

From: [Mai Vang](#)
To: [Marcia Moermond](#); [Joanna Zimny](#)
Subject: FW: Fire Door Question for Appeal - 159 Pennsylvania
Date: Thursday, December 4, 2025 3:12:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

From: John Caldwell <John.Caldwell@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 9:52 AM
To: Mitchell Imbertson <mitchell.imbertson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Brian Schmidt <brian.schmidt@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: RE: Fire Door Question for Appeal - 159 Pennsylvania

Mitch, thanks for reaching out.

Good questions, since this door is rated, we would require a building permit. We would inspect to ensure the door is rated properly, as well as verify the door is self-closing, latching, and fitment.

It sounds like this metal frame is set in mortar, if it is in good condition and the door fitment is good, we would be ok with the frame not having the label on it.

I hope this helps. If you need anything else, feel free to reach-out.

Respectfully,

John Caldwell

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From: Mitchell Imbertson <mitchell.imbertson@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 9:34 AM
To: John Caldwell <John.Caldwell@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: Mai Vang <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Brian Schmidt <brian.schmidt@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Fire Door Question for Appeal - 159 Pennsylvania

Good morning,

There was an appeal on this property yesterday and I was asked to check in with you about a question on a fire door order. This building is an S-1 Auto Body shop. There were recent building permits for a remodel of the office area but no work in the shop areas.

We wrote up deficiency order on a fire door that goes into a small high hazard flammable liquid storage and mixing room. The fire code would refer to the room as a “liquid storage room”. The existing door was older and has no listed fire rating. It is built as a metal door frame set into concrete with a wood door wrapped in sheet metal. The door would have met our fire code standards for an “existing building” door while in good shape but now is damaged and doesn’t self close or fit securely in frame so it needs to be replaced.

Owner is in appeals and is stating that he does not believe a building permit is required. He purchased a 60 minute door slab that he states he will cut down for custom height and fit with self-closing hinges to the existing door frame. In appeals I expressed that I didn’t not believe this would meet code requirements since the existing frame was not labeled as part of the fire door assembly and was being fit to a different brand of door slab.

To summarize these are the two questions:

1. Is a building permit required for the owner to install a replacement fire door which he states he purchased for \$329 in materials?
2. Would we allow a replacement fire-rated door slab to be fitted to an existing door frame which has no listing or label?

Thanks,

Mitch Imbertson

Fire Safety Supervisor

Pronouns: he/him/his

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