worthington to a Fire Certificate of Occupancy Correction Notice at 901 PORTLAND AVENUE.

Notes:

Agenda Date: 09/02/2015

Indexes: Ward - 1; Fire C of O Letter

Agenda Number: 60

Sponsors: Thao

Enactment Date:

Attachments: 901 Portland Ave.appeal.8-3-15, 901 Portland Ave.Photos.7-9-15, 901 Portland Ave.Worthington Ltr.8-20-15

Financials Included?:

Contact Name:

Hearing Date:

Entered by: andrew.crichton@ci.stpaul.mn.us

Ord Effective Date:

Approval History

Version	Date	Approver	Action
1	08/05/2015	Moermond, Marcia	Approve
2	08/25/2015	Moermond, Marcia	Approve
2	08/26/2015	Dai Thao	Approve

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Legislative Hearings	08/18/2015	Referred	City Council	09/02/2015		
	Action Text:	Referred to the City Council due back on 9/2/2015					
	Notes:	Chris Worthington, Sr. Warden for St. Clement's Episcopal Church, and Joy Caires appeared.					
		Fire Inspector A. J. Neis:					
		-Fire Certificate of Occupancy inspection conducted Jun 19, 2015 by Inspector Wayne Spiering					
		-re-inspection scheduled for Aug 21, 2015					
		-appealing due to the historic and aesthetic features of the church					

-Inspector Spiering noted the need for exit signs and emergency lighting in the sanctuary in addition to posting the occupant load in the church; there is an exception in the MN State Fire Code for churches that are under 300 occupancy not needing to have the emergency lighting, exit signage due to aesthetics but the occupant load here is over 300 by approximately by 44, which triggered the Order -sounds as though they are looking for solutions to remedy this issue without necessarily putting in the exit signage but something more aesthetically pleasing to a sanctuary

Mr. Worthington:

*-church is 120 years old; the sanctuary is a Cass Gilbert design- a very historically significant structure; it's an old English County style and the sanctuary has remained unchanged with the exception of adding sprinklers
-they feel very strongly that the emergency lighting is not compatible with the contemplative nature of the space and the historic nature of the space
-also, this is the first time that any requirement was mentioned on either exit lighting or occupancy level signage*

Ms. Moermond:

*-between the sprinklering and it being off 44 occupants..., knowing what church attendance is everywhere, not only here (Mr. Worthington: typically, about 115)
-go ahead and find a place for the occupancy sign
-no emergency lighting will be necessary
-will recommend this appeal be granted*

Grant the appeal.

2	City Council	09/02/2015	Adopted	Pass
	Action Text:	Adopted		
		Yea: 7	Councilmember Bostrom, Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Thune, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Finney, and City Council President Stark	
		Nay: 0		
2	Mayor's Office	09/04/2015	Signed	
	Action Text:	Signed		

Text of Legislative File RLH FCO 15-173

Appeal of Chris Worthington to a Fire Certificate of Occupancy Correction Notice at 901 PORTLAND AVENUE.

WHEREAS, in the matter of Appeal of Chris Worthington to a Fire Certificate of Occupancy Correction Notice at 901 PORTLAND AVENUE, the Legislative Hearing Officer has reviewed the appeal and considered the testimony of City staff and the appellant; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Hearing Officer recommends that the City Council grant the appeal; Now, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul City Council hereby accepts and adopts the Legislative Hearing Officer's recommendation in this matter.

Two of the deficiencies and the cited corrections are being appealed. Sanctuary - Exit Signs & Sanctuary - Emergency Lighting. See attached for in-depth reasoning.