



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 15, 2022
To: Airport Tenants
Subject: **Airport Rules and Regulations -Port of Benton Development Standards**

The Port of Benton continues to make improvements and maintain the Richland Airport as a vital community and Port asset. Thank you for your aviation partnership. As the airport grows in both aircraft operations and hangar construction, and as the Port works to ensure the requirements of the FAA funding contracts, it is important that we share the rules and regulations required at the Richland Airport.

The benefit of the Richland General Aviation Airport is that it provides land and buildings for the storage of aircraft and other “aviation-related” storage. This benefit is a direct result of the funds that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation Division, and the Port of Benton have contributed to the airport. To date, the FAA, WSDOT and the Port have contributed over \$26M to the Richland Airport in the construction of runways, taxiways, lights, administration etc. This is a great benefit to the Richland Airport and specifically to the airport users. However, it comes with some restrictions via grant assurances primarily from the FAA. Construction inside the airport fence allows aviation use of the land and it’s important that we maintain the use for aviation uses only so that we can continue to qualify for FAA funding. In June of 2016, the FAA issued updated rules on what is and is not allowed at FAA funded airports. This is not new information. In fact, the Port has issued notices to the airport users since 1983 as necessary to mitigate related safety concerns and preserve airport efficiency. Those rules must be enforced to maintain a clean, safe, efficient airport and maintain compliance with the FAA.

General rules: The Port and airport users must continue to work together to keep the airport clean, safe, well maintained, and available for the aviation community. Please work with us to clean up and maintain around your hangars including trash, weeds, rubbish as well as removal of any and all non-aviation storage.

The airport is not planned, nor developed, as a storage facility for non-aviation items. Not only is it unsafe to clutter the areas between and around the hangars with non-aviation storage, but the storage of these items (boats, trailers, etc.) is in violation of port rules and regulations; and as defined under the FAA rules for on-airport activities and is in direct competition to privately developed storage facilities. Your hangar lease at the Richland Airport does not include outside storage around your hangar. Transient vehicles licensed and roadworthy, that are used to transport you and your passengers to and from the airport, may only be parked outside your hangar for short periods of time. Specifically, no items, vehicles, or aircraft are authorized to be stored or parked indefinitely outside your hangar. Aircraft not parked inside your hangar should be in an approved, striped, tie down area.

To help facilitate this, the Port staff will continue to educate the airport users over the next 30 days. After that time, the Port will provide notifications to hangar owners of items not in compliance with your lease or FAA rules. Continued violation may constitute a default of your Land Lease.

For more information, please contact us at 509-375-3060, or email RichlandAirport@portofbenton.com. See FAA policy “Final Policy on the non-aeronautical use of Airport Hangars”.

Your partnership is appreciated, thank you