



North Carolina Department of Administration

Pat McCrory, Governor
Bill Daughtridge, Jr., Secretary

State Construction Office
Gregory A. Driver, P.E., Director

December 3, 2013

Joe Walker, II, P.E.
Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management
Western Carolina University
3476 Old Cullowhee Road
Cullowhee, NC 28723

Subject: Buildings Damaged by Fire on November 21, 2013

Dear Mr. Walker

This letter is to report the conclusion of the State Construction Office site visit on November 22, 2013 to evaluate the buildings near the intersection of Centennial Drive and Central Drive that were damaged by a fire on November 21st.

The buildings were occupied by Subway, Rolling Stone Burrito and Mad Batter.

The spaces occupied by Subway and Rolling Stone Burrito have significant structural and electrical damage. These spaces will require major renovation and more than likely complete replacement before the space may be reoccupied. The apartments over these spaces were almost totally destroyed and will require significant repair involving replacement of most if not all of the structure. The electrical in all of these spaces are a total loss.

The space occupied by Mad Batter had some structural damage but most of the damage is due to smoke and heat. The structure may be repairable but the electrical system is a total loss. Should this building be renovated the penetrations in the wall next to the convenience store shall be sealed so as to restore the fire rating of this wall. The penetrations were not caused by the fire, but by previous modifications to the building that both violated the code and destroyed the fire rating of the wall.

The adjacent building occupied by a convenience store was not damaged and may continue to be occupied. However, given the location of this building and the high probability that it does not meet current code, it would be prudent to bring this building up to code when replacing the fire damaged structures.

The public shall not be allowed into the spaces previously occupied by Subway, Rolling Stone Burrito nor the Mad Batter until they are either appropriately renovated or replaced.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William W. Murchison".

William W. Murchison, PE
Code Consultant

Mailing Address:
1307 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27695-1307

Telephone (919)807-4100
Fax (919)807-4110
State Courier #56-02-01

Location:
301 N. Wilmington St. Suite 450
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601