



# PORTLAND MAINE

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Lee Urban - Director of Planning and Development  
Jeanie Bourke - Inspection Division Services Director

December 31, 2007

TFH Architects  
Attn: Richard Lo  
100 Commercial Street  
Portland, ME 04101

RE: Waiver Request: Sheridan Heights – Allowable window area  
CBL: 013 K002  
Permit #: 07-981

Dear Mr. Lo

Thank you for your request for waiver to increase the percentage of opening protection in the exterior south wall bordering units 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A. Per the review from Mike Nugent, and the email on November 20, 2007, the following are the facts:

The openings in these units now will be considered "unprotected" because the project will have the dual NFPA 13 and NFPA 13R system as previously discussed. The request is to measure the fire separation distance to a line half way between the new building and the zoning setback point on the abutting property. The distance ranges from 6'9" to 8'9". Table 704.8 limits the allowable unprotected openings to 10%. The applicant proposes 14.6% of unprotected opening over this elevation. In order to approve this waiver, the following conditions will apply:

1. That additional fire suppression is installed in the interior of each window to increase the capability of the sprinkler system.
2. That the interior side of the exterior wall on this face has a 1 hour fire resistance rating. (This is required anyway).
3. That if development on the abutting parcel occurs in a manner different than contemplated by this proposed waiver, The City has the right to require upgrades to the Sheridan Heights project that would increase the level of protection including but not limited to: reductions in unprotected openings and / or increases in fire suppression.
4. The approval of the State Fire Marshal. (An email from Steve Dodge at SFM received on November 21, 2007 states that he and Eric Ellis have never had a problem with this).

The Waiver Request is approved by this office to increase the percentage of unprotected glazing at the south wall on the above mentioned project based on meeting the above conditions.

Yours Truly,

Jeanie Bourke  
Inspections Division Director