

Boston Fire Department Fire Protection Service Repairs Guidelines

780 CMR Section 105.2 states "Work Exempt from Permit. While other kinds of permits may be required for work governed by other laws, by-laws, rules and the specialized codes of M.G.L. c. 143, § 96, such as electrical, plumbing, and sheet metal, a permit pursuant to 780 CMR is not required for the following activities" with item #15 stating "Repair of any component or components of a fire protection system, where such does not affect system performance and compatibility. No permit pursuant to 780 CMR is required for routine or corrective maintenance."

Boston Fire Department (BFD) understands that it is often the case that a valve, a damaged sprinkler, a coupling, etc. requires replacement. In such a case, other departments may not issue a permit for such work. When submitting to BFD for the Impairment Portion of repairs:

- Please include in the statement of work on the BFD Portal:
 - System Repair-NO ISD PERMIT REQUIRED
- Please provide a systems installer's license with photo ID.
- Please provide a memo/affidavit describing that system repair is like in kind with no change in the system performance.
 - For example:
 - Condition: Painted, Dirty, or otherwise "Loaded" Sprinkler requiring replacement.
 - Memo of Repair: The existing sprinklers are Pendent K5.6 Standard Response 165°F sprinklers and will be replaced with Pendent K5.6 Standard Response 165°F sprinklers. No change in system performance from design is to occur.
- Description of the Impairment:
 - Area of Building to be impaired.
 - Length of Impairment
 - Confirmation that two adjacent floors will not be impaired at the same time.

Work that does not constitute a system repair, and thus requires a building permit to be submitted, includes but is not limited to:

- Fire Pump
- Fire Pump Controller
- Relocation of Sprinklers

These items, though can be replaced in kind, constitute such a life safety hazard that confirmation that system performance has not changed, through testing, is required.