

PARISH OF ASCENSION
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING DEPARTMENT



APPENDIX V
DRAINAGE

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ORDINANCE HISTORY

Ord. #DR07-01 adopted 9/6/07
Ord. #DR09-01, adopted 7/16/09
Ord. #DR09-09, adopted 12/17/09
Ord. #DR11-01, adopted 6/16/11
Ord. #DR11-02, adopted 7/21/11
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17-501. Purpose and Intent

- A. The purpose of this Ordinance is to codify the requirements of new development and redevelopment in Ascension Parish. The requirements of this Ordinance are directed at reducing the potential for flood related damages caused by new development and redevelopment of property in Ascension Parish.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-502. Plan Approval

- A. All applicable development and associated elements thereof, as defined herein, and not specifically exempted by this ordinance, must be approved by the Ascension Parish Office of Planning & Development, the Ascension Parish Department of Public Works, and/or the appropriate Drainage District, as applicable.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-503. Applicability

- A. This ordinance shall apply to any proposed development within the Parish. Development shall be defined as the division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels with associated earthwork, the construction of a new major or minor subdivision, multi-residential or commercial building or structure, the relocation or enlargement of any commercial building or structure, the construction of parking surfaces for commercial developments or the clearing, grading, filling, or movement of land. The following shall be exempt from the requirements of this ordinance as described below:

1. Drainage, soil movement, leveling or cultivation activities performed in conjunction with an agricultural operation. Agricultural operations include land use for the production of crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, horticulture, or any such plant or animal production for sale or resale, or for private use, as long as the soil movement does not significantly alter the existing drainage conditions from or adjacent to the site and does not violate the fill mitigation requirements described in **Section 17-507**.
2. This ordinance shall not apply to construction or uses of buildings, structures or land in industrial facilities provided the industrial facility is located in Land Use Designation "I" of the Ascension Parish Planning and Zoning Map. Industrial facilities will be required to comply with drainage covenants established during the creation of an industrial subdivision as conditioned by the Planning & Zoning Commission.
3. Soil movement and grading, when confined to post-construction residential application of a single family dwelling for minor grading of yards, driveways, patios, swimming pools or similar homeowner type site improvements as long as the soil movement does not significantly alter the existing drainage conditions from or adjacent to the site and does not violate the fill mitigation requirements described in **Section 17-507**.

4. The construction, improvement or relocation of accessory buildings such as carports, sheds, barns, pool houses, recreational vehicle storage sheds, or other outbuildings constructed by a homeowner for his or her personal use, and not for commercial or business purposes, as long as the activity does not significantly alter the existing drainage conditions from or adjacent to the site and does not violate the fill mitigation requirements described in **Section 17-507**.
 5. The placement of spoil material on public lands when such spoil is excavated for public projects by any Federal, State, or local governmental entity. All State and Parish Erosion and Sedimentation requirements shall still apply.
- (Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR11-02, 7/21/11)

17-504. Compliance with Federal and State Regulations

- A. In addition to the requirements of this ordinance, the owner/developer of any property in Ascension Parish shall be responsible for adhering to all State and Federal laws regulating grading, drainage, and flood control according to established policy. Checklists of Federal and State permits required, and the appropriate time required for submittal to the Parish are available from the Office of Planning & Development.
- B. Permits shall be obtained from all appropriate Federal and State agencies having regulations and laws relative to grading, drainage and flood control, including but not limited to the following:
 1. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Coast Guard (USACE)
 - (a) Jurisdictional Wetlands
 - (b) Navigable Streams
 2. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Permits obtained from Parish
 - (a) Construction of structures within flood zones
 - (b) Encroachment on floodways
 3. Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ)
 - (a) Storm water runoff – Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES)
 4. Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LaDOTD)
 - (a) Project and driveway Permits
 5. Pontchartrain Levee District
 - (a) Construction on or adjacent to the Mississippi River levees
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-505. Grade requirements for Structures and Roadways

- A. All proposed structures and roadways shall be constructed to the following criteria:
1. All elevation information submitted to the Parish shall be referenced to the official list of benchmarks as published by the Department of Public Works or the appropriate Gravity Drainage District. This datum must be consistent with the benchmark datum referenced in the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
 2. All references to flood zones and elevations shall be as determined by the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) for Ascension Parish, latest revision. If the FIRM map does not provide a flood elevation for a particular area, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be consulted for an opinion regarding the most currently established flood elevation.
 3. Record inundation shall be considered as the highest water surface elevation recorded at or adjacent to the proposed development as defined by the Department of Public Works or appropriate Drainage District on a project-by-project basis.
 4. The lowest gutter elevation of all proposed public and private roadways shall not be lower than any of the following criteria:
 - (a) One foot below the FEMA Base Flood Elevation (latest edition)
 - (b) Two (2) inches below the design water surface elevation for the interior subsurface storm water conveyance system draining the proposed roadway
 - (c) The ten year design event peak water surface elevation of any storm water detention system receiving runoff from the proposed roadway
 5. All structures shall be constructed a minimum of one foot above each of the following criteria:
 - (a) FEMA Base Flood Elevation, or nearest adjacent FEMA Base Flood Elevation (latest edition);
 - (b) Top elevation of nearest adjacent sanitary sewer manhole on the sewer collection system servicing the proposed structure.
 - (c) Accessory buildings are not subject to items a-b in **Section 17-505A.5**. However, accessory buildings are subject to FEMA regulations per **Section 17-505A.6**. Deviations to this policy must be based on sound engineering judgment submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Floodplain Administrator.
 6. All structures proposed within a recognized FEMA flood zone shall be constructed in accordance with Title 44 of the Federal Register, Part 60.

17-506. Protection of Existing Watersheds and Conveyance Systems

- A. Drainage for proposed developments and redevelopments shall be designed to maintain the existing flow patterns established prior to proposed improvements at the site. Impacts to existing water surface profiles shall be mitigated for all new development or redevelopment of existing sites not specifically excluded as follows:
1. Redevelopment – Any proposed improvements to a commercial facility that result in a net increase in changed surface of less than 17,500 square feet, or the replacement of less than 35,000 square feet of existing impervious surface area. Any combination of new and replaced surface area totaling more than 35,000 square feet does not qualify for this exemption.
 2. Residential developments having lot sizes equal to or greater than one (1.0) acre and creating eight (8) lots or less.
 3. Sites participating in the “pay in lieu of detention” program as detailed in the Ascension Parish Drainage Impact Fee Policy. This option is only available in watersheds that have had a comprehensive drainage plan engineered and constructed by the Parish.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; SR13-14, 1/09/14)

- B. Storm water detention systems that limit the post developed peak flow rate to the existing condition peak flow rate shall be required for all residential and commercial developments required to mitigate impacts to existing water surface profiles.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; SR13-14, 1/09/14)

- C. The natural ridgelines and drainage boundaries for a site shall be established prior to any development and the developed condition shall maintain the drainage areas draining to each natural outfall as closely as possible. Exceptions will be considered in instances where modifications are necessary to consolidate engineered storm system elements.

- D. Where an existing storm water conveyance system traverses through a proposed development and accommodates off-site drainage areas, any alterations to the existing system shall be made such that no increase in the existing water surface profile will be caused by the development.

- (a) An existing condition water surface profile shall be modeled based upon the natural channel, culverts, bridges, and other natural features through the property to be developed. Approved methods of analysis and required supporting documentation for existing

condition modeling are outlined in the Ascension Parish Drainage Impact Study Policy document.

- (b) A developed condition water surface profile shall be modeled based upon the proposed condition and shall account for all existing features to remain, the new channel geometry, proposed culverts or storm drain systems, and any fill placed within the over bank flow section in the existing channel sections. Approved methods of analysis and required supporting documentation for proposed condition modeling are outlined in the Ascension Parish Drainage Impact Study Policy document.
 - (c) The water surface profile elevation at the upstream and downstream property lines of the development during the peak runoff period for the sub-basin shall not be greater than the existing condition water surface profile elevation at those points. The Planning Director may allow for minimal increases in profile in cases where the development may be restricted from making improvements to lower the water surface profile.
 - (d) For major streams as defined by the Department of Public Works or the appropriate Drainage District, the Office of Planning & Development may require the analysis to be based upon a higher storm frequency than the 10-year event, particularly when the difference between the 10-year and 100-year design water surface is potentially greater than 18".
- E. No individual, partnership, or corporation shall deepen, widen, fill, reroute, or change the location of any existing ditch, stream, drain, or drainage canal used for public drainage of off-site upstream or downstream areas without first obtaining a permit from the Ascension Parish Office of Planning & Development. The Office of Planning & Development will only issue said permit after written authorization from the Department of Public Works or the appropriate Drainage District. This provision does not apply to routine maintenance of existing drainage systems.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-507. Placement of fill

- A. A proposed Certificate of Elevation shall be submitted for any structure to be built or placed on any lot, prior to any permit being issued, which shall include, but not be limited to the following information:
- 1. Address
 - 2. Contractor
 - 3. Proposed Elevation
 - 4. Firm Panel Number
 - 5. FIRM Zone base flood elevation or adjacent base flood elevation
 - 6. Lowest natural ground for the property
 - 7. Explanation for how the elevation of the proposed structure is going to be achieved (fill, piers, chain-wall, etc.)
- (Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

B. For Individual Lots

1. On lots smaller than ½ acre (21,780 square feet)
 - (a) No more than 36” of fill shall be placed in order to elevate any structure.
 - (b) Fill shall be limited to the foundation of the structure(s) and shall not extend more than 24” horizontally beyond the limits of the foundation before it begins to slope.
 - (c) Side slope of fill under the structure(s) shall not be steeper than a 3’ horizontal to a 1’ vertical slope
 - (d) Fill shall not be placed closer than ten (10’) feet to any property line in order to facilitate the collection and transportation of any increased runoff via side-yard or rear-yard swales if necessary
 - (e) Compaction tests shall be required when the footer of the proposed structure does not extend at least 12” into undisturbed soil.
 - (i) Compaction test requirements
 - (I) There shall be 1 compaction test per 12” lift per 1,000 square feet of fill
 - (II) The fill shall meet one of the following standards:
 1. 90% modified proctor
 2. 95% standard proctor
 - (f) If the structure(s) must be elevated over 36”, then piers or a chain-wall shall be utilized to make up the difference in elevation.
 - (i) The homeowner may choose to combine fill and piers or a chain-wall to achieve the desired elevation, however, in no instance shall the fill height be greater than 36”

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

2. On lots larger than ½ acre (21,780 square feet)

- (a) No more than 36” of fill shall be placed in order to elevate any structure without additional consideration.
- (b) Fill shall be limited to the foundation of the structure(s) and shall not extend more than 24” horizontally beyond the limits of the foundation before it begins to slope.
 - (i) If more than 24” around the perimeter is desired, then the applicant shall submit a set of drawings stamped and sealed by a licensed engineer that depicts how the additional fill, greater than 24”, around the structure(s) is mitigated through the use of storm water ponds and /or swales.
- (c) Side slope of fill under the structure(s) shall not be steeper than a 3’ horizontal to a 1’ vertical slope
- (d) Fill shall not be placed closer than ten (10’) feet to any property line in order to facilitate the collection and transportation of any increased runoff via side-yard or rear-yard swales if necessary
- (e) Compaction tests shall be required when the footer of the proposed structure does not extend at least 12” into undisturbed soil.
 - (i) Compaction test requirements

- (I) There shall be 1 compaction test per 12" lift per 1,000 square feet of fill
- (II) The fill shall meet one of the following standards:
 - 1. 90% modified proctor
 - 2. 95% standard proctor
- (f) If the structure(s) must be elevated over 36", then the applicant shall submit a set of drawings stamped and sealed by a licensed engineer that depicts how the fill, greater than 36", under the structure(s) is mitigated through the use of storm water ponds and /or swales.
 - (i) The applicant may choose to combine fill and piers or a chain-wall to achieve the desired elevation.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 7/16/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

3. For residential lots where greater than 36" of fill is required, for a major or minor subdivision or for Commercial Development.

- (a) Any volume of fill placed below the Base Flood Elevation shall be compensated for and balanced by a hydraulically equivalent volume of excavation taken from below the Base Flood Elevation:
 - (i) The determining criteria for land subject to this requirement shall be all land below the Base Flood elevation as determined by actual on-the-ground contours referenced to the official Parish benchmark system, regardless of whether the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) depict the property in question to be in a recognized flood zone.
 - (ii) Where lakes are excavated, the volume of dirt removed below the normal water surface (pool elevation) of the lake cannot be credited as compensating storage.
 - (iii) Compensating storage excavations must be constructed to drain freely towards the established drainage for the area. Dead storage volume will not be credited towards fill mitigation.
 - (iv) If the compensating storage is derived from an off-site source that is not a part of the proposed development it must be located in the same watershed as the proposed development and the base flood elevation at the off-site source shall not be greater than one (1) foot higher than or one (1) foot lower than the base flood elevation of the developed site.
 - (v) Excess storage credits may be created by a development and utilized by another development if it meets the criteria of **Section 17-507.B.3.a.iv** If excess credits are created by a development, the Office of Planning & Development shall issue a credit letter that may be utilized by another

project in the same watershed within five (5) years of the issuance of the letter.

- (vi) Waivers to this Section due to a property owner's inability to generate fill credits may be made on a case-by-case basis by the Director of the Department of Planning & Development and/or the appropriate Gravity Drainage District.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

- 4. If after construction, it is determined through an on-site investigation by a Parish Drainage Engineer that an adjacent property owner is experiencing an increase in off-site runoff due to the construction, then the property owner will be required by the Ascension Parish Engineering Department to construct a swale sufficient enough in size as stated by the Parish Drainage Engineer to collect and convey the runoff away from the impacted property.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

C. For a Minor or Major Subdivision

- 1. On tracts of land being utilized for a minor or major subdivision, where a master storm water plan is to be designed and constructed, no more than 36" of fill may be placed in the areas where residential lots are to be placed.

- (a) This restriction does not apply to the roadway being built to serve those lots.

- (b) Compaction tests shall be required in the areas where structures are to be placed.

- (i) Compaction test requirements

- (I) There shall be 1 compaction test per 12" lift per 10% of the total number of lots in the proposed subdivision

- I. Refer to section 17-409.E.4

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR13-11, 12/05/13)

17-508. Storm Water Detention Design Requirements

A. Commercial developments may be subject to a drainage impact fee in-lieu of, or in addition to, detention as detailed in the Ascension Parish Drainage Impact Fee Policy as set by the Ascension Parish Planning Commission.

B. The engineering design of detention facilities shall properly account for the backwater condition of the receiving stream at the same time increment that the detention system is discharging into the receiving stream. Detailed time of concentration calculations, illustrated flow path, type of flow, and all pertinent parameters (Length, Slope, Manning's n, etc.) as well as hydrographs (graphical and tabular) shall be included in the Drainage Impact Study to demonstrate proper control of the peak discharge from the subject site.

- C. The outfall for storm water detention facilities shall be gravity driven. Mechanical systems, such as pumps, shall not be used for discharging flow from detention ponds.
- D. In-Fill Development may request a special dispensation from the requirements of the detention requirements of this ordinance when the following conditions apply:
 1. The proposed development property encompasses less than 5 acres.
 2. Drainage from the development does not enter a different zoning classification within ¼ mile of the discharge point from the site.
 3. 75% of the surrounding land, within a 500 foot offset of all property lines of the subject property, is fully developed (>85% impervious).
 (Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR11-04, 8/4/11)

17-509. Erosion/Sediment Control and Bank Stability

- A. An Erosion/Sedimentation Control (ESC) Plan shall be developed by the Engineer and submitted for approval to address potential sediment migration from the project site during construction activities. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to maintain drainage ditches and detention ponds and to provide adequate bank stability and erosion protection until the site is fully stabilized.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR11-05, 7/21/11)
- B. As per LPDES requirements, a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) shall be developed for all sites that disturb greater than 1 acre. This plan will be submitted to the Engineering Department of Ascension Parish prior the beginning of construction at the site. All of these sites will be covered under general permit LAR100000 or LAR200000, please contact LDEQ for specific requirements for each permit. It will be the responsibility of the Contractor to fulfill and maintain the requirements of the permit.
- C. The LPDES permit for small construction activities (LAR200000) requires a Small Construction Activity Completion Report (SCACR) be submitted within sixty (60) days after completion of covered activities, a copy of this report shall be submitted to the Parish at the same time. The LPDES permit for construction activities larger than 5 acres (LAR100000) requires a Notice of Termination (NOT) be submitted after the site has been finally stabilized, a copy of this NOT shall be submitted to the Parish at the same time.
- D. The LPDES permits (LAR 100000 & LAR 200000) require inspection reports be done on all construction projects that disturb greater than 1 acre at a frequency noted in the project SWPPP. These inspection reports shall be submitted to the Ascension Parish Storm Water Department at the frequency noted in the project SWPPP from the start of construction activities regulated under the LPDEA permits until final stabilization.
- E. The following shall be considered as maximum slopes that provide adequate bank stability and erosion protection:

1. Major streams: Maximum slope shall be 3:1 (horizontal to vertical). If the slopes are concrete lined, a slope of 1.5:1 may be utilized.
2. Storm Water detention ponds: Maximum side slope shall be 3:1 (horizontal to vertical) to a minimum of two feet below the normal pool stage. Sides slopes more than two feet below the normal pool stage may be established at slopes greater than 3:1 (up to a maximum 1.5:1) with written certification by a licensed Geotechnical Engineer stating that the side slopes will be permanently stable at the design slope.
3. Open Ditches: Maximum slope shall be 3:1 (horizontal to vertical).

F. Where a ditch discharges into an outfall channel, the proposed ditch shall be enclosed in a properly sized pipe approved by the Department of Public Works under the maintenance access strip of the outfall channel.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 7/16/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR11-05, 7/21/11; DR14-01, 4/23/14)

17-5010. Construction Standards

A. All drainage and earthwork construction shall be constructed in accordance with the Ascension Parish Subdivision Regulations. All temporary culverts require a permit and written approval by the Department of Public Works and/or appropriate Drainage District.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 7/16/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09, SR 17-01, 6/15/17)

17-5011. Servitude and Right of Way Requirements

Reserved for future expansion

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 7/16/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; SR12-17, 2/7/13)

17-5012. Storm Water Conveyance Systems

A. The following criteria and requirements shall apply to all proposed storm water conveyance systems:

1. Open ditches: Existing open ditches may be utilized to convey offsite water through a proposed development or to convey water from a subsurface collection system to its ultimate outfall or detention area. No new open ditches shall be allowed within a proposed development.
2. Subsurface storm water systems shall be utilized to collect runoff from proposed roadways and the front/rear of lots for conveyance to an outfall ditch or detention pond. Swales used to direct stormwater to drainage inlets shall have side slopes not exceeding 5:1.

3. Subsurface systems installed to convey off-site water require proper analysis be performed in accordance with **Section 17-506** to ensure that no negative impact is caused to adjoining property owners.
4. For all new developments effluent from individual sanitary sewer treatment systems must ultimately outfall into an enclosed storm drainage system if such storm drainage system abuts the subject site.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-5013. Design Criteria

- A. Storm drainage design, unless otherwise noted, shall utilize at a minimum a twenty-five year 24-hour storm duration as determined by Technical Paper 40 published by the National Weather Service and a maximum outflow of a ten year 24 hour storm duration as determined by Technical Paper 40.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR19-03, 1/3/19)
- B. Drainage Impact Studies shall:
 1. Be prepared in accordance with the latest revision of the Drainage Impact Study Policy, as established by the Ascension Parish Planning Commission.
 2. If no construction has begun within twenty-four (24) months following the acceptance of the drainage impact study by the Ascension Parish Office of Planning and Development, the owner, subdivider and/or developer shall resubmit a new Drainage Impact Study for review.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR15-01, 9/3/15)
- C. All drainage impact studies, construction plans, and final drainage calculations for residential subdivisions and commercial developments submitted to the Office of Planning & Development shall be performed under the direction of and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice Civil Engineering in the State of Louisiana. Exceptions will be considered by the Planning Director for cases showing a clear reduction in total impervious area and no modifications to existing drainage elements.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)
- D. Upon completion of the project, the design engineer for the project is required to submit a signed and sealed Letter of Certification that states that the project was completed in accordance with the construction plans that were submitted, reviewed and approved by the Parish of Ascension. Final approval will not be granted until this letter has been received.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09; DR15-09, 12/3/15)
- E. The Parish Floodplain Administrator may require a flood elevation certificate from a Professional Land Surveyor or Professional Engineer for residential and commercial structures at his/her discretion.
- F. Interior subsurface stormwater system conveyance may be designed based upon the five year storm event provided peak flows for the ten year event do not cause a design failure.
(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-5014. Drainage Servitudes

- A. Drainage servitudes are dedicated to the Parish for the exclusive purpose of maintaining adequate storm water drainage. Any encroachment within such servitudes that may inhibit this purpose presently, or in the future, as determined by the Department of Public Works and/or the appropriate Drainage District is prohibited.
- B. The removal of such encroachments shall be the responsibility of the landowner, and shall be accomplished no later than ten (10) days from the date of notice by the Department of Public Works and/or the appropriate Drainage District.
- C. The landowner shall be assessed a penalty of \$100.00 per day thereafter until the encroachment is removed and verified by the Department of Public Works and/or the appropriate Drainage District.
- D. When imminent flooding or damage from storm events are possible, as determined by the Department of Public Works and/or the appropriate Drainage District, Parish forces shall have the right to enter the property and remove the encroachment. The property owner shall be assessed all costs incurred in the removal of the encroachment.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-5090. Administration and Enforcement

17-5091. Variances

- A. Any request for deviation from the requirements and policies outlined within the Ascension Parish Drainage Ordinance must be made in writing by the applicant. Written request shall include supporting documentation necessary to prove basis warranting a variance. The request for a variance must be specific, and addressed to the attention of the Planning & Development Director. A variance will be granted only upon the written approval of the appropriate Drainage District Director, the Director of Public Works, and the Office of Planning & Development.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)

17-5092. Fines and Enforcements

- A. Any person who violates any element of a Parish required permit or Parish regulations, or any supporting part thereof (e.g. Construction Plans, Drainage Impact Study, Erosion/Sedimentation Control Plan) or federal and state regulations (see section 17-504) including violations to the SWPPP will be issued a written warning. If the violation is not corrected in the time allotted by the written warning the project will be issued a stop work order by the Engineering department or the Department of Public Works.
- B. If the above violations are not corrected within the time allotted by the stop work order (two working days minimum), all permits shall be rescinded by written notice from the Parish. A stop work order does not alleviate responsibility for any violations and shall not indemnify the permit holder against additional enforcement actions as allowed by local, state and federal laws.

- C. If the above violations are not corrected within five working days of the permits being rescinded, the responsible party will be subject to fines, in addition to any fines leveled by Federal and State regulators. The fine shall be \$500.00 for each violation. Each specific infraction shall constitute a separate violation. Each day the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation. Fines may be enforced from the date of initial warning of violation(s).
- D. All fines and penalties shall be paid to the governing body of Ascension Parish, Louisiana.

(Ord.# DR11-01, 6/16/11)

17-50100. Definitions

- A. Note: 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 the most reasonable application.

Backwater: Surface waters in a flooding condition where the source of the flooding is a downstream channel or stream

Base Flood Elevation (BFE): The flood elevation shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map for Zones AE, AH, A1-A30, AR, AR/A, AR/AE, AR/A1-A30, AR/AH, AR/AO, V1-V30, and VE that indicates the water surface elevation resulting from a flood that has a one percent chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year

Channel: means any stream, swale, ditch, diversion, or watercourse that conveys stormwater runoff, whether natural or manmade

Conveyance: Natural or man-made system accommodating flow of storm water

Detention System: All facilities, channels, basins, and areas, natural or artificial, which serve to store storm water and release it at a controlled rate

Developed Condition: Means the fully developed or built out condition with respect to stormwater runoff from a proposed development or residential site plan

Drainage Impact Study: A report prepared for a designated area supporting the design decisions made to meet all requirements on drainage provisions, flood mitigation measures and performance monitoring tasks which may be placed on, or located throughout such area. The Parish “*Drainage Impact Study Policy*” establishes the minimum submittal requirements for a Drainage Impact Study to initiate review by the Office of Planning & Development as part of the permitting process.

Earthwork: The excavation and/or embankment of soil

Existing Condition: The pre-developed condition of the site with respect to hydrology and hydraulics. Credit will not be given for impervious surface area constructed in the previous 5-year period for a site being redeveloped.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM): Official map for a community in which FEMA has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to that community

Flood Zone: A geographical area where flooding reaches a certain height as shown on a Flood Hazard Boundary Map or a Flood Insurance Rate Map that reflects a severity or type of flooding in an area

Heavy Industrial: Intended to accommodate high-impact manufacturing, compounding, processing, packaging, treatment and other industrial uses, including extractive and waste-related uses, that by their nature create a nuisance, and which are not properly associated with or are compatible with nearby residential or commercial neighborhoods.

Impervious Surface: Any surface where the infiltration of storm water into the earth has been reduced by the works of man.

Industrial Facility: Any development within an Industrially zoned (I) piece of property that is classified as a Heavy Industrial Use.

Light Industrial: Intended to accommodate light manufacturing, research and development, warehousing, wholesale and processing uses. Light industrial is intended to encourage originality and flexibility in design to ensure that the development is properly related to its site and buffered to surrounding land uses. Development should be operated in a relatively clean and quiet manner in accordance with applicable noise ordinance regulations (Chapter 14, Article III of the Code of Ordinances) and should not be obnoxious to nearby residential or commercial uses. Uses shall create little or no environmental or safety problems.

Lowest Floor: The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including a basement). An unfinished or flood-resistant enclosure, used 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 other requirements.

Lowest Gutter Elevation: The lowest elevation of the road at the gutter.

Peak Flow: The maximum volumetric rate of flow of water at any given point in a channel or conduit resulting from a predetermined storm.

Storm Frequency: The average period of time during which a storm of a given duration and intensity can be expected to be equaled or exceeded.

Base Flood Elevation: The anticipated height, in relation to the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988, or other datum where specified, of floodwaters of various magnitudes and frequencies in the floodplains of coastal or riverine areas.

Peak Water Surface Elevation: The highest design water surface elevation for the design storm in a detention pond or storm drainage system.

Watershed: The total land area above a given point on a waterway that contributes runoff water to the flow at that point.

(Ord.# DR07-01, 9/6/07; DR09-01, 716/09; DC09-09, 12/17/09)