

**CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-11-19-F03-OR**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS, APPROVING A FLOODPLAIN DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 FOR ALL VIOLATIONS INVOLVING FIRE SAFETY, OR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION AND NOT MORE THAN \$500 FOR ALL OTHER VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR ENGROSSMENT AND ENROLLMENT OF THIS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Starbase, Texas (the “City”), is a Type C general-law municipality, incorporated pursuant to Chapter 8 of the Texas Local Government Code; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 51.001 of the Texas Local Government Code provides that “[t]he governing body of a municipality may adopt, publish, amend, or repeal an ordinance, rule, or policy regulation that . . . is necessary or proper for carrying out a power granted by law to the municipality or to an office or department of the municipality”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Texas has in the Flood Control Insurance Act, Texas Water Code, Section 16.315 delegated the responsibility of local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to minimize flood losses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1. Incorporation of Premises.** The premises set forth above are incorporated herein as if set forth verbatim.

**SECTION 2. Adoption.** The Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance of the City of Starbase, Texas establishing regulations designed to minimize flood losses, is hereby adopted as set forth in **Exhibit “A”, “Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance”**, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

**SECTION 3. Severability.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Commission that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this code shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Commission without the incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

**SECTION 4. Repealer.** This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of all ordinances of the City of Starbase and shall not repeal any of the provisions of such ordinances, except in those instances where provisions of such ordinances are in direct conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance.

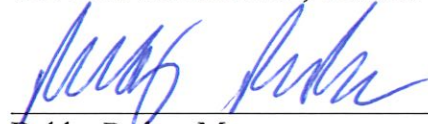
**SECTION 5. Engrossment/Enrollment.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to enroll and engross this Ordinance by reflecting the passage of this Ordinance in the minutes of the City Commission and by filing this Ordinance in the Ordinance Records of the City.

**SECTION 6. Publication.** The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish the caption, penalty clause, and effective date of this Ordinance as provided by law.

**SECTION 7. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage and publication as required by law, and it is so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Commission of the City of Starbase, Texas, on this 19th day of November 2025.

CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS

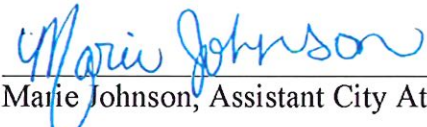
  
Bobby Peden, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Caroline Cole, City Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Marie Johnson, Assistant City Attorney

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance**

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE**

#### **ARTICLE I**

##### **STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION, FINDINGS OF FACT, PURPOSE AND METHODS**

###### **SECTION A. STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION**

The Legislature of the State of Texas has in the Flood Control Insurance Act, Texas Water Code, Section 16.315 delegated the responsibility of local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to minimize flood losses.

###### **SECTION B. FINDINGS OF FACT**

(1) The flood hazard areas of Starbase, Texas are subject to periodic inundation, which results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, and extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare.

(2) These flood losses are created by the cumulative effect of obstructions in floodplains which cause an increase in flood heights and velocities, and by the occupancy of flood hazard areas by uses vulnerable to floods and hazardous to other lands because they are inadequately elevated, floodproofed or otherwise protected from flood damage.

###### **SECTION C. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this ordinance to promote the public health, safety and general welfare and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed to:

- (1) Protect human life and health;
- (2) Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) Minimize prolonged business interruptions;

(5) Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets and bridges located in floodplains;

(6) Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood-prone areas in such a manner as to minimize future flood blight areas; and

(7) Insure that potential buyers are notified that property is in a flood area.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **DEFINITIONS**

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted to give them the meaning they have in common usage and to give this ordinance its most reasonable application.

**AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD** - is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A on the Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM). After detailed rate making has been completed in preparation for publication of the FIRM, Zone A usually is refined into Zones A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, AR, AR/A1-30, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/AH, AR/A, VO, V1-30, VE or V.

**BASE FLOOD** - means the flood having a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

**BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (BFE)** – The elevation shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and found in the accompanying Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Zones A, AE, AH, A1-A30, AR, V1-V30, or VE that indicates the water surface elevation resulting from the flood that has a 1% chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year - also called the Base Flood.

**BASEMENT** - means any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

**BREAKAWAY WALL** – means a wall that is not part of the structural support of the building and is intended through its design and construction to collapse under specific lateral loading forces, without causing damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

**DEVELOPMENT** - means any man-made change to improved and unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining,

dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**ELEVATED BUILDING** – means, for insurance purposes, a non-basement building, which has its lowest elevated floor, raised above ground level by foundation walls, shear walls, posts, piers, pilings, or columns.

**EXISTING CONSTRUCTION** - means for the purposes of determining rates, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced before the effective date of the FIRM or before January 1, 1975, for FIRMs effective before that date. "Existing construction" may also be referred to as "existing structures."

**EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION** - means a manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads)

**EXPANSION TO AN EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION** - means the preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads).

**FLOOD OR FLOODING** - means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:

- (1) the overflow of inland or tidal waters.
- (2) the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

**FLOOD ELEVATION STUDY** – means an examination, evaluation and determination of flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of mudslide (i.e., mudflow) and/or flood-related erosion hazards.

**FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP (FIRM)** - means an official map of a community, on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both the special flood hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

**FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY (FIS)** – see *Flood Elevation Study*

**FLOODPLAIN OR FLOOD-PRONE AREA** - means any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (see definition of flooding).

**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT** - means the operation of an overall program of corrective and preventive measures for reducing flood damage, including but not limited to emergency preparedness plans, flood control works and floodplain management regulations.

**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS** - means zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, building codes, health regulations, special purpose ordinances (such as a floodplain ordinance, grading ordinance and erosion control ordinance) and other applications of police power. The term describes such state or local regulations, in any combination thereof, which provide standards for the purpose of flood damage prevention and reduction.

**FLOOD PROOFING** - means any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures and their contents.

**FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE** - means a use, which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities.

**HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE** - means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**LEVEE** - means a man-made structure, usually an earthen embankment, designed and constructed in accordance with sound engineering practices to contain, control, or divert the flow of water so as to provide protection from temporary flooding.

**LOWEST FLOOR** - means the lowest enclosed area of a building, including any basement. However, an enclosure that is above ground level and used solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage is not considered the lowest floor—provided it is constructed with flood-resistant materials, includes flood openings that allow for the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters, and does not contain habitable space or mechanical/electrical equipment below the flood protection elevation.

**MANUFACTURED HOME** - means a structure transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a Recreational Vehicle.

**MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION** - means a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.

**MEAN SEA LEVEL** - means, for purposes of the National Flood Insurance Program, the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929 or other datum, to which base flood elevations shown on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map are referenced.

**NEW CONSTRUCTION** - means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of a floodplain management regulation adopted by a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

**RECREATIONAL VEHICLE -**

A recreational trailer, designed to be self-propelled or towed that is maintained for use as a dwelling or sleeping place and which has no permanent foundation.

**Recreational Vehicle Park.** – means a parcel of land that is used solely for the development of rental lot spaces for Recreational Vehicles that are not HUD Code Manufactured Homes.

**RIVERINE** – means relating to, formed by, or resembling a river (including tributaries), stream, brook, etc.

**SAND DUNES** - mean naturally occurring accumulations of sand in ridges or mounds landward of the beach.

**SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA** – see *Area of Special Flood Hazard*

**START OF CONSTRUCTION** - (for other than new construction or substantial improvements under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (Pub. L. 97-348)), includes substantial improvement and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for basement, footings, piers or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the



installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

**STRUCTURE** – means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home.

**SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE** - means damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

**SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT** - means any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before "start of construction" of the improvement. This term includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage", regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either: (1) Any project for improvement of a structure to correct existing violations of state or local health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which have been identified by the local code enforcement official and which are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions or (2) Any alteration of a "historic structure", provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "historic structure."

**VARIANCE** – means a grant of relief by the City Commission or Floodplain Administrator from the terms of a floodplain management regulation. (For full requirements see Section 60.6 of the National Flood Insurance Program regulations.)

**VIOLATION** - means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the City's floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in Section 60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

**WATER SURFACE ELEVATION** - means the height, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929 (or other datum, where specified), of floods of various magnitudes and frequencies in the floodplains of coastal or riverine areas.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **SECTION A. LANDS TO WHICH THIS ORDINANCE APPLIES**

The ordinance shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard with the city limits of Starbase, Texas.

#### **SECTION B. BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD**

The areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the current scientific and engineering report entitled, "The Flood Insurance Study (FIS) for Cameron County and Other Incorporated Areas," dated February 16, 2018, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps and/or Flood Boundary-Floodway Maps (FIRM and/or FBFM) dated February 16, 2018 and any revisions thereto are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this ordinance.

#### **SECTION C. ESTABLISHMENT OF BUILDING PERMIT**

Conformance with the provisions of this ordinance shall be confirmed by the Starbase Floodplain Administrator before issuance of a building permit.

#### **SECTION D. COMPLIANCE**

No structure or land shall hereafter be located, altered, or have its use changed without full compliance with the terms of this ordinance and other applicable regulations.

#### **SECTION E. ABROGATION AND GREATER RESTRICTIONS**

This ordinance is not intended to repeal, abrogate, or impair any existing easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this ordinance and another ordinance, easement, covenant, or deed restriction conflict or overlap, whichever imposes the more stringent restrictions shall prevail.

#### **SECTION F. INTERPRETATION**

In the interpretation and application of this ordinance, all provisions shall be; (1) considered as minimum requirements; (2) liberally construed in favor of the governing body; and (3) deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted under State statutes.

## **SECTION G. WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OR LIABILITY**

The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. On rare occasions greater floods can and will occur and flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This ordinance does not imply that land outside the areas of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This ordinance shall not create liability on the part of the City or any official or employee thereof for any flood damages that result from reliance on this ordinance or any administrative decision lawfully made hereunder.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **SECTION A. DESIGNATION OF THE FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR**

The City Engineer is hereby appointed the Floodplain Administrator to administer and implement the provisions of this ordinance.

#### **SECTION B. DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR**

Duties and responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) Maintain and hold open for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this ordinance.
- (2) Review permit application to determine whether the proposed building site project, including the placement of manufactured homes, will be reasonably safe from flooding.
- (3) Review, approve or deny all applications for building permits required by adoption of this ordinance.
- (4) Review permits for proposed development to determine whether all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, State or local governmental agencies (including Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, 33 U.S.C. 1334) from which prior approval is required.
- (5) Where interpretation is needed as to the exact location of the boundaries of the areas of special flood hazards (for example, where there

appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions) the Floodplain Administrator shall make the necessary interpretation.

(6) Assure that the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of any watercourse is maintained.

(7) When base flood elevation data has not been provided in accordance with Article 3, Section B, the Floodplain Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation data and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, in order to administer the provisions of Article 5.

### **SECTION C. PERMIT PROCEDURES**

(1) Application for a Building Permit shall be presented to the Floodplain Administrator on forms furnished by him/her and may include, but not be limited to, plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the location, dimensions, and elevation of proposed landscape alterations, existing and proposed structures, including the placement of manufactured homes, and the location of the foregoing in relation to areas of special flood hazard. Additionally, the following information is required:

(a) Elevation (in relation to mean sea level), of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new and substantially improved structures;

(b) If the building is to be floodproofed, elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any nonresidential structure shall be floodproofed;

(c) If the building is floodproofed, a certificate from a registered professional engineer or architect that the nonresidential floodproofed structure shall meet the floodproofing criteria of Article 5, Section B (2);

(d) Description of the extent to which any watercourse or natural drainage will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development;

2) Approval or denial of a Building Permit by the Floodplain Administrator shall be based on all of the provisions of this ordinance.

### **SECTION D. VARIANCE PROCEDURES**

(1) The City Commission or Floodplain Administrator, shall hear and render judgment on requests for variances from the requirements of this ordinance.

(2) The City Commission shall hear and render judgment on an appeal only when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Floodplain Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this ordinance.

(3) The Floodplain Administrator shall maintain a record of all actions involving an appeal and shall report variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

(4) Variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of 1/2 acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing the relevant factors in Section C (2) of this Article have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the 1/2 half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.

(5) Upon consideration of the factors noted above and the intent of this ordinance, the Appeal Board may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purpose and objectives of this ordinance (Article 1, Section C).

(6) Prerequisites for granting variances:

(a) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.

(b) Variances shall only be issued upon: (i) showing a good and sufficient cause; (ii) a determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant, and (iii) a determination that the granting of a variance will not result in increased flood heights, additional threats to public safety, extraordinary public expense, create nuisances, cause fraud on or victimization of the public, or conflict with existing local laws or ordinances.

(c) Any application to which a variance is granted shall be given written notice that the structure will be permitted to be built with the lowest floor elevation below the base flood elevation, and that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from the reduced lowest floor elevation.

(7) Variances may be issued by the City Commission for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that (i) the criteria outlined in Article 4, Section D (1)-(9) are met, and (ii) the structure or other development

is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threats to public safety.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **PROVISIONS FOR FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION**

#### **SECTION A. GENERAL STANDARDS**

In all areas of special flood hazards the following provisions are required for all new construction and substantial improvements:

(1) All new construction or substantial improvements shall be designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy. Design shall conform to recognized engineering standards;

(2) All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damage;

(3) All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials resistant to flood damage;

(4) All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to minimize or prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding;

(5) All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;

(6) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system and discharge from the systems into flood waters; and,

(7) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

#### **SECTION B. SPECIFIC STANDARDS**

In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data has been provided as set forth in (i) Article 3, Section B, (ii) Article 4, Section B (8), or (iii) Article 5, Section C (3), the following provisions are required:

(1) **Residential Construction** - new construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor (including basement), elevated a minimum of one foot above the base flood elevation. A registered professional engineer, architect, or land surveyor shall submit a certification to the Floodplain Administrator that the standard of this subsection as proposed in Article 4, Section C (1) a., is satisfied.

(2) **Nonresidential Construction** unless agreed to otherwise, new construction and substantial improvements of any commercial, industrial or other nonresidential structure shall either have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated a minimum one foot above the base flood elevation or together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be designed so that below the base flood level the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy. A registered professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for the construction, and shall certify that the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice as outlined in this subsection. A record of such certification which includes the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which such structures are floodproofed shall be maintained by the Floodplain Administrator.

(3) **Enclosures** - new construction and substantial improvements, with fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

- (a) A minimum of two openings on separate walls having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding shall be provided.
- (b) The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than 1 foot above grade.
- (c) Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### **(4) Manufactured Homes -**

(a) Require that all manufactured homes to be placed within Zone A on a community's FHBM or FIRM shall be installed using methods and practices which minimize flood damage. For the purposes of this requirement, manufactured homes must be elevated such that the lowest floor is at least one foot above the base flood elevation and anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

(b) Require that manufactured homes that are placed or substantially improved within Zones A1-30, AH, and AE on the community's FIRM on sites (i) outside of a manufactured home park or subdivision, (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision, (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision, or (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision on which a manufactured home has incurred "substantial damage" as a result of a flood, be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor of the manufactured home is elevated a minimum of one foot above the base flood elevation and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.

(c) Require that manufactured homes be placed or substantially improved on sites in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision with Zones A1-30, AH and AE on the community's FIRM that are not subject to the provisions of paragraph (4) of this section be elevated so that either:

(i) the lowest floor of the manufactured home is a minimum one foot above the base flood elevation, or

(ii) the manufactured home chassis is supported by reinforced piers or other foundation elements of at least equivalent strength that are no less than 36 inches in height above grade and be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse, and lateral movement.

**(5) Recreational Vehicles -** Require that recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-30, AH, and AE on the community's FIRM either (i) be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, or (ii) be convertible for highway use, or (iii) shall be secured using an anchoring system consisting of wind strap ties sufficient to secure the vehicle up to a wind limit of 149mph. A recreational vehicle is convertible for highway use if any anchoring of the vehicle is reversible without rendering the vehicle unfit for highway use.



## **SECTION C. STANDARDS FOR SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

Unless agreed to otherwise,

(1) All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall be consistent with Article 1, Sections B, C, and D of this ordinance.

(2) All proposals for the development of subdivisions including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall meet Floodplain Building Permit requirements of Article 3, Section C; Article 4, Section C; and the provisions of Article 5 of this ordinance.

(3) Base flood elevation data shall be generated for subdivision proposals and other proposed development including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions which is greater than 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is lesser, if not otherwise provided pursuant to Article 3, Section B or Article 4, Section B (8) of this ordinance.

(4) All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.

(5) All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.

## **SECTION D. COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS**

Located within the areas of special flood hazard established in Article 3, Section B, are areas designated as Coastal High Hazard Areas (Zones V1-30, VE, and/or V). These areas have special flood hazards associated with high velocity waters from tidal surges and hurricane wave wash; therefore, in addition to meeting **all** provisions outlined in this ordinance, the following provisions must also apply:

(1) Provide the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) of all new and substantially improved structures, and whether or not such structures contain a basement. The Floodplain Administrator shall maintain a record of all such information.

(2) All new construction shall be in accordance with state beachfront construction requirements and must have all applicable beachfront and dune permitting where applicable.

(3) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be elevated on pilings and columns so that:

(i) the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor (excluding the pilings or columns) is elevated to a minimum of one foot above the base flood level;

(ii) the pile or column foundation and structure attached thereto is anchored to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously on all building components in accordance with recognized engineering standards. Water loading values used shall be those associated with the base flood. Wind loading values used shall be those required by applicable State or local building standards. A registered professional engineer or architect shall develop or review the structural design, specifications and plans for the construction, and shall certify that the design and methods of construction to be used are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of (3)(i) and (ii) of this Section.

(4) Provide that all new construction and substantial improvements have the space below the lowest floor either free of obstruction or constructed with non-supporting breakaway walls, open wood lattice-work, or insect screening intended to collapse under wind and water loads without causing collapse, displacement, or other structural damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

For the purpose of this section, a breakaway wall shall have a design safe loading resistance of not less than 10 and no more than 20 pounds per square foot. Use of breakaway walls which exceed a design safe loading resistance of 20 pounds per square foot (either by design or when so required by local or State codes) may be permitted only if a registered professional engineer or architect certifies that the designs proposed meet the following conditions:

(i) breakaway wall collapse shall result from a water load less than that which would occur during the base flood; and

(ii) the elevated portion of the building and supporting foundation system shall not be subject to collapse, displacement, or other structural damage due to the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously on all building components (structural and nonstructural). Water loading values used shall be those associated with the base flood. Wind loading values used

shall be those required by applicable State or local building standards. Such enclosed space shall be useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage. Such space shall not be used for human habitation.

(5) Prohibit the use of fill for structural support of buildings.

(6) Prohibit man-made alteration of sand dunes and mangrove stands unless in accordance with a valid Beach Front Construction & Dune Protection Permit.

**(7) Manufactured Homes -**

Require that manufactured homes placed or substantially improved within Zone V1-30, V, and VE on the community's FIRM on sites (i) outside of a manufactured home park or subdivision, (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision, (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision, or (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision on which a manufactured home has incurred "substantial damage" as the result of a flood, meet the standards of paragraphs (1) through (6) of this section **and** that manufactured homes placed or substantially improved on other sites in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision within Zones V1-30, V, and VE on the community's FIRM meet the requirements of Article 5, Section B(4) of this ordinance.

**(8) Recreational Vehicles -**

Require that recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones V1-30, V, and VE on the community's FIRM either (i) be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, or (ii) be convertible for highway use, or (iii) shall be secured using an anchoring system consisting of wind strap ties sufficient to secure the vehicle up to a wind limit of 149mph. . A recreational vehicle is convertible for highway use if any anchoring of the vehicle is reversible without rendering the vehicle unfit for highway use.


**SECTION E. PENALTIES FOR NON COMPLIANCE**

No structure or land shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered without full compliance with the terms of this Ordinance and other applicable regulations. Violation of the provisions of this Ordinance by failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions) shall constitute a misdemeanor. Any person who violates this Ordinance or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall upon conviction thereof be fined not more than \$2,000 for each violation for all violations involving fire safety or

public health and sanitation, and not more than \$500 per violation for all other offenses, and in addition shall pay all costs and expenses involved in the case. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City Commission from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.

**SECTION F. CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION**

**APPROVED:**

  
Bobby Peden, Mayor


**PASSED:**

19 November 2025  
(adoption date)

**ORDINANCE BECOMES EFFECTIVE:**

19 November 2025  
(effective date)

I, the undersigned, Caroline Cole, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of an ordinance duly adopted by the City Commission at a regular meeting duly convened on 19 November 2025.

  
Caroline Cole, City Clerk



{SEAL}