

Bibleway Missionary Baptist Church is asking New Orleans City Council for permission to increase parking (Google Maps).

Bibleway Missionary Baptist Church, located at 3308 Orleans Avenue on the corner of Hagan Avenue, may soon have additional parking spaces for its congregation.

Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, teacher and pastor of the church, has asked New Orleans City Council for a "special exception" from zoning rules regarding parking, since the church building doesn't currently satisfy full off-street parking requirements for its members.

Council District A, the church's district, requires that churches provide parking at a rate of one space for every 60 square feet of area in the main sanctuary, according to a letter written by Davis to Peggy Lewis, clerk for City Council.

Although district parking rules require the church have 66 parking spaces, the facility only has 50, four of which are handicap spots, Davis said.

To solve the problem, Bibleway has entered into an agreement with Armstrong Supply Company, a neighboring vendor, to use their lot for additional parking, he added.

"With this agreement in place, we have an excess number of parking spaces available which will also include handicapped parking," Davis wrote.

According to the letter, Davis must go directly to City Council for permission to use the lot because the Board of Zoning Adjustments doesn't have the authority to grant waivers of this size — or those that exceed 30 percent of the applicable lot area and off-street parking requirements.

The issue was initially scheduled to go before City Council on July 24, but was deferred to an August 14 meeting.