

Sec. 94-93. - Definitions.

Accessory structure means a structure on the same parcel of property as a principal structure and the use of which is incidental to the use of the principal structure. For floodplain management purposes, the term includes only accessory structures used for parking and storage.

Appeal means a request for a review of the Floodplain Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this chapter.

ASCE 24 means a standard titled *Flood Resistant Design and Construction* that is referenced by the Florida Building Code. ASCE 24 is developed and published by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Reston, VA.

Base flood means a flood having a one-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.] The base flood is commonly referred to as the "100-year flood" or the "one-percent-annual chance flood."

Base flood elevation means the elevation of the base flood, including wave height, relative to the national geodetic vertical datum (NGVD), North American vertical datum (NAVD) or other datum specified on the flood insurance rate map (FIRM). [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Basement means the portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Breakaway wall means a partition or wall that is independent of supporting structural members and that is intended to withstand design wind forces but to collapse from a water load less than that which would occur during the base flood, without causing collapse, displacement or other structural damage to the elevated portion of the building or supporting foundation system.

Coastal A Zone means area within a special flood hazard area, landward of a V zone or landward of an open coast without mapped coastal high hazard areas. In a coastal A zone, the principal source of flooding must be astronomical tides, storm surges, seiches or tsunamis, not riverine flooding. During the base flood conditions, the potential for breaking wave height shall be greater than or equal to one and one-half feet (457 mm). The inland limit of the coastal A zone is (a) the limit of moderate wave action if delineated on a FIRM, or (b) designated by the authority having jurisdiction.

Coastal construction control line means the line established by the state pursuant to Florida Statutes § 161.053, and recorded in the official records of the community, which defines that portion of the beach-dune system subject to severe fluctuations based on a 100-year storm surge, storm waves or other predictable weather conditions.

Coastal high hazard area means a special flood hazard area extending from offshore to the inland limit of a primary frontal dune along an open coast and any other area subject to high velocity wave action from storms or seismic sources. Coastal high hazard areas are also referred to as "high hazard areas subject to high velocity wave action" or "V zones" and are designated on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) as zone V1-V30, VE, or V. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) means a formal review and comment as to whether a proposed flood protection project or other project complies with the minimum NFIP requirements for such projects with respect to delineation of special flood hazard areas. A CLOMR does not revise the effective flood insurance rate map or flood insurance study; upon submission and approval of certified as-built documentation, a letter of map revision may be issued by FEMA to revise the effective FIRM.

Design flood means the flood associated with the greater of the following two areas: [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

- (1) Area with a floodplain subject to a one-percent or greater chance of flooding in any year; or
- (2) Area designated as a flood hazard area on the community's flood hazard map, or otherwise legally designated.

Design flood elevation means the elevation of the "design flood," including wave height, relative to the datum specified on the community's legally designated flood hazard map. In areas designated as zone AO, the design flood elevation shall be the elevation of the highest existing grade of the building's perimeter plus the depth number (in feet) specified on the flood hazard map. In areas designated as zone AO where the depth number is not specified on the map, the depth number shall be taken as being equal to two feet. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Development means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including, but not limited to, buildings or other structures, tanks, temporary structures, temporary or permanent storage of equipment or materials, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavations, drilling operations or any other land disturbing activities.

Encroachment means the placement of fill, excavation, buildings, permanent structures or other development into a flood hazard area which may impede or alter the flow capacity of riverine flood hazard areas.

Existing building and existing structure means any buildings and structures for which the "start of construction" commenced before May 7, 1971. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Federal emergency management agency (FEMA) means the federal agency that, in addition to carrying out other functions, administers the national flood insurance program.

Flood or flooding means a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land from: [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

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

Flood damage-resistant materials means any construction material capable of withstanding direct and prolonged contact with floodwaters without sustaining any damage that requires more than cosmetic repair. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Flood hazard area means the greater of the following two areas: [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

- (1) The area within a floodplain subject to a one-percent or greater chance of flooding in any year.
- (2) The area designated as a flood hazard area on the community's flood hazard map, or otherwise legally designated.

Flood insurance rate map (FIRM) means the official map of the community on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both special flood hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Flood insurance study (FIS) means the official report provided by the federal emergency management agency that contains the flood insurance rate map, the flood boundary and floodway map (if applicable), the water surface elevations of the base flood, and supporting technical data. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Floodplain administrator means the office or position designated and charged with the administration and enforcement of this chapter (may be referred to as the floodplain manager).

Floodplain development permit or approval means an official document or certificate issued by the community, or other evidence of approval or concurrence, which authorizes performance of specific development activities that are located in flood hazard areas and that are determined to be compliant with this chapter.

Florida Building Code means the family of codes adopted by the Florida Building Commission, including: Florida Building Code, Building; Florida Building Code, Residential; Florida Building Code, Existing Building; Florida Building Code, Mechanical; Florida Building Code, Plumbing; Florida Building Code, Fuel Gas.

Freeboard means a level higher than the base flood elevation. It is a factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of flood plain management. Freeboard compensates for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action or the hydrological effect of urbanization on the watershed. [The City] of Madeira Beach requires four feet of freeboard above base flood elevation.

Functionally dependent use means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water, including only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities; the term

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 or foundation of a structure.

Historic structure means any structure that is determined eligible for the exception to the flood hazard area requirements of the Florida Building Code, Existing Building, Chapter 12 Historic Buildings.

Letter of map change (LOMC) means an official determination issued by FEMA that amends or revises an effective flood insurance rate map or flood insurance study. Letters of map change include:

Letter of map amendment (LOMA) means an amendment based on technical data showing that a property was incorrectly included in a designated special flood hazard area. A LOMA amends the current effective flood insurance rate map and establishes that a specific property, portion of a property, or structure is not located in a special flood hazard area.

Letter of map revision (LOMR) means a revision based on technical data that may show changes to flood zones, flood elevations, special flood hazard area boundaries and floodway delineations, and other planimetric features.

Letter of map revision based on fill (LOMR-F) means a determination that a structure or parcel of land has been elevated by fill above the base flood elevation and is, therefore, no longer located within the special flood hazard area. In order to qualify for this determination, the fill must have been permitted and placed in accordance with the community's floodplain management regulations.

Light-duty truck means as defined in 40 C.F.R. 86.082-2, any motor vehicle rated at 8,500 pounds gross vehicular weight rating or less which has a vehicular curb weight of 6,000 pounds or less and which has a basic vehicle frontal area of 45 square feet or less, which is:

- (1) Designed primarily for purposes of transportation of property or is a derivation of such a vehicle, or
- (2) Designed primarily for transportation of persons and has a capacity of more than 12 persons; or
- (3) Available with special features enabling off-street or off-highway operation and use.

Limit of moderate wave action means [a] line shown on FIRMs to indicate the inland limit of the one and one-half-foot (457 mm) breaking wave height during the base flood.

Lowest floor means the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area of a building or structure, including basement, but excluding any unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, other than a basement, usable solely for vehicle parking, building access or limited storage provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the non-elevation requirements of the Florida Building Code or ASCE 24. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Manufactured home means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is eight feet or more in width and greater than 400 square feet, and which is built on a permanent, integral chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation when attached to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a "recreational vehicle" or "park trailer." [Also defined in 15C-1.0101, F.A.C.]

Market value means the value of buildings and structures, excluding the land and other improvements on the parcel. Market is the actual cash value (in-kind replacement cost depreciated for age, wear and tear, neglect, and quality of construction) determined by a qualified independent appraiser, or the "just value" of the structure, developed by the Pinellas County Property Appraiser's Office (PAO) for ad valorem taxation purposes, adjusted to approximate market value, as determined by the PAO.

New construction means, for the purposes of administration of this chapter and the flood resistant construction requirements of the Florida Building Code, structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after May 7, 1971 and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

Nonconversion agreement means a form provided by the floodplain administrator to be signed by the owner and recorded on the property deed in official records of the clerk of courts, for the owner to agree not to convert or modify in any manner that is inconsistent with the terms of the building permit and these regulations, enclosures below elevated buildings.

Recreational vehicle means a vehicle, including a park trailer, which is: [See Florida Statutes § 320.01]

- (1) Built on a single chassis;
- (2) Four hundred square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
- (3) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light-duty truck; and
- (4) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

Sand dunes means naturally occurring accumulations of sand in ridges or mounds landward of the beach.

Special flood hazard area means an area in the floodplain subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. Special flood hazard areas are shown on FIRMs as zone A, AO, A1-A30, AE, A99, AH, V1-V30, VE or V. All of Madeira Beach is located in a special flood hazard area. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

Start of construction means the date of issuance of permits for new construction and substantial improvements structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement, or other improvement is within 180 days of the date of the issuance. The actual start of

construction means either the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, grading, or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main buildings. 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. [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

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 damage also means flood-related damage sustained by a structure on two separate occasions during a ten-year period for which the cost of repairs at the time of each such flood event, on the average, equals or exceeds 25 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Substantial improvement means any combination of repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvement of a building or structure taking place during a one-year period, the cumulative cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building or structure before the "start of construction" of the improvement. For each building or structure, the one-year period begins on the date of the first permit issued for improvement or repair subsequent to November 15, 2016. This term includes structures which have incurred "substantial damage," regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either: [Also defined in FBC, B, Section 202.]

- (1) Any project for improvement of a building required to correct existing health, sanitary, or safety code violations identified by the building official and that are the minimum necessary to assure safe living conditions.
- (2) Any alteration of a historic structure provided the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure.

Variance means a grant of relief from the requirements of this chapter, or the flood resistant construction requirements of the Florida Building Code, which permits construction in a manner that would not otherwise be permitted by this chapter or the Florida Building Code.

(Ord. No. 2016-11, § 2, 11-15-16; Ord. No. 2021-06, § 1, 8-11-21; Ord. No. 2022-02, § 1, 2-9-22)