

**Kristin Alexander**

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**From:** Robert Craig  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 23, 2005 10:19 AM  
**To:** Kristin Alexander  
**Cc:** Don Johnson  
**Subject:** Large Building Concept- Woodlands at Laurel Hill  
**Importance:** High

Kristin: As I stated to you yesterday, Roland had asked my opinion on the revised concept of consolidating several buildings into one large 86 unit building and whether this department could handle a building of that size. First of all I will qualify my remarks in that I have not talked directly with the developer or his engineers regarding this revised concept. My comments are based solely on my own observations at this point. I would submit that the answer to Roland's inquiry is that with the inclusion of sprinklers and fire protective signaling systems for early detection, warning and evacuation of the building, should a minimal fire occur it could be handled by this department with the assistance of area departments under a mutual-aid situation. However, one of the key items of concern that I mentioned is evacuation of the structure which is much more difficult given the size of the structure and the fact that the residents are targeted to be older and less mobile. In addition it appears that this structure may be somewhat less accessible than the smaller structures especially relative to placement and use of aerial ladders. Also the structure could not be accessed as quickly as apparatus would have to go up around the building to enter side and rear parking areas. Finally, the developer has submitted a list of advantages to this large building concept, yet I note that there does not seem to be any advantages from a fire and life safety standpoint that are readily apparent to me at this point.

Robert C. Craig, Fire Chief

8/23/2005