

FW: Request for Reconsideration and Appeal - Reference Code 6DPWMK-Vyoones Restaurant 412 Girod

From Clerk of Council <clerkofcouncil@nola.gov>

Date Thu 1/15/2026 10:33 AM

To Cecil C. Hartzog <cchartzog@nola.gov>; Denise Mills <dmills@nola.gov>; Naomi R. Mark <nrmrk@nola.gov>; Denise M. Russ <dmruss@nola.gov>; Eleanor S. Burke <esburke@nola.gov>; Angela G. Sarker <agsarker@nola.gov>

From: Vyoone Lewis <info@vyoone.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 15, 2026 10:00 AM

To: Clerk of Council <clerkofcouncil@nola.gov>

Cc: p k <pklotz@outlook.com>; Dennis P. Murphy <Dennis.Murphy@nola.gov>; Vyoone <vyoone1027@gmail.com>

Subject: Request for Reconsideration and Appeal - Reference Code 6DPWMK-Vyoones Restaurant 412 Girod

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Historic District Landmarks Commission,

I am writing to respectfully request an appeal and reconsideration of the decision regarding the exterior lighting associated with the existing signage at Vyoone's Restaurant, 412 Girod Street.

We appreciate HDLC's role in preserving the historic character of the district and have made every effort to ensure that the lighting fixtures installed aligns with the intent of HDLC guidelines, particularly as they relate to minimal visual impact, reversibility, and compatibility with surrounding properties.

The lighting fixtures in question were installed as the existing fixtures on over 3 occasions did not sustain wind strength and damage the sign panel and many occasions left hanging causing safety issues for pedestrians.

We have multiple property crimes that have occurred during business hours while we had customers and during service, due to the fixtures not providing adequate lighting to restaurant. We are happy to provide more details around these crimes for the committee.

In addition, the surrounding businesses employees and others hang out in front restaurant during breaks smoking and loitering because it is very dark in front the restaurant.

For the SAFETY of employees and customers, after the 3rd time the fixtures were blown away from sign and left hanging and damage the panel, we changed the fixtures to illuminate the existing sign in a subtle and non-intrusive manner, serving essential public and personal safety and wayfinding purposes.

The sign is not internally illuminated, and the external lighting is low-level, directed, and designed to avoid glare, spillover, or disruption to the historic streetscape. The fixtures are fully reversible and do not result in permanent alteration to the structure.

Additionally, similar signage lighting can be observed on neighboring commercial properties within the district, demonstrating consistency with the surrounding context. The illumination improves visibility for pedestrians and motorists, particularly during business evening hours, contributing to safety while maintaining the character of the building and area.

We would also like to note that the lighting fixtures were installed with the **encouragement and support of nearby neighbors and businesses**, who recognized the importance of visibility and safety at this location.

We were encouraged by neighbors to start a petition to keep current lighting which we did and currently have over 175 signatures and some with comments on the impact of this decision. We are happy to provide the petition and letters of support from neighbors if the committee sees appropriate.

Also, **We have had no loitering or property crimes since the fixtures were changed over a year ago and the current fixtures sustained the last hurricane without damaging the sign panel.**

Based on the above, we respectfully request that HDLC reconsider its decision and approve the signage lighting as installed, or alternatively, approve it with reasonable conditions that would allow the sign to remain safely and visibly illuminated while remaining compliant with HDLC guidelines.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued work in preserving the historic integrity of our city. We remain fully willing to work collaboratively with HDLC staff and the Commission to reach a solution that satisfies both preservation goals and operational needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Vyoone's Restaurant NOLA
412 Girod Street
New Orleans, LA

Mobile 504-858-3885

Vyoone Segue, Proprietor

