

**Subject:** Fwd: Question Regarding Your Permit Application  
**From:** Lacar Musgrove <lacar.musgrove@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 8/13/25, 11:57 AM  
**To:** hdlc@nola.gov  
**CC:** permitinfo@nola.gov  
**BCC:** ttjackson@nola.gov

Hello,

I am writing to address my concern with an apparent conflict of process in permitting requirements and because I was directed by Safety & Permits to contact you.

On August 11, 2025, I received the following statement from Safety and Permits in regard to my permit application:

This property is located within the Full control of the Historic Districts And Landmarks Commission (HDLC). No **exterior work is permitted without their review and approval**. Please contact [hdlcstaff@nola.gov](mailto:hdlcstaff@nola.gov) or (504) 658-7051. Please notify me at [henry.settoon@nola.gov](mailto:henry.settoon@nola.gov) when HDLC approval has been granted.

This statement indicates that Safety & Permits **cannot process a building permit application until and unless a CofA has been issued by the HDLC**. Please note that City of New Orleans Code of Ordinances Chapter 84 section 84-106(b) specifies the following:

The commission shall not consider interior arrangement or use, but shall consider the relationship of the exterior of the building concerned with all others in the district so as to avoid incongruity and promote harmony therewith. In all instances the commission shall regulate those outside surfaces of a building **that can be viewed from a public right-of-way or street**.

The proposed pool location is **cannot be viewed from a public right-of-way or street**, as stated in the permit application materials, nor would the proposed temporary aboveground vinyl pool be visible from a right-of-way or street. Therefore, the project is **not subject to HLDC approval, and no CofA is required**.

However, on July 21, 2025, I received the following statement from Eleanor Burke regarding a large unpermitted accessory building that my neighbor (1223-1225 Pauline Street) has erected upon my property line and that is clearly visible from both Pauline Street and Alavar Street:

Staff **instructed the applicant to apply to the Department of Safety and Permits for the retention of the accessory structure**. The accessory structure and demolition by neglect violations are still on file and **no approvals have been given by the HDLC regarding the retention of the accessory structure**.

This statement directly contradicts the statement I received from Safety & Permits regarding my permit application, indicating that the property owner at 1223-1225 has been **instructed to secure a building permit FIRST, before obtaining an CofA from the HDLC**, and that **this is the reason that the HDLC has chosen not to move forward with enforcement** of a Working

without a CofA issued for the accessory building on June 23, 2025, which as of this date, August 13, 2025, is still under the status "case assessment."

These conflicting statements demonstrate that HDLC and Safety & Permits are applying two different procedural standards to two different property owners.

Based on the above, only one of these can be true:

1. My permit application is being withheld on an incorrect basis; or
2. The owner of 1223-1225 Pauline Street was improperly instructed to apply for a building permit without first obtaining an HDLC CofA.

I am asking for clarification on the following:

1. Is it necessary to obtain an CofA from the HLDC before Safety & Permits can process a building permit application?
2. If so, why was the property owner at 1223-1225 Pauline Street **instructed to apply to Safety & Permits for the retention of an accessory structure for which he has not first obtained a CofA from the HDLC?**
3. If not, why does **Safety & Permits refuse to process my permit application until and unless I obtain a CofA from the HDLC** (that I do not even need)?

I would appreciate a timely response to this inquiry, particularly as I was directed that I must make this inquiry as a condiciton of Safety & Permits processing my permit application.

Sincerely,  
Lacar Musgrove  
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504.417.2171