

Section 1. Recitals. The forgoing recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and hereby made a part of this Ordinance and adopted as legislative findings.

Section 2. Amendment to the City Code of Ordinances. Chapter 14, Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article V, Other Public Places, of the City of LaBelle Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to create Section 14-88, as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, which is incorporated by reference as if set forth herein.

Section 3. Ratification of Prior Actions. All actions previously taken by the City Commission and City staff in furtherance of the preparation, notice, consideration, and adoption of this Ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Section 4. Codification. The City Commission intends that this Ordinance be made part of the LaBelle Code of the City of LaBelle, Florida. The sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish codification.

Section 5. Severability. In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 6. Conflicts. The provisions of this Ordinance shall supersede any provisions of existing ordinances in conflict herewith to the extent of said conflict.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the City Commission.

APPROVED ON FIRST READING this 13th day of August 2026.

APPROVED ON SECOND READING, PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED this 10th day of September 2026.

**CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LABELLE,
FLORIDA**

By: _____
Vince Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
Tijauna Warner, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

By: _____
City Attorney

Vote:	AYE	NAY
-------	-----	-----

Mayor Ross	_____	_____
------------	-------	-------

Commissioner Vargas	_____	_____
---------------------	-------	-------

Commissioner Ratica	_____	_____
---------------------	-------	-------

Commissioner Holland	_____	_____
----------------------	-------	-------

Commissioner Spratt	_____	_____
---------------------	-------	-------

EXHIBIT A

THE LABELLE CODE

CHAPTER 14 - STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

ARTICLE V. OTHER PUBLIC PLACES

Sec. 14-88. Prohibited Activities Within the municipal dock.

(a) Legislative Findings.

The City Commission finds that the municipal dock is a public facility intended for the safe mooring, loading, unloading, and temporary use of vessels and for public access to the waterfront. Certain activities within the municipal dock create hazards to navigation, interfere with vessel operations, damage public property, and endanger the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Therefore, the following regulations are adopted for the protection and safe operation of the municipal dock.

(b) Fishing Prohibited.

(1) No person shall fish, cast, place, maintain, or tend any fishing line, tackle, lure, bait, net, trap, or other fishing gear from any portion of the municipal dock located on the south side of the Caloosahatchee River adjacent to and west of Bridge Street, while any vessel is moored, tied, docked or otherwise present at the municipal dock, including, but not limited to:

- a. Floating docks;
- b. Fixed docks;
- c. Finger piers;
- d. Gangways;
- e. Mooring areas;
- f. Vessel loading and unloading areas; and
- g. Any other structure designated for vessel access or mooring.

(2) No person shall fish, cast, place, maintain, or tend any fishing line, tackle, lure, bait, net, trap, or other fishing gear on municipally owned property in a manner that interferes with vessel operations, pedestrian access, or the safe use of the municipal dock;

(3) All fishing will be in accordance with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection rules and regulations. This Section is to be interpreted consistent with said rules and regulations.

(c) Swimming and Diving Prohibited.

(1) No person shall swim, wade, dive, jump, snorkel, float, or otherwise enter the water from or within the municipal dock except as authorized by the City.

(2) No person shall use any portion of the municipal dock for recreational swimming, bathing, or diving.

(3) This subsection shall not apply to emergency response personnel, persons engaged in lawful rescue activities, or persons authorized by the City to perform maintenance, inspection, construction, or other official duties.

(d) Obstruction of Dock Operations.

No person shall obstruct, impede, or interfere with:

(1) The lawful use of the municipal dock by vessel owners, operators, passengers, or visitors;

(2) The mooring, loading, unloading, launching, or retrieval of vessels; or

(3) The performance of duties by City employees, law enforcement officers, emergency responders, or authorized contractors.

(e) Damage to Public Property.

No person shall damage, deface, remove, destroy, tamper with, or misuse any dock, piling, gangway, utility pedestal, electrical equipment, water connection, sign, safety equipment, landscaping, or other City property located within the municipal dock.

(f) Unauthorized Mooring or Storage.

Unauthorized mooring or storage at the municipal dock shall be governed by Section 14-86 of this Code.

(g) Alcohol, Controlled Substances, and Disorderly Conduct.

No person shall engage in disorderly conduct, public intoxication, unlawful consumption of alcoholic beverages, unlawful use of controlled substances, fighting, threatening behavior, or any conduct that disturbs the peace or endangers others within the municipal dock.

(h) Fire and Hazardous Activities.

No person shall ignite or maintain any fire, fireworks, explosive, hazardous material, or open flame within the municipal dock, except as expressly authorized by the City.

(i) Compliance with Posted Rules.

No person shall fail or refuse to comply with any lawful rule, regulation, restriction, or directive posted by the City within the municipal dock.

(j) Enforcement.

(1) This section may be enforced by any law enforcement officer having jurisdiction within the City and by any code enforcement officer duly authorized by the City.

(2) Law enforcement officers may issue citations, notices to appear, trespass warnings, or take other enforcement action authorized by law.

(3) The City may additionally pursue enforcement through the procedures established in Chapter 162, Florida Statutes, and applicable provisions of the City Code.

(k) Penalties.

(1) Any person violating this section shall be subject to the penalties established for municipal ordinance violations under the City Code and Florida law.

- 180 (2) Violations may be prosecuted through code enforcement proceedings, including
181 finances, and other remedies authorized by Chapter 162, Florida Statutes. This section
182 is supplemental, and the City reserves the right to enforce this Section through any
183 other lawful means.
- 184 (3) Each separate occurrence and each day a violation continues shall constitute a
185 separate violation.