

October 7, 2025

Detroit Historic District Commission
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 808
Detroit, MI 48226

Re: Apology for Premature Excavation at 70 W. Boston

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to sincerely apologize for the premature excavation work that occurred at 70 W. Boston prior to receiving final HDC approval.

I had instructed my subcontractor to perform a layout only for the proposed pool and spa in preparation for the upcoming review. Unfortunately, the work began on a Friday while I was off-site, and when I arrived on-site early Monday morning, I discovered that the subcontractor had proceeded beyond layout and had excavated the pool area without authorization.

As the licensed builder and applicant, I take full responsibility for this miscommunication and understand that work should not have commenced until formal approval was granted.

It is important to note that I had already initiated the building permit application process and intended to fully comply with all Historic District Commission requirements.

As soon as I learned of the unauthorized excavation, I promptly notified the property owner, Ali Sobh, that work had inadvertently begun and confirmed that all activity would be halted from a stop work order and pending HDC review and approval.

Mr. Sobh recently purchased the property and has already opened a new business, King Coney, a Coney Island-style restaurant in Detroit. We both deeply respect the historic nature of the neighborhood and are committed to ensuring all restoration and improvements are completed properly and in accordance with HDC standards.

Please accept my sincere apology, and know that no further work will proceed until all approvals have been received.

Sincerely,
Craig Kallen
Licensed Builder
Wet Custom Pool Design
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