

# **Orland Fire Protection District Comments to Proposed Building Code Changes**

- 1. Exterior Walls:** The Orland Fire District will accept the proposed changes for the construction of exterior walls.
- 2. Condo Floors Except for Garage/Ceiling Separations:**
  - a. Metal Bar Joists:** The Orland Fire District will accept the proposed changes for metal bar joist floor construction with the listed conditions.
  - b. Wood Floor:** The Orland Fire District opposes this change on the basis of the potential of rapid collapse during fire conditions and the additional fire load that these wood components present.
- 3. Condo Interior Tenant Wall Separation:** The Orland Fire District will accept the proposed change for tenant walls when the building is fully sprinkled.
- 4. Commercial Interior Tenant Wall Separations:** The Orland Fire District will accept this proposed change.
- 5. Commercial Fire Sprinkler System Changes:** The Orland Fire District opposes this change because it would negatively affect life safety. In its current form Orland Park's current sprinkler requirements are less restrictive than the surrounding communities. Orland's past history has shown that sprinkler activations have worked to retain businesses.
- 6. Masonry "Fire Walls" and Building Area:** The Orland Fire District opposes this change on the basis that it would negate the 8,000 sqft. fire sprinkler requirement. Large buildings could erect fire walls every 7,999 sqft. thus eliminating the fire sprinkler requirement for these buildings. Strip malls, office buildings, etc. that extend for a block long could be non-sprinkled using this exception.
- 7. Fire Alarm not Required in Non-Sprinkled Buildings:** The Orland Fire District could agree with this proposal if the following conditions were added:
  1. The buildings must be provided with a "local fire alarm system."
  2. Occupancies that are required to have additional fire suppression systems (ex: a cooking hood suppression system) must install a full alarm system directly connected to the Orland Fire Dispatch Center.