

AVIATION BOARD BACKGROUND LETTER

Aviation Board Meeting Date: January 21, 2025

To: Chair Dickinson and Aviation Board Members
Cc: Mitch Reynolds, Mayor
From: Jeff Tripp, Airport Director
Subject: GA Hangar Inspection Program

Summary:

Update on the implementation of an inspection program of the city-operated general aviation (GA) storage hangars.

Background:

The airport owns, leases, and maintains fifty-eight (58) hangars built between 1961 and 1987. The airport has not completed hangar inspections in at least the previous three years.

The airport needs to ensure all hangars are being used in accordance with the hangar storage agreement (e.g., the proper tenant and aircraft are in the hangar, the hangar is being used for a valid aeronautical use, etc.) and to ensure hangars turn over properly to reduce the hangar wait list demand.

The safety of users is of paramount importance. Due to the age of the hangars, it is important for airport staff along with appropriate building and fire officials to inspect the hangars on at least an annual schedule for compliance with applicable codes. The goal of these inspections will be to identify and correct any observed building and/or issues working cooperatively with tenants to correct.

The development of written inspection policy will help provide information and education on what may and may not be stored in a hangar and to identify typical issues often discovered during hangar inspections to help educate airport staff, city staff, and customers of acceptable storage practices.

In addition, hangars require routine inspection and preventative maintenance. Several of the older hangars are experiencing structural issues requiring more extensive maintenance and repair. These inspections will help better identify what maintenance is required to be budgeted for to maintain the buildings in a safe operating condition.

Airport and city staff representatives will be meeting on Thursday, January 23 to discuss the inspection program, including the draft hangar inspection guide, along with determining dates for the hangar inspections later this spring.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey S. Tripp

Jeffrey S. Tripp, A.A.E.
Airport Director