



Town of Brunswick, Maine

**Incorporated 1739
Brunswick Fire Department**

"Working Today for a Safer Tomorrow"



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**Kristine Logan
Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority
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RE: Hangar 5, Supplemental Protection System

The Maine Fire Marshal's Office has adopted NFPA 409 "Standard on Aircraft Hangars" 2011 Edition as the enforceable code for aircraft hangars. Hangar 5 is classified as a Group I Hangar due to its size per NFPA 409 – 2011, 4.1.1. NFPA 409 – 2011, Chapter 6 outlines Group I Hangars' fire protection requirements. Hangar 5 is currently equipped with a foam suppression system as required by the standard.

NFPA 409 – 2011, 6.2.31-6.2.3.3 define the requirements for supplementary protection systems. Supplementary protection systems require the use of automatic monitors to provide underwing protection when an aircraft has a wing area greater than 3,000 ft², multiple aircraft are stored with a cumulative wing area greater than 3,000 ft², or the aircraft is of significant importance.

Hangar 5 is currently equipped with automatic monitors. The supplementary protection systems were most likely installed by the Navy due to the multiple aircraft in the hanger area and the strategic importance of the aircraft.

The current use of Hangar 5 includes the storage of light aircraft for flight school tenants, storage for the Fixed Base Operator, and non-aviation manufacturing space. The wing area and configuration of the aircraft stored in Hangar 5 do not meet the requirements for a supplementary protection system.

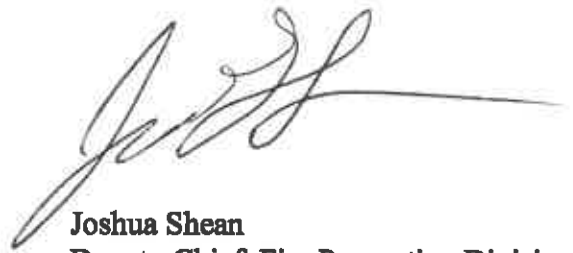
MRRA has requested approval to discontinue the use of the automatic monitors and flame detectors. A building must be evaluated for its current use and potential future use when considering the application of fire codes. An additional consideration for the continued use of automatic monitors is the potential for environmental impact due to accidental activation of the system.

The supplementary protection systems, automatic monitors, and flame detectors are not required and may be removed from Hangar 5. Hangar 5 is classified as a Group I Hangar. If MRRA chooses to remove the supplemental system, the following actions must be taken:

1. A review of the suppression system to confirm the foam system will activate as a component of the sprinkler system currently in place.
2. Notification in writing to the tenants of the building with a copy submitted to the Brunswick Fire Department.
3. Notification made to the Maine State Fire Marshal's Office.
4. The appliances shall be removed or covered and labeled out of service per NFPA 13-2016, 27.2
5. The hangar area will have signs posted stating the absence of supplemental underwing protection, restricting the use of the hangar to aircraft with a wing area of less than 3,000 ft².

A foam suppression system as part of the automatic sprinkler system **must** remain in place unless an alternative system is approved.

Contact the Brunswick Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division for any questions or clarification.



Joshua Shean
Deputy Chief, Fire Prevention Division

CC: Julia Henze, Brunswick Town Manager
Maine State Fire Marshal's Office