

# FPB POLICY 2009-3: PLAN SUBMITTALS FOR LESS THAN 21 SPRINKLERS

Created: July 17, 2009 Revised: April 1, 2020 Effective Date: Immediately  
From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2018 International Fire Code and is an official interpretation of Section 901.2 of the 2018 International Fire Code.

## **The following shall apply to plan submittal requirements for automatic sprinkler systems:**

Section 901.2 of the International Fire Code reads as follows: "The fire code official shall have the authority to require construction documents and calculations for all fire protection systems." It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that a minor addition/modification of an existing automatic sprinkler system shall not require a complete plan submittal. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau's policy on when a complete plan submittal is required:

- 1.) Any addition/modification involving less than 21 sprinkler heads to an EXISTING automatic sprinkler system shall NOT require a complete plan submittal provided that the following is provided:
  - a. A completed permit application.
  - b. A check for the appropriate fee.
  - c. A letter from the Iowa licensed fire sprinkler contractor stating:
    - i. The hydraulic water supply will be sufficient and that the work being performed will not negatively impact the existing hydraulics.
    - ii. The added or modified sprinklers are not adding to nor are they creating a new remote area.
    - iii. The exact number of sprinklers being added/moved/modified and why.
    - iv. Time schedules for the work (start date and projected completion).
    - v. The system will be installed in accordance with all applicable codes and standards.
- 2.) Any addition/modification involving flexible sprinkler hose to an EXISTING automatic sprinkler system shall NOT require a complete plan submittal provided that the system was originally designed with flexible sprinkler hose and all the requirements in item #1 are fulfilled.
- 3.) Any addition/modification involving 13D, 13R, paint booths, pipe-schedule designed systems, and other special application sprinkler systems SHALL require a complete plan submittal, no exceptions.
- 4.) There shall be a limit of ONE less than 21 sprinkler construction permit per sprinkler system without a complete plan submittal being required.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

Office of the Fire Protection Engineer  
City of Des Moines Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Bureau  
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