

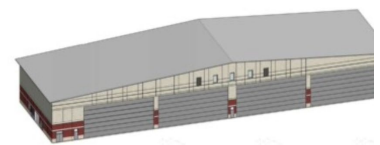
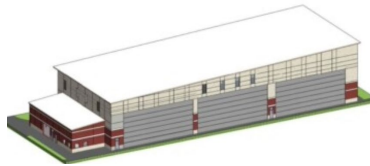
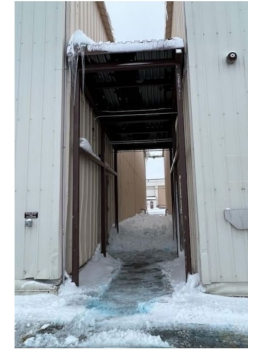


148TH FIGHTER WING

Supporting the 148th by Funding Necessary Hangar Upgrades

The Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, Duluth Chamber Foundation, and our Military Affairs Committee (MAC) are advocating for \$25M in state funding for much-needed hangar upgrades at the Minnesota National Guard – 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth.

When approved, the funding will go towards demolition of the current, outdated hangars and the construction of new and safer hangars, which will also be able to house updated aircraft - such as F-35s. This proposal has received strong, bipartisan support at the legislature the past couple of years but has yet to receive funding. There is a sense of urgency to get this funding approved in 2025 to ensure the 148th has what they need to succeed, as well as potentially leverage millions more in federal dollars and ensure the 148th is ready and able to adapt to future missions and the possibility of updated aircraft in the near future - helping secure their long term future in our area for decades to come.



Never before has more been asked of the 148th, from the state and federal government, which has included state missions for pandemic response and additional security missions in recent years, as well as combat deployments. The 148th made national headlines in 2023 for successfully shooting down an unidentified object over Lake Huron, further demonstrating their incredible relevance to national security, as well as their vast contributions to our community

and state. The 148th has an annual economic impact of over \$112M in our region and serves as one of area's largest employers. For these reasons and more, this proposal has broad community support, including a unanimous resolution by the Duluth City Council. We are grateful for their service and vast contributions, and now it's our time to help support them!



The men and women of the 148th are second to none and deserve the best, and safest, equipment and hangars. They currently operate out of old, outdated and even potentially unsafe hangars. These hangars are over seventy years old and have several concerning safety issues including leaks, pooling water and electrical issues. This funding would allow the 148th to replace the outdated hangars with state-of-the-art hangars to enhance safety and support the Bulldogs' current and future missions.

Please support the 148th Fighter Wing by supporting this urgent \$25M request for much needed new hangars on the air base. For more information, please visit duluthchamber.com/148fw or contact Daniel Fanning, Vice President of the Duluth Area Chamber, at dfanning@duluthchamber.com.

duluthchamber.com/148fw