

17. **Expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision** – 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 slabs).
18. **Flood** – a general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from the overflow of inland or tidal waters, or the unusual and rapid accumulation of runoff of surface waters from any source.
19. **Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)** – an official map of a community, issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, where the boundaries of the areas of special flood hazard have been defined as Zone A.
20. **Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)** – an official map of a community, on which the Federal Emergency Management Agency has delineated both the areas of special flood hazard and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.
21. **Flood Insurance Study** – the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency which contains flood profiles, as well as the Flood Boundary Floodway Map and the water surface elevation of the base flood.
22. **Flood-resistant material** – any building material capable of withstanding direct and prolonged contact (minimum 72 hours) with floodwaters without sustaining damage that requires more than low-cost cosmetic repair. Any material that is water-soluble or is not resistant to alkali or acid in water, including normal adhesives for above-grade use, is not flood-resistant. Pressure-treated lumber or naturally decay-resistant lumbers are acceptable flooring materials. Sheet-type flooring coverings that restrict evaporation from below and materials that are impervious, but dimensionally unstable are not acceptable. Materials that absorb or retain water excessively after submergence are not flood-resistant. Please refer to Technical Bulletin 2, *Flood Damage-Resistant Materials Requirements*, dated 8/08, and available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Class 4 and 5 materials, referenced therein, are acceptable flood-resistant materials.
23. **Floodway** – the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot.
24. **Freeboard** – a factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of flood plain management. “Freeboard” tends to compensate 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, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.



25. **Functionally dependent use**– 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.
26. **Highest Adjacent Grade** – the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of the structure.
27. **Historic Structure** – any structure that is: (a) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; (b) certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district; (c) individually listed on a State inventory of historic places; (d) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified (1) by an approved State program as determined by the Secretary of Interior, or (2) directly by the Secretary of Interior in states without approved programs. Some structures or districts listed on the State or local inventories **MAY NOT** be "Historic" as cited above, but have been included on the inventories because it was believed that the structures or districts have the **potential** for meeting the "Historic" structure criteria of the DOI. In order for these structures to meet NFIP historic structure criteria, it must be demonstrated and evidenced that the South Carolina Department of Archives and History has **individually determined** that the structure or district meets DOI historic structure criteria.
28. **Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)** – applies to all new and renewed flood insurance policies effective on and after June 1, 1997. The NFIP shall enable the purchase of insurance to cover the cost of compliance with land use and control measures established under Section 1361. It provides coverage for the payment of a claim to help pay for the cost to comply with State or community floodplain management laws or ordinances after a flood event in which a building has been declared substantially or repetitively damaged.
29. **Limited storage** – an area used for storage and intended to be limited to incidental items that can withstand exposure to the elements and have low flood damage potential. Such an area must be of flood resistant or breakaway material, void of utilities except for essential lighting and cannot be temperature controlled. If the area is located below the base flood elevation in an A, AE and A1-A30 zone it must meet the requirements of Article IV.A.4 of this ordinance. If the area is located below the base flood elevation in a V, VE and V1-V30 zone it must meet the requirements of Article IV.F of this ordinance.
30. **Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG)** – is an elevation of the lowest ground surface that touches any deck support, exterior walls of a building or proposed building walls.



31. **Lowest Floor** –the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area is not considered a building's lowest floor; provided, that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of this ordinance.
32. **Manufactured home** – a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities. The term "manufactured home" does not include a "recreational vehicle".
33. **Manufactured Home Park or subdivision** – a parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.
34. **Mean Sea Level** – means, for the purpose of this ordinance, the Nations Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929, North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988, or other datum, to which the base flood elevations shown on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) are shown.
35. **National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)of 1929** – as corrected in 1929, elevation reference points set by National Geodetic Survey based on mean sea level.
36. **North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988** – vertical control, as corrected in 1988, used as the reference datum on Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
37. **New construction** – structure for which the start of construction commenced on or after (the effective date of the first floodplain management code, ordinance, or standard based upon specific technical base flood elevation data which establishes the area of special flood hazard) or (specific date). The term also includes any subsequent improvements to such structure.
38. **New manufactured home park or subdivision** – 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 slabs) is completed on or after June 4, 1987 .
39. **Primary Frontal Dune** – a continuous or nearly continuous mound or ridge of sand with relatively steep seaward and landward slopes immediately landward and subject to erosion and overtopping from high tides and waves during coastal storms. The inland limit of the primary frontal dune occurs at the point where there is a distinct change from a relatively steep slope to a relatively mild slope.



40. **Recreational vehicle** – a vehicle which is: (a) built on a single chassis; (b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection; (c) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and, (d) designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling, but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.
41. **Repetitive Loss** – a building covered by a contract for flood insurance that has incurred flood-related damages on 2 occasions during a 10 year period ending on the date of the event for which a second claim is made, in which the cost of repairing the flood damage, on the average, equaled or exceeded 25% of the market value of the building at the time of each such flood event.
42. **Section 1316 of the National Flood insurance Act of 1968** – The act provides that no new flood insurance shall be provided for any property found by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to have been declared by a state or local authority to be in violation of state or local ordinances.
43. **Stable Natural Vegetation** – the first place on the oceanfront where plants such as sea oats hold sand in place.
44. **Start of construction** – for other than new construction or substantial improvements under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (P.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, or improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. The actual start means the first placement of permanent construction of a structure (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of slabs or footings, installation of piles, 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 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 the building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.
45. **Structure** – a walled and roofed building, a manufactured home, including a gas or liquid storage tank that is principally above ground.
46. **Substantial damage** – 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. Such repairs may be undertaken successively and their costs counted cumulatively. Please refer to the definition of "substantial improvement".



47. **Substantial improvement** – any repair, 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 the start of construction of the improvement. This term includes structures that have incurred repetitive loss or substantial damage, regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either:
- a) any project of improvement to 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,
  - b) any alteration of a historic structure, provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure.
  - c) Permits shall be cumulative for a period of five years. If the improvement project is conducted in phases, the total of all costs associated with each phase, beginning with the issuance of the first permit, shall be utilized to determine whether "substantial improvement" will occur.
48. **Substantially improved existing manufactured home park or subdivision** – where the repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation or improvement of the streets, utilities and pads equals or exceeds 50 percent of the value of the streets, utilities and pads before the repair, reconstruction, or improvement commenced.
49. **Variance** – is a grant of relief from a term or terms of this ordinance.
50. **Violation** – the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with these regulations.

### Article III. ADMINISTRATION

- A. **Designation of Local Administrator** – The Fairfield County Planning, Building and Zoning Director is hereby appointed to administer and implement the provisions of this ordinance.
- B. **Adoption of Letter of Map Revisions (LOMR)** – All LOMRs that are issued in the areas identified in Article I Section D of this ordinance are hereby adopted.
- C. **Designation of Party Responsible for Biennial Report** – The Fairfield County Planning, Building and Zoning Director is hereby designated as the party responsible to submit the Biennial Report to FEMA.
- D. **Development Permit and Certification Requirements.**
- 1. **Development Permit:** – Application for a development permit shall be made to the local administrator on forms furnished by him or her prior to any development activities. The development permit may include, but not be limited to, plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed



structures; and the location of fill materials, storage areas, and drainage facilities. Specifically, the following information is required:

- a) A plot plan that shows the 100-year floodplain contour or a statement that the entire lot is within the floodplain must be provided by the development permit applicant when the lot is within or appears to be within the floodplain as mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the floodplain identified pursuant to either the Duties and Responsibilities of the Local Administrators of Article III.E.11 or the Standards for Subdivision Proposals of Article IV.B and the Standards for streams without Estimated Base Flood Elevations and Floodways of Article IV.C. The plot plan must be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a registered land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by it. The plot plan must show the floodway, if any, as identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the floodway identified pursuant to either the duties or responsibilities of the local administrators of Article III.E.11 or the standards for subdivision proposals of Article IV.B.13 and the standards for streams without estimated base flood elevations and floodways of Article IV.C.
- b) Where base flood elevation data is provided as set forth in Article I.D or the duties and responsibilities of the local administrators of Article III.E.11 the application for a development permit within the flood hazard area shall show:
  - (1) the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor of all new and substantially improved structures, and
  - (2) if the structure will be floodproofed in accordance with the Non-Residential Construction requirements of Article IV.B.2 the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure will be floodproofed.
- c) Where base flood elevation data is not provided as set forth in Article I.D or the duties and responsibilities of the local administrators of Article III.F.11, then the provisions in the standards for streams without estimated base flood elevations and floodways of Article IV.C must be met.
- d) Alteration of Watercourse: Where any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development, the application for a development permit shall include a description of the extent of watercourse alteration or relocation, an engineering study to demonstrate that the flood-carrying capacity of the altered or relocated watercourse is maintained and a map showing the location of the proposed watercourse alteration or relocation.