
July 8, 2015

Marcia Moermond
marcia.moermond@ci.stpaul.mn.us
City of St. Paul

**RE: Code Compliance Issues
378 Maria Ave, St. Paul**

Dear Marcia,

I have been retained by Mr. Will Anderson to look into the matter of code compliance for the property located at 378 Maria Avenue in St. Paul. The issues I am specifically looking into for Mr. Anderson are the spiral winder staircase located within "The Strip Club" restaurant and the exit doors.

Spiral Winder Staircase

In accordance with Chapter 10, Section 1027 "Means of Egress for Existing Buildings", specifically Section 1027.11, "Existing winders shall be allowed to remain in use if they have a minimum tread depth of 6 inches and a minimum tread depth of 9 inches at a point 12 inches from the narrowest edge." This winder staircase was built to these specifications at the treads. As it is an existing staircase, and it meets the intent of the code, Code allows for this staircase to remain in place and to remain in use. Additionally, this staircase does not constitute a distinct hazard based on the minimal amount of people (20 maximum) that would be exiting.

Exit Doors

The restaurant, based on an occupant load of 100 people, is to have 2 exits with the doors that swing in the direction of travel per Section 1019.1 of the Fire Code. The restaurant shall satisfy this requirement by using the rear exit door (with the required hardware and signage) and the door labeled 374 (with the required hardware and signage). The allowable travel distance to the exits shall not exceed 200 feet from any point within the restaurant per Table 1016.1 of the Fire Code, which it does not. The door labeled as 378 shall be used as an entry door only and will not be marked with exit signage as it does not comply with the requirements of an emergency exit. Illuminated exit signs (with arrows) will be provided and lead to the required exits.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, I would be more than happy to discuss this with you further. Please feel free to contact me at 612-750-2431.

Sincerely,



Kristopher W. Johnson, CFPS, CFI II
Certified Fire Protection Specialist