

# Discovery Report Appendix J

## Community Ordinances

**Lake Ontario – Chaumont-Perch Watershed**  
**HUC 04150102**  
Jefferson County, New York

*July 2016*



**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
**Department of Homeland Security**  
26 Federal Plaza  
New York, NY

# Discovery Report Appendix J

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**Federal Emergency Management Agency**  
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26 Federal Plaza  
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## Chaumont Perch Watershed County Ordinances

County	Community	Program Status	Ordinance Level	Ordinance Available in Appendix J	Page #
Jefferson	Brownville, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	3
	Cape Vincent, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	32
	Chaumont, Village of	Regular	D	Yes	57
	Clayton, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	79
	Henderson, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	99
	Hounsfield, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	131
	Lyme, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	155
	Orleans, Town of	Regular	D	No	*
	Pamelia, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	186
	Sackets Harbor, Village of	Regular	D	Yes	206
	Watertown, City of	Regular	D	Yes	234
	Watertown, Town of	Regular	D	Yes	257

\*File Not Available

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
~~XXXX~~ of Brownville  
~~XXXXXX~~

Local Law No. 3 of the year 1994

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION  
as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX,  
Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Town of Brownville of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
~~XXXXX~~ of Brownville, Jefferson County,  
~~XXXXXX~~

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The Town Board of the Town of  
Brownville finds that the potential and/or actual damages  
from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the  
Town of Brownville and that such  
damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing,  
damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and  
injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of  
such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set  
forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property  
due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging  
increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which  
serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of  
initial construction;



- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

**"Area of shallow flooding"** means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

**"Area of special flood hazard"** is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

**"Base flood"** means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

**"Basement"** means that portion of a 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 the supporting foundation system.

**"Building"** see "Structure"

**"Cellar"** has the same meaning as "Basement".

**"Coastal high hazard area"** means an area of special flood hazard 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. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone V1-V30, VE, VO or V.

**"Development"** means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**"Elevated building"** means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

**"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) is complete before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:

(i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or

(ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest Floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

**"Manufactured home"** means 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 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.

**"Mobile home"** - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

**"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)"** as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

**"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

**"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood"** has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

**"Primary frontal dune"** means a continuous or nearly continuous mound or ridge of sand with relatively steep seaward and landward slopes immediately landward and adjacent to the beach and subject to erosion and overtopping from high tides and waves during major 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.

**"Principally Above Ground"** means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

**"Recreational vehicle"** means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as

temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.4-2 of this Law.

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

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

### 3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

### 3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at: the Town Clerk's Office, Limerick, N.Y.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

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### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of Brownville from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Brownville, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Code Enforcement Officer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the



Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$ 50.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Brownville for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide at least the following information, where applicable. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones V1-V30 or VE, or Zone V if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (5) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will

meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.5, NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (EXCEPT COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS).

- (6) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (7) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (8) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.
- (9) In Zones V1-V30 and VE, and also Zone V if base flood elevation are available, designs and specifications, certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect, for any breakaway walls in a proposed structure with design strengths in excess of 20 pounds per square foot.
- (10) In Zones V1-V30 and VE, and also Zone V if base flood elevation are available, for all new and substantial improvements to structures, floodplain development permit applications shall be accompanied by design plans and specifications, prepared in sufficient detail to enable independent review of the foundation support and connection components. Said plans and specifications shall be developed or reviewed by a licensed professional engineer or architect, and shall be accompanied by a statement, bearing the signature of the architect or engineer, certifying that the design and methods of construction to be used are in accordance with accepted standards of practice and with all applicable provisions of this local law.

#### 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

##### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.
- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

##### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(8), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed

development meet the requirements of this law.

- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) In Zones V1-V30 and VE, and also Zone V if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor of a new or substantially improved structure, the permit holder shall submit to the Local Administrator a certificate of elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns). For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. An elevation certificate must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (3) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### 4.4-5 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### 4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### 4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.
- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### 4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and

- 4.4-4(2) of Section 4.4, CONSTRUCTION STAGE, and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) of Section 4.4, CONSTRUCTION STAGE, and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
  - (4) Certifications required pursuant to sub-section 5.4-14, BREAKAWAY WALL DESIGN STANDARDS, and paragraph (10) of Section 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT;
  - (5) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
  - (6) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

## SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

### 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

#### 5.1-1 COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS

The following requirements apply within Zones V1-V30, VE and V:

- (1) All new construction, including manufactured homes and recreational vehicles on site 180 days or longer and not fully licensed for highway use, shall be located landward of the reach of high tide.
- (2) The use of fill for structural support of buildings, manufactured homes or recreational vehicles on site 180 days or longer is prohibited.
- (3) Man-made alteration of sand dunes which would increase potential flood damage is prohibited.

#### 5.1-2 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to

flood damage.

### 5.1-3 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

(ii) the Town of Brownville agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Brownville for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Brownville for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

(ii) the Town of Brownville agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Brownville for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Brownville for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

## 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

- (4) Within Zones V1-V30 and VE, and also within Zone V if base flood elevation are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the space below the lowest floor either free from 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. The enclosed space below the lowest floor shall be used only for parking vehicles, building access or storage. Use of this space for human habitation is expressly prohibited. The construction of stairs, stairwells and elevator shafts are subject to the design requirements for breakaway walls.

## 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters,



appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;

- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

### 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (EXCEPT COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS)

#### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-3, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified).
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

## 5.4 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS)

The following standards, in addition to the standards in sub-sections 5.1-1, COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS, and 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard shown as Zones V1-V30, VE or V on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

### 5.4-1 ELEVATION

New construction and substantial improvements shall be elevated on pilings, columns or shear walls such that the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member supporting the lowest elevated floor (excluding columns, piles, diagonal bracing attached to the piles or columns, grade beams, pile caps and other members designed to either withstand storm action or break away without imparting damaging loads to the structure) is elevated to or above the level of the base flood so as not to impede the flow of water.

### 5.4-2 DETERMINATION OF LOADING FORCES

Structural design shall consider the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously during the base flood on all building components.

- (1) The structural design shall be adequate to resist water forces that would occur during the base flood. Horizontal water loads considered shall include inertial and drag forces of waves, current drag forces, and impact forces from water-borne storm debris. Dynamic uplift loads shall also be considered if bulkheads, walls, or other natural or man-made flow obstructions could cause wave runup beyond the elevation of the base flood.
- (2) Buildings shall be designed and constructed to resist the forces due to wind pressure. Wind forces on the superstructure include windward and leeward forces on vertical walls, uplift on the roof, internal forces when openings allow wind to enter the house, and upward force on the underside of the house when it is exposed. In the design, the wind should be assumed to blow potentially from any lateral direction relative to the house.
- (3) Wind loading values used shall be those required by the building code.

### 5.4-3 FOUNDATION STANDARDS

- (1) The pilings or column foundation and structure attached thereto shall be adequately anchored to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water pressures acting simultaneously on all building components. Foundations must be designed to transfer safely to the underlying soil all loads due to wind, water, dead load, live load and other loads (including uplift due to wind and

water).

- (2) Spread footings and fill material shall not be used for structural support of a new building or substantial improvement of an existing structure.

#### 5.4-4 PILE FOUNDATION DESIGN

- (1) The design ratio of pile spacing to pile diameter shall not be less than 8:1 for individual piles (this shall not apply to pile clusters located below the design grade). The maximum center-to-center spacing of wood piles shall not be more than 12 feet on center under load bearing sills, beams, or girders.
- (2) Pilings shall have adequate soil penetration (bearing capacity) to resist the combined wave and wind loads (lateral and uplift) associated with the base flood acting simultaneously with typical structure (live and dead) loads, and shall include consideration of decreased resistance capacity caused by erosion of soil strata surrounding the piles. The minimum penetration for foundation piles is to an elevation of 5 feet below mean sea level (msl) datum if the BFE is +10 msl or less, or to be at least 10 feet below msl if the BFE is greater than +10 msl.
- (3) Pile foundation analysis shall also include consideration of piles in column action from the bottom of the structure to the stable soil elevation of the site. Pilings may be horizontally or diagonally braced to withstand wind and water forces.
- (4) The minimum acceptable sizes for timber piles are a tip diameter of 8 inches for round timber piles and 8 by 8 inches for square timber piles. All wood piles must be treated in accordance with requirements of EPEE-C3 to minimize decay and damage from fungus.
- (5) Reinforced concrete piles shall be cast of concrete having a 28-day ultimate compressive strength of not less than 5,000 pounds per square inch, and shall be reinforced with a minimum of four longitudinal steel bars having a combined area of not less than 1% nor more than 4% of the gross concrete area. Reinforcing for precast piles shall have a concrete cover of not less than 1 1/4 inches for No. 5 bars and smaller and not less than 1 1/2 inches for No. 6 through No. 11 bars. Reinforcement for piles cast in the field shall have a concrete cover of not less than 2 inches.
- (6) Piles shall be driven by means of a pile driver or drop hammer, jetted, or augered into place.
- (7) Additional support for piles in the form of bracing may include lateral or diagonal bracing between piles.
- (8) When necessary, piles shall be braced at the ground line in

both directions by a wood timber grade beam or a reinforced concrete grade beam. These at-grade supports should be securely attached to the piles to provide support even if scoured from beneath.

- (9) Diagonal bracing between piles, consisting of 2-inch by 8-inch (minimum) members bolted to the piles, shall be limited in location to below the lowest supporting structural member and above the stable soil elevation, and aligned in the vertical plane along pile rows perpendicular to the shoreline. Galvanized steel rods (minimum diameter 1/2 inch) or cable type bracing is permitted in any plane.
- (10) Knee braces, which stiffen both the upper portion of a pile and the beam-to-pile connection, may be used along pile rows perpendicular and parallel to the shoreline. Knee braces shall be 2-by-8 lumber bolted to the sides of the pile/beam, or 4-by-4 or larger braces framed into the pile/beam. Bolting shall consist of two 5/8-inch galvanized steel bolts (each end) for 2-by-8 members, or one 5/8-inch lag bolt (each end) for square members. Knee braces shall not extend more than 3 feet below the elevation of the base flood.

#### 5.4-5 COLUMN FOUNDATION DESIGN

- (1) Masonry piers or poured-in-place concrete piers shall be internally reinforced to resist vertical and lateral loads, and be connected with a moment-resisting connection to a pile cap or pile shaft.

#### 5.4-6 CONNECTORS AND FASTENERS

- (1) Galvanized metal connectors, wood connectors, or bolts of size and number adequate for the calculated loads must be used to connect adjoining components of a structure. Toe nailing as a principal method of connection is not permitted. All metal connectors and fasteners used in exposed locations shall be steel, hot-dipped galvanized after fabrication. Connectors in protected interior locations shall be fabricated from galvanized sheet.

#### 5.4-7 BEAM TO PILE CONNECTIONS

- (1) The primary floor beams or girders shall span the supports in the direction parallel to the flow of potential floodwater and wave action and shall be fastened to the columns or pilings by bolting, with or without cover plates. Concrete members shall be connected by reinforcement, if cast in place, or (of precast) shall be securely connected by bolting and welding. If sills, beams, or girders are attached to wood piling at a notch, a minimum of two (5/8)-inch galvanized steel bolts or two hot-dipped galvanized straps 3/16 inch by 4 inches by 18 inches each bolted with two 1/2 inch lag bolts per beam member shall be used. Notching of pile tops shall be the minimum sufficient to provide ledge support for beam members without unduly weakening pile connections.

Piling shall not be notched so that the cross section is reduced below 50%.

#### 5.4-8 FLOOR AND DECK CONNECTIONS

- (1) Wood 2- by 4-inch (minimum) connectors or metal joist anchors shall be used to tie floor joists to floor beams/girders. These should be installed on alternate floor joists, at a minimum. Cross bridging of all floor joists shall be provided. Such cross bridging may be 1- by 3-inch members, placed 8 feet on-center maximum, or solid bridging of same depth as joist at same spacing.
- (2) Plywood should be used for subflooring and attic flooring to provide good torsional resistance in the horizontal plane of the structure. The plywood should not be less than (3/4)-inch total thickness, and should be exterior grade and fastened to beams or joists with 8d annular or spiral thread galvanized nails. Such fastening shall be supplemented by the application of waterproof industrial adhesive applied to all bearing surfaces.

#### 5.4-9 EXTERIOR WALL CONNECTIONS

- (1) All bottom plates shall have any required breaks under a wall stud or an anchor bolt. Approved anchors will be used to secure rafters or joists and top and bottom plates to studs in exterior and bearing walls to form a continuous tie. Continuous 15/32-inch or thicker plywood sheathing--overlapping the top wall plate and continuing down to the sill, beam, or girder--may be used to provide the continuous tie. If the sheets of plywood are not vertically continuous, then 2-by-4 nailer blocking shall be provided at all horizontal joints. In lieu of the plywood, galvanized steel rods of 1/2-inch diameter or galvanized steel straps not less than 1 inch wide by 1/16 inch thick may be used to connect from the top wall plate to the sill, beam, or girder. Washers with a minimum diameter of 3 inches shall be used at each end of the 1/2-inch round rods. These anchors shall be installed no more than 2 feet from each corner rod, no more than 4 feet on center.

#### 5.4-10 CEILING JOIST/RAFTER CONNECTIONS

- (1) All ceiling joists or rafters shall be installed in such a manner that the joists provide a continuous tie across the rafters. Ceiling joists and rafters shall be securely fastened at their intersections. A metal or wood connector shall be used at alternate ceiling joist/rafter connections to the wall top plate.

Gable roofs shall be additionally stabilized by installing 2-by-4 blocking on 2-foot centers between the rafters at each gable end. Blocking shall be installed a minimum of 8 feet toward the house interior from each gable end.

#### 5.4-11 PROJECTING MEMBERS

- (1) All cantilevers and other projecting members must be adequately supported and braced to withstand wind and water uplift forces. Roof eave overhangs shall be limited to a maximum of 2 feet and joist overhangs to a maximum of 1 foot. Larger overhangs and porches will be permitted if designed or reviewed by a registered professional engineer or architect and certified in accordance with Section 4.3(10) of this local law.

#### 5.4-12 ROOF SHEATHING

- (1) Plywood, or other wood material, when used as roof sheathing, shall not be less than 15/32 inch in thickness, and shall be of exterior sheathing grade or equivalent. All attaching devices for sheathing and roof coverings shall be galvanized or be of other suitable corrosion resistant material.
- (2) All corners, gable ends, and roof overhangs exceeding six inches shall be reinforced by the application of waterproof industrial adhesive applied to all bearing surfaces of any plywood sheet used in the sheathing of such corner, gable end, or roof overhang.
- (3) In addition, roofs should be sloped as steeply as practicable to reduce uplift pressures, and special care should be used in securing ridges, hips, valleys, eaves, vents, chimneys, and other points of discontinuity in the roofing surface.

#### 5.4-13 PROTECTION OF OPENINGS

- (1) All exterior glass panels, windows, and doors shall be designed, detailed, and constructed to withstand loads due to the design wind speed of 75 mph. Connections for these elements must be designed to transfer safely the design loads to the supporting structure. Panel widths of multiple panel sliding glass doors shall not exceed three feet.

#### 5.4-14 BREAKAWAY WALL DESIGN STANDARDS

- (1) The breakaway wall shall have a design safe loading resistance of not less than 10 and not more than 20 pounds per square foot, with the criterion that the safety of the overall structure at the point of wall failure be confirmed using established procedures. Grade beams shall be installed in both directions for all piles considered to carry the breakaway wall load. Knee braces are required for front row piles that support breakaway walls.
- (2) Use of breakaway wall strengths in excess of 20 pounds per square foot shall not be permitted unless a registered professional engineer or architect has developed or reviewed the structural design and specifications for the building foundation and breakaway wall components, and certifies that (1) the breakaway walls will fail under water loads less than

those that would occur during the base flood; and (2) the elevated portion of the building and supporting foundation system will 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 non-structural). Water loading values used shall be those associated with the base flood. Wind loading values shall be those required by the building code.

#### 5.5 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (EXCEPT COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS)

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-3, ENCROACHMENTS, and 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.5(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.5(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.6 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS)

- (1) In Zones V1-V30, VE and also Zone V if base flood elevations are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall have the bottom of lowest member of the lowest floor elevated to or above the base flood elevation. Floodproofing of structures is not an allowable alternative to elevating the lowest floor to the base flood elevation in Zones V1-V30, VE and V.

#### 5.7 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30, V and VE shall either:

- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
- (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
- (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.7(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30 or VE that is on a site either:

- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
- (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall, within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately



anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement; or, within Zones V1-V30 and VE, be elevated on a pile foundation such that the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30, or VE, in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

(i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.7(2), or

(ii) elevated such that 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 are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

- (4) Within Zones A or V, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

- (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals \_\_\_\_\_ as established by the Town of Brownville \_\_\_\_\_ shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals \_\_\_\_\_ shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.

- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:
- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.

- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "Historic structure".
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 1994 by the  
Town Board, of the Town of Brownsville  
Tefferson County,  
New York, to be effective 8-5-94.

Joe K. Thompson  
Gary M. Brass  
Daniel P. Cantano  
Kenneth S. Bates  
Ronald T. Tappan

SEAL

Town of Brownsville  
ATTEST June McCartin CLERK

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
~~City~~ of CAPE VINCENT  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 1 of the year 19 94

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
~~City~~ of Cape Vincent, Jefferson County,  
~~Village~~

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Cape Vincent and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;

- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

**"Appeal"** means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

**"Area of shallow flooding"** means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

**"Area of special flood hazard"** is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

**"Base flood"** means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

**"Basement"** means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

**"Building"** see "Structure"

**"Cellar"** has the same meaning as "Basement".

**"Development"** means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**"Elevated building"** means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

**"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) is complete before



the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

**"Manufactured home"** means 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 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.

**"Mobile home"** - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

**"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)"** as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

**"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

**"One hundred year flood"** or **"100-year flood"** has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

**"Principally above ground"** means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

**"Recreational vehicle"** means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.4-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

**SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES**

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the Town of Cape Vincent, Jefferson County N.Y..

**3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD**

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency :

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No.361062C 01-06  
, whose effective date is June 2, 1992.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
the Town Clerk's Office, Market Street, Cape Vincent, N.Y.

**3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS**

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

**3.4 SEVERABILITY**

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of Cape Vincent from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Cape Vincent, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Enforcement Officer, M.Ivey is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of

protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$ none. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Cape Vincent for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-

## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

## 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section



#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### **4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE**

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### **4.4-5 INSPECTIONS**

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### **4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS**

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### **4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### **4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED**

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### **SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS**

#### **5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS**

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### **5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:
  - (i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,
  - (ii) the Town of Cape Vincent agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Cape Vincent for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Cape Vincent for all costs related to the final map revision.
- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:
  - (i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,
  - (ii) the Town of Cape Vincent agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all

necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Cape Vincent for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Cape Vincent for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## **5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES**

### **5.2-1 ANCHORING**

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### **5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS**

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.

### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

### 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

#### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two

feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:
  - (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
  - (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
  - (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:
  - (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
  - (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone



A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
  - (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Town of Cape Vincent shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a **"Historic structure"**.
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 14th day of April, 1991 by the Town Board of the Town of Cape Vincent of Jefferson County, New York, to be effective May 1, 1994.

Supervisor	H. Otis Radley	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman	Jack Robbins	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman	Stephen Worden	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman	Donald Mason	<u>Aye</u>
Councilman	Darrel Aubertine	<u>Aye</u>

SEAL

Lyle Fawcett

Attest: Town Clerk

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

**1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 1 of 1994 of the ~~(County)(City)~~(Town)~~(Village)~~ of Cape Vincent was duly passed by the Town Board on April 14, 1994, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

**2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**3. (Final adoption by referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

~~5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)~~

~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.~~

~~6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)~~

~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.~~

~~(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)~~

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph 1, above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the ~~County of Jefferson~~, Town ~~of Cape Vincent~~  
or officer designated by local legislative body

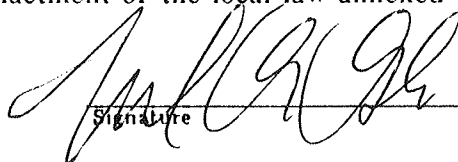
(Seal)

Date: April 14, 1994

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
TOWN ATTORNEY  
Title

County  
City of CAPE VINCENT  
Town  
Village

Date: 4/15/94

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
City of CHAUMONT  
Village

Local Law No. 1 of the year 19 99

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION  
as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and  
Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
City of CHAUMONT, JEFFERSON County,  
Village

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES of the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT  
VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT finds that the potential and/or actual damages  
from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the  
and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing,  
damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and  
injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of  
such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set  
forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property  
due to water or <sup>K</sup>erosion hazards, or which result in damaging  
increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which  
serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of  
initial construction;

- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.



## SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

**"Appeal"** means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

**"Area of shallow flooding"** means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

**"Area of special flood hazard"** is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

**"Base flood"** means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

**"Basement"** means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

**"Building"** see "Structure"

**"Cellar"** has the same meaning as "Basement".

**"Crawl Space"** means an enclosed area beneath the lowest elevated floor, eighteen inches or more in height, which is used to service the underside of the lowest elevated floor. The elevation of the floor of this enclosed area, which may be of soil, gravel, concrete or other material, must be equal to or above the lowest adjacent exterior grade. The enclosed crawl space area shall be properly vented to allow for the equalization of hydrostatic forces which would be experienced during periods of flooding.

**"Development"** means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**"Elevated building"** means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii)

adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

**"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) is complete before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in

accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

**"Manufactured home"** means 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 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.

**"Mobile home"** - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

**"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)"** as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

**"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

**"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood"** has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

**"Principally above ground"** means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

**"Recreational vehicle"** means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and

- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.4-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

**SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES**

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT.

**3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD**

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY, RENUMBER SEQUENTIALLY AND CROSS OUT OR DELETE UNUSED SUBSECTIONS):

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. 360329,  
whose effective date is JUNE 30, 1999.
- (2) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (3) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance  
Study, \_\_\_\_\_, New York,  
\_\_\_\_\_ County" dated \_\_\_\_\_.
- (4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) Index No. \_\_\_\_\_,  
whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
VILLAGE OFFICE, 2799 OLD TOWN SPRINGS RD., CHAUMONT, NY 13622

**3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS**

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

**3.4 SEVERABILITY**

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the BOARD OF TRUSTEES from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a

valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$50.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES.
- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents



enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.

- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

#### **4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited to the following.

##### **4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW**

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.
- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted.

Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### 4.4-5 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### 4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### 4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.
- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### 4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

## SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

### 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:
  - (i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

(ii) the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

(ii) the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest

floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.

### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

## 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified).
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproof-

ing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.
- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

## 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:
  - (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
  - (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
  - (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:
  - (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
  - (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to



resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:
  - (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The BOARD OF TRUSTEES as established by the NEW YORK STATE CONSTITUTION shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The BOARD OF TRUSTEES shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, shall consider all technical

evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the BOARD OF TRUSTEES may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a **"Historic structure"**.
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.
- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 16 day of August, 19 99 by the  
Board of Trustees of the Village of Chaumont  
County,  
New York, to be effective immediately

Wm. J. Mc Mayor  
Wm. J. Mc Trustee  
Valerie E. Rust Trustee  
James Price Trustee  
Frederick E. Roberts Trustee

SEAL

ATTEST Mary R. Countryman CLERK

**COPY**

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of Clayton  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 2 of the year 1989

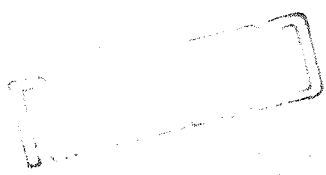
A local law Amendment - 3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD (Insert title)

Be it enacted by the TOWN OF CLAYTON TOWN BOARD of the (Name of Legislative Body)

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of Clayton as follows:  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

AMENDMENT TO  
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 of 1984  
FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION LOCAL LAW BY REQUEST OF N.Y.  
State Dept. of DEC

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD  
The areas of special flood hazard have been identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency on Flood Insurance Rate Maps enumerated on Map Index No. 360330C 01-07 dated June 19, 1985.



JUN 23 1989

(If additional space is needed, please attach sheets of the same size as this and number each)

(Complete the certification in the paragraph which applies to the filing of this local law and strike out the matter therein which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. ..2..... of 19 89....  
~~County~~  
of the ~~City~~ of Clayton..... was duly passed by the ..... Town Board  
~~Town~~ (Name of Legislative Body)  
~~Village~~  
on June 14 ..... 19 89.... in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval or no disapproval by Elective Chief Executive Officer,\* or repassage after disapproval.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
and was deemed duly adopted on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19 .....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
on ..... 19 ..... Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a  
mandatory referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting  
permissive  
thereon at the general election held on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable  
annual provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum, and final adoption because no valid petition filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19 .....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
on ..... 19 ..... Such local law was subject to a permissive referendum and  
no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of ..... 19 .....  
in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19 ..... of the City of ..... having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of §<sup>36</sup><sub>37</sub> of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the <sup>special</sup><sub>general</sub> election held on ..... 19..... became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19..... of the County of ....., State of New York, having been submitted to the Electors at the General Election of November ....., 19....., pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.  
(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph ..... above.

*Lorna Flabe Town Clerk*  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or officer designated by local legislative body

Date: June 14, 1989

(Seal)

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF .....Jefferson.....

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

.....*Paul W. Smith*.....  
Signature  
Town Attorney  
.....  
Title

Date: June 20, 1989

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of ....Clayton.....  
Town  
~~Village~~

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of Clayton Jefferson County New York  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~  
Local Law No. One of the year 19 87

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION  
(Insert title)

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation Law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of Clayton Jefferson County, N.Y. as follows:  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~



(FOLLOWING COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE  
PROGRAM FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT CRITERIA FOR FLOOD-PRONE AREAS  
(44 CFR 60.3[b] & [c]) AS REVISED 10/1/86)

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION LOCAL LAW

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Clayton and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publically and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands; and
- (6) qualify and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;

- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

## SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with base flood depths from one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and indeterminate, and where velocity flow may be evident.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, AI-99, V, VO, VE, or VI-30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a 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 the supporting foundation system.

"Building" means any structure built for support, shelter, or enclosure for occupancy or storage.

"Cellar" - has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Coastal high hazard area" means the area subject to high velocity waters including, but not limited to, hurricane wave wash. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone VI - 30, VE, VO or V.

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations located within the area of special flood hazard.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building built to have the lowest floor elevated above the ground level by means of fill, solid foundation perimeter walls, pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls.

"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 Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM) means an official map of the Community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine Community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)" means 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 but no water surface elevation data is provided.

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means 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.

"Flood Insurance Study" is the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The report contains flood profiles, as well as the Flood Boundary Floodway Map and the water surface elevations of the base flood.

"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.

"Floodway" - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

"Floor" means the top surface of an enclosed area in a building (including basement), i.e., top of slab in concrete slab construction or top of wood flooring in wood frame construction.

"Functionally dependent use" means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water, such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacture, sales, or service facilities.

"Highest adjacent grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

"Lowest Floor" means lowest level including basement or cellar of the lowest enclosed area. An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement or cellar 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and similar transportable structures placed on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer and intended to be improved property.

"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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing elevations within the flood plain.

"New construction" means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of this Local Law.

"Principally Above Ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"100-year Flood" - has the same meaning as "Base Flood."

"Regulatory Floodway" means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

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

"Start of construction" means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials.

"Structure" means a walled and roofed building, a manufactured home, or a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground.

"Substantial improvement" means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure, excluding land values, either:

- (1) before the improvement or repair is started; or
- (2) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

For the purposes of this definition "substantial improvement" is considered to commence when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure. The term does not, however, include either:

- (1) any project for improvement of a structure to comply with existing state or local building, fire, health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which are solely necessary to assure safe living conditions; or
- (2) any alteration of a structure or contributing structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a State Inventory of Historic Places.

"Variance" means a grant of relief from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazards within the jurisdiction of Town of Clayton.

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

- (1) The areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a scientific and engineering report entitled "The Flood Insurance Study for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_ County, New York", dated \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps is hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and FIRM are on file at \_\_\_\_\_.

(OR)

- (2) The areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Insurance Administration on its Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM), or Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) No. 360330C dated april 3, 1986 is hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The ~~FIRM~~ FIRM is on file at Town Clerk's Office, 405 Riverside Drive, Clayton, N.Y.

3.3 INTERPRETATION, CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law is adopted in response to revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program effective October 1, 1986 and shall supercede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of establishing and maintaining eligibility for flood insurance.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this Local Law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this Local Law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this Local Law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of Clayton.

from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this Local Law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared noncompliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Clayton, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Enforcement Officer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permit applications in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

A Development Permit shall be obtained before the start of construction or any other development within the area of special flood hazard as established in Section 3.2. Application for a Development Permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-1 APPLICATION STAGE.

The following information is required where applicable:

- (a) Elevation in relation to mean sea level of the proposed lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of all structures;
- (b) Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any non-residential structure will be flood-proofed;
- (c) When required, a certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that the utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.1-3(1);
- (d) Certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that the non-residential flood-proofed structure will meet the flood-proofing criteria in Section 5.2-2; and
- (e) Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.

## 4.2-2 CONSTRUCTION STAGE.

Upon placement of the lowest floor, or flood-proofing by whatever means, it shall be the duty of the permit holder to submit to the Local Administrator a certificate of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor, or flood-proofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The elevation certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. When flood-proofing is utilized for a particular building, the flood proofing certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed professional engineer or architect and certified by same. Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certificate shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop-work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

## 4.3 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited to:

## 4.3-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

- (1) Review all development permit applications to determine that the requirements of this local law have been satisfied.
- (2) Review all development permit applications to determine that all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, State or local governmental agencies from which prior approval is required.
- (3) Review all development permit applications to determine if the proposed development adversely affects the area of special flood hazard. For the purposes of this local law, "adversely affects" means physical damage to adjacent properties. A hydraulic engineering study may be required of the applicant for this purpose.
  - (i) If there is no adverse effect, then the permit shall be granted consistent with the provisions of this local law.
  - (ii) If there is an adverse effect, then flood damage mitigation measures shall be made a condition of the permit.
- (4) Review all development permits for compliance with the provisions of Section 5.1-5, Encroachments.

## 4.3-2 USE OF OTHER BASE FLOOD AND FLOODWAY DATA

When base flood elevation data has not been provided in accordance with Section 3.2, BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to Section 5.1-4(4) in order to administer Section 5.2, SPECIFIC STANDARDS and Section 5.3 FLOODWAYS.

## 4.3-3 INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED AND MAINTAINED

- (1) Obtain and record the actual elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor including basement or cellar of all new or substantially improved

structures, and whether or not the structure contains a basement or cellar.

- (2) For all new or substantially improved floodproofed structures:
  - (i) obtain and record the actual elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which the structure has been floodproofed; and
  - (ii) maintain the floodproofing certifications required in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.
- (3) Maintain for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this local law including variances, when granted, and Certificates of Compliance.

#### 4.3-4 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notify adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region II, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.
- (2) Require that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.3-5 INTERPRETATION OF FFBM, FIRM OR FBFM BOUNDARIES

The Local Administrator shall have the authority to make interpretations when there appears to be a conflict between the limits of the federally identified area of special flood hazard and actual field conditions.

Base flood elevation data established pursuant to Section 3.2 and/or Section 4.3-2, when available, shall be used to accurately delineate the area of special flood hazards.

The Local Administrator shall use flood information from any other authoritative source, including historical data, to establish the limits of the area of special flood hazards when base flood elevations are not available.

#### 4.3-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) All floodplain development found ongoing without an approved permit shall be subject to the issuance of a stop work order by the Local Administrator. Disregard of a stop work order shall be subject to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this Local Law.
- (2) All floodplain development found noncompliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the approved permit shall be subject to the issuance of a stop work order by the Local Administrator. Disregard of a stop work order shall be subject to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this Local Law.

#### 4.3-7 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify that the development is in compliance with the requirements of this Local Law.



## 4.3-8 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) It shall be unlawful to use or occupy or to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of either the Development Permit or the approved variance.
- (2) All other development occurring within the area of special flood hazard will have upon completion a Certificate of Compliance issued by the Local Administrator.

All certificates shall be based upon the inspections conducted subject to Section 4.3-7 and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic information, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analysis which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

SECTION 5.0  
PROVISIONS FOR FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION

## 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

In all areas of special flood hazards the following standards are required:

## 5.1-1 ANCHORING

- (1) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure.
- (2) All manufactured homes shall be installed using methods and practices which minimize flood damage. Manufactured homes must be elevated and anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not to be 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.

## 5.1-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.

## 5.1-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment, and other service facilities shall be designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding. When designed for location below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification is required.
- (2) All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system.

- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters.
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

#### 5.1-4 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

- (1) All subdivision proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage.
- (2) All subdivision proposals shall have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems located and constructed to minimize flood damage.
- (3) All subdivision proposals shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.
- (4) Base flood elevation data shall be provided for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home parks and subdivisions) greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

#### 5.1-5 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) All proposed development in riverine situations where no flood elevation data is available (unnumbered A Zones) shall be analyzed to determine the effects on the flood carrying capacity of the area of special flood hazards set forth in section 4.3-1(3), Permit Review. This may require the submission of additional technical data to assist in the determination.
- (2) In all areas of special flood hazard in which base flood elevation data is available pursuant to Section 4.3-2 or Section 5.1-4(4) and no floodway has been determined the cumulative effects of any proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, shall not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any point.
- (3) In all areas of the special flood hazard where floodway data is provided or available pursuant to Section 4.3-2, the requirements of Section 5.3 FLOODWAYS, shall apply.

#### 5.2 SPECIFIC STANDARDS

In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data has been provided as set forth in Section 3.2(1) BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD and Section 4.3-2, USE OF OTHER BASE FLOOD DATA, the following standards are required:

##### 5.2-1 RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

New construction and substantial improvements of any resident structure shall:

- (1) Have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation.

- (2) Have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding 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 licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### 5.2-2 NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

New construction and substantial improvements of any commercial, industrial or other non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either: have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or be floodproofed to the base flood level.

- (1) If the structure is to be elevated, fully enclosed areas below the base flood elevation shall be designed to automatically (without human intervention) allow for the entry and exit of floodwaters for the purpose of equalizing hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or a licensed architect or meet the following criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.
- (2) If the structure is to be floodproofed:
  - (i) a licensed 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 to make the structure watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water, with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy; and
  - (ii) a licensed professional engineer or licensed land surveyor shall certify the specific elevation (in

relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is floodproofed.

The Local Administrator shall maintain on record a copy of all such certificates noted in this section.

#### 5.2-3 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARDS WITHOUT BASE FLOOD ELEVATIONS

- (1) New construction or substantial improvements of structures including manufactured homes shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least 2 feet above the highest adjacent grade next to the proposed foundation of the structure.
- (2) Fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically (without human intervention) allow for the entry and exit of floodwaters for the purpose of equalizing hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or a licensed architect or meet the following criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### 5.3 FLOODWAYS

Located within areas of special flood hazard are areas designated as floodways (see definition, Section 2.0). The floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to high velocity flood waters carrying debris and posing additional threats from potential erosion forces. When floodway data is available for a particular site as provided by Section 4.3-2, all encroachments including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development are prohibited within the limits of the floodway unless a technical evaluation demonstrates that such encroachments shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

### SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

#### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by Town of Clayton Town Board shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:
- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and flood plain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise, and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing item (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.

- (2) Variances may be issued for the reconstruction, rehabilitation or restoration of structures and contributing structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the State Inventory of Historic Places, without regard to the procedures set forth in this local law.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (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.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification:
  - (i) a showing of 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.
- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk.

Be it enacted this 12 th day of August, 1987 by the  
Town Board of Town of Clayton of  
Jefferson County, New York, to be effective  
August 17, 1987.

*Frank D. Crandall* Councilman  
*Dale Kenyon* Councilman  
*Vivian J. Black* Councilperson  
*Robert H. Duff* Councilman  
*Harold J. Cunniff, Jr.* - Supervisor

*Lorna F. Flake*

SEAL

ATTEST.

Town CLERK

(Complete the certification in the paragraph which applies to the filing of this local law and strike out the matter therein which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. One of 1987.  
~~County~~  
~~City~~  
of the Town of Clayton was duly passed by the Town Board  
~~Village~~ (Name of Legislative Body)  
on August 12 1987 in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval or no disapproval by Elective Chief Executive Officer,\* or repassage after disapproval.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_.  
County  
of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village  
on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_  
not disapproved repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*  
and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_.  
County  
of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village  
on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_  
not disapproved repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*  
on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a  
mandatory permissive referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting  
general thereon at the special election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the appli-  
annual cable provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum, and final adoption because no valid petition filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_.  
County  
of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
not disapproved repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law being subject to a permissive referendum and no  
valid petition requesting such referendum having been filed, said local law was deemed duly adopted on  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town, where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19 \_\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of § 36 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the <sup>special</sup>~~general~~ election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as Local Law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19..... of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the Electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of Section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph One..... above.

*Lorna Flake*  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village, Cant or  
office designated by local legislative body

Date: August 12, 1987

(Seal)

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF Jefferson

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

.....  
*Edward F. Foster*  
 Signature  
*Bar. Attorney*  
 Title

Date: 8/13/87

XXXXXX  
County  
City of Clayton  
Town  
Village



(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
City of Henderson  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 3 of the year 1994

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the TOWN BOARD of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
City of Henderson, Jefferson County,  
~~Village~~

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The TOWN BOARD of the Town of Henderson finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Henderson and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;

- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

**"Appeal"** means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

**"Area of shallow flooding"** means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

**"Area of special flood hazard"** is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

**"Base flood"** means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

**"Basement"** means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

**"Building"** see "Structure"

**"Cellar"** has the same meaning as "Basement".

**"Development"** means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**"Elevated building"** means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

**"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) is complete before

the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

**"Manufactured home"** means 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 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.

**"Mobile home"** - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

**"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)"** as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

**"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

**"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood"** has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

**"Principally above ground"** means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

**"Recreational vehicle"** means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.4-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

**SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES**

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the Town of Henderson, Jefferson County, N.Y..

**3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD**

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency :

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360338 0001-0030, whose effective date is March 16, 1981.
- (2) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, Town of Henderson, New York, Jefferson County" dated September 16, 1981.
- (3) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. 360338 0005 A, whose effective date is March 16, 1981.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
Town Clerk's Office, Town Barn Road, Henderson, N.Y.

**3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS**

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

**3.4 SEVERABILITY**

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.



### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of

Henderson from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Henderson, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The planning is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of

protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$100.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Henderson for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-

## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

## 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### **4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE**

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### **4.4-5 INSPECTIONS**

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### **4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS**

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### **4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### **4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED**

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### **SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS**

#### **5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS**

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### **5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

(ii) the Town of Henderson agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Henderson for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Henderson for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

(ii) the Town of Henderson agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all

necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Henderson for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Henderson for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.



### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

### 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

#### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two

feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:
  - (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
  - (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
  - (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:
  - (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
  - (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone

A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Town of Henderson shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

(i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;

(ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;

(iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;

(iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;

(v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;

(vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;

(vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;

(viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;

(ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;

(x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;

(xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and

(xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.

(5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.

(6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a **"Historic structure"**.
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Attachment A

**MODEL FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT  
APPLICATION FORM**



## FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

This form is to be filled out in duplicate.

**SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS (APPLICANT to read and sign):** \_\_\_\_\_

1. No work may start until a permit is issued.
2. The permit may be revoked if any false statements are made herein.
3. If revoked, all work must cease until permit is re-issued.
4. Development shall not be used or occupied until a Certificate of Compliance is issued.
5. The permit will expire if no work is commenced within six months of issuance.
6. Applicant is hereby informed that other permits may be required to fulfill local, state and federal regulatory requirements.
7. Applicant hereby gives consent to the Local Administrator or his/her representative to make reasonable inspections required to verify compliance.
8. I, THE APPLICANT, CERTIFY THAT ALL STATEMENTS HEREIN AND IN ATTACHMENTS TO THIS APPLICATION ARE, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, TRUE AND ACCURATE.

(APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT (To be completed by APPLICANT)**

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
APPLICANT		
BUILDER		
ENGINEER		

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

To avoid delay in processing the application, please provide enough information to easily identify the project location. Provide the street address, lot number or legal description (attach) and, outside urban areas, the distance to the nearest intersecting road or well-known landmark. A sketch attached to this application showing the project location would be helpful.

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DESCRIPTION OF WORK (Check all applicable boxes):

A. STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>STRUCTURE TYPE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> New Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (1-4 Family)
<input type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (More than 4 Family)
<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-residential (Floodproofing? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Use (Residential & Commercial)
<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured (Mobile) Home (In Manu-
<input type="checkbox"/> Replacement	factured Home Park? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes)

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

B. OTHER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

- ☐ Fill ☐ Mining ☐ Drilling ☐ Grading  
☐ Excavation (Except for Structural Development Checked Above)  
☐ Watercourse Alteration (Including Dredging and Channel Modifications)  
☐ Drainage Improvements (Including Culvert Work)  
☐ Road, Street or Bridge Construction  
☐ Subdivision (New or Expansion)  
☐ Individual Water or Sewer System  
☐ Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

After completing SECTION 2, APPLICANT should submit form to Local Administrator for review.

**SECTION 3: FLOODPLAIN DETERMINATION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

The proposed development is located on FIRM Panel No. \_\_\_\_\_, Dated \_\_\_\_\_.

The Proposed Development:

- ☐ Is NOT located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (Notify the applicant that the application review is complete and NO FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT IS REQUIRED).
- ☐ Is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area.  
FIRM zone designation is \_\_\_\_\_.  
100-Year flood elevation at the site is: \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL)  
☐ Unavailable
- ☐ The proposed development is located in a floodway.  
FBFM Panel No. \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ See Section 4 for additional instructions.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

The applicant must submit the documents checked below before the application can be processed:

- ☐ A site plan showing the location of all existing structures, water bodies, adjacent roads, lot dimensions and proposed development.
- ☐ Development plans, drawn to scale, and specifications, including where applicable: details for anchoring structures, proposed elevation of lowest floor (including basement), types of water resistant materials used below the first floor, details of floodproofing of utilities located below the first floor and details of enclosures below the first floor.  
Also, \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Subdivision or other development plans (If the subdivision or other development exceeds 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is the lesser, the applicant must provide 100-year flood elevations if they are not otherwise available).
- ☐ Plans showing the extent of watercourse relocation and/or landform alterations.
- ☐ Top of new fill elevation \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL).
- ☐ Floodproofing protection level (non-residential only) \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL). For floodproofed structures, applicant must attach certification from registered engineer or architect.
- ☐ Certification from a registered engineer that the proposed activity in a regulatory floodway will not result in any increase in the height of the 100-year flood. A copy of all data and calculations supporting this finding must also be submitted.
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 5: PERMIT DETERMINATION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

I have determined that the proposed activity: A. ☐ Is  
B. ☐ Is not  
in conformance with provisions of Local Law # \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_. The permit is issued subject to the conditions attached to and made part of this permit.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_, DATE \_\_\_\_\_

If BOX A is checked, the Local Administrator may issue a Development Permit upon payment of designated fee.

If BOX B is checked, the Local Administrator will provide a written summary of deficiencies. Applicant may revise and resubmit an application to the Local Administrator or may request a hearing from the Board of Appeals.

APPEALS: Appealed to Board of Appeals? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
Hearing date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Appeals Board Decision --- Approved? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 6: AS-BUILT ELEVATIONS (To be submitted by APPLICANT before Certificate of Compliance is issued)**

The following information must be provided for project structures. This section must be completed by a registered professional engineer or a licensed land surveyor (or attach a certification to this application). Complete 1 or 2 below.

1. Actual (As-Built) Elevation of the top of the lowest floor, including basement (in Coastal High Hazard Areas, bottom of lowest structural member of the lowest floor, excluding piling and columns) is: \_\_\_\_\_ FT. NGVD (MSL).
2. Actual (As-Built) Elevation of floodproofing protection is \_\_\_\_\_ FT. NGVD (MSL).

NOTE: Any work performed prior to submittal of the above information is at the risk of the Applicant.

**SECTION 7: COMPLIANCE ACTION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

The LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR will complete this section as applicable based on inspection of the project to ensure compliance with the community's local law for flood damage prevention.

INSPECTIONS:	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

**SECTION 8: CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

Certificate of Compliance issued: DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment B

**SAMPLE  
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

for Development in a Special Flood Hazard Area

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE  
FOR DEVELOPMENT IN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA  
(OWNER MUST RETAIN THIS CERTIFICATE)**

**PREMISES LOCATED AT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PERMIT NO.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PERMIT DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNERS NAME AND ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE:**

- ☐ **NEW BUILDING**  
☐ **EXISTING BUILDING**  
☐ **VACANT LAND**

**THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR IS TO COMPLETE A. OR B. BELOW:**

**A. COMPLIANCE IS HEREBY CERTIFIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
LOCAL LAW # \_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**B. COMPLIANCE IS HEREBY CERTIFIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
LOCAL LAW # \_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_, AS MODIFIED BY VARIANCE # \_\_\_\_\_,  
DATED \_\_\_\_\_.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

**1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 3 of 1994 of the ~~(County)(City)~~(Town)(Village) of HENDERSON was duly passed by the Town Board on August 10 1994, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

**2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**3. (Final adoption by referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph 1, above.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

(Seal)

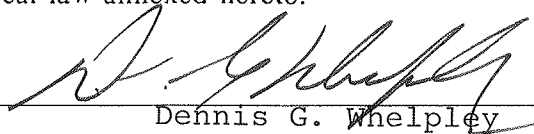
Date: August 10 , 1994

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

Signature

  
Dennis G. Whelpley

Town Counsel

Title

~~X~~County

~~X~~City

Town

~~X~~Village

of Henderson

Date: August 13 , 1994



(Use this form to file a local law with the Secretary of State.)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~County~~~~City~~of Hounsfield

Town

~~Village~~Local Law No. 51 of the year 1991

A local law Flood Damage Prevention, as authorized by the New York State Constitution,  
(Insert Title) Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation Law,  
Article 36.

Be It enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

~~County~~~~City~~

Town

~~Village~~of Hounsfield as follows:

## SECTION 1.0 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

### 1.1 FINDINGS

The Town Board of the Town of Hounsfield  
finds that the potential and/or actual damages  
from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the  
Town of Hounsfield and that such  
damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing,  
damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and  
injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of  
such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set  
forth, this local law is adopted.

### 1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property  
due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging  
increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;

- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

pretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

**"Area of shallow flooding"** means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

**"Area of special flood hazard"** is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

**"Base flood"** means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

**"Basement"** means that portion of a 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 the supporting foundation system.

**"Building"** see "Structure"

**"Cellar"** has the same meaning as "Basement".

**"Coastal high hazard area"** means an area of special flood hazard 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. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone V1-V30, VE, VO or V.

**"Development"** means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

**"Elevated building"** means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood

waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

**"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) is complete before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer

and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest Floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

**"Manufactured home"** means 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 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.

**"Mobile home"** - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

**"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)"** as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

**"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

**"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood"** has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

**"Primary frontal dune"** means a continuous or nearly continuous mound or ridge of sand with relatively steep seaward and landward slopes immediately landward and adjacent to the beach and subject to erosion and overtopping from high tides and waves during major 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.

"Principally Above Ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

"Regulatory Floodway" means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

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

"Start of construction" includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

"Structure" means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

### SECTION 3.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the Town of Hounsfield.

#### 3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency: (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY)

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360 340  
001-0035, whose effective date is November 20, 1991.
- (3) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, Town of Hounsfield, New York, Jefferson County" dated November 20, 1991.
- (4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) Index No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
Town Clerk's Office, Town of Hounsfield, New York



### 3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention, including but not limited to repealing Local Law No. 1 of the year 1987.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

### 3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Local Administrative

\_\_\_\_\_ from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Hounsfield, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

SECTION 4.0  
ADMINISTRATION

4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Officer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$200.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Hounsfield for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide at least the following information, where applicable. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built eleva-

tion, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.

- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones VI-V30 or VE, or Zone V if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (5) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.5, NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES (EXCEPT COASTAL HIGH HAZARD AREAS).
- (6) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (7) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (8) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for

manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

#### 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

##### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.
- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

##### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water

surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(8), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.

- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### **4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES**

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### **4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE**

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### **4.4-5 INSPECTIONS**

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### **4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS**

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### **4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.
- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### **4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED**

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compli-

ance;

- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2) of Section 4.4, CONSTRUCTION STAGE, and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) of Section 4.4, CONSTRUCTION STAGE, and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

## **SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS**

### **5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS**

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

#### **5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

### 5.1-3 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

- (i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

- (ii) the Town of Hounsfield agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Hounsfield for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Hounsfield for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

- (i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

- (ii) the Town of Hounsfield agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Hounsfield for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Hounsfield for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base



flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

#### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;

- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

### **5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES**

#### **5.3-1 ELEVATION**

The following standards, in addition to the standards in sub-sections 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-3, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified).
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

### **5.5 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES**

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-2, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-3, ENCROACHMENTS, and 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with atten-

dant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:

- (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.5(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.5(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.
- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

## 5.7 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

- (1) The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard. Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30, V and VE shall either:

- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
- (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
- (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.7(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30 or VE that is on a site either:

- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision;
- (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
- (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall, within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement; or, within Zones V1-V30 and VE, be elevated on a pile foundation such that the bottom of the lowest structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone A1-A30, AE, AH, V1-V30, or VE, in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a

manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.7(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement.
- (4) Within Zones A or V, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall have the floor elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
  - (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified).

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Zoning Law shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:
  - (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its

fication required for issuing the variance increases.

- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "Historic structure".
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.
- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

#### Section 7

- 7.1 Effective Date. This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

**1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 51 of 1991 of the ~~(County)(City)~~(Town)(Village) of Hounsfield was duly passed by the Town Board on September 11, 1991, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

**2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**3. (Final adoption by referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

~~5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)~~

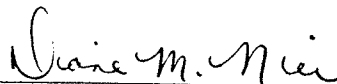
~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.~~

~~6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)~~

~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.~~

~~(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)~~

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph 1, above.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

(Seal)

Date: November 4, 1991

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

Bond, Schoeneck & King

By: 

Signature DENNIS G. WHELPLEY

Town Counsel

Title

~~County~~

~~City~~

Town

of Hounsfield

~~Village~~

Date: November 4, 1991



(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
~~City~~ of LYME  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 2 of the year 19 93

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the LYME TOWN BOARD of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
~~City~~ of LYME, JEFFERSON County,  
~~Village~~

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

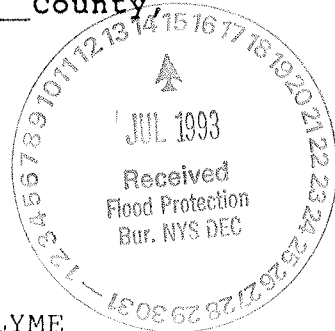
1.1 FINDINGS

The TOWN BOARD of the TOWN OF LYME  
finds that the potential and/or actual damages  
from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the  
TOWN OF LYME and that such  
damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing,  
damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and  
injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of  
such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set  
forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property  
due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging  
increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;



- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Building" see "Structure"

"Cellar" has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

"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) is complete before

the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

"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).

"Federal Emergency Management Agency" means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

"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" or "flooding" also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)" means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

"Flood Elevation Study" means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)" means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means 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.

"Flood Insurance Study" 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").

"Floodproofing" 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.

"Floodway" - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

"Functionally dependent use" means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

"Highest adjacent grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

"Historic structure" means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

"Local Administrator" is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

"Lowest floor" means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood" has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

"Principally above ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the TOWN OF LYME.

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY):

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360343  
0001-0050, whose effective date is SEPTEMBER 2, 1993.
- (3) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, TOWN OF LYME, New York, JEFFERSON County" dated SEPTEMBER 2, 1993.
- (4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
TOWN OF LYME OFFICE - MAIN STREET - CHAUMONT, NY 13622

3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.



### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the TOWN OF LYME

from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the TOWN OF LYME, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of

protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$ 0.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the TOWN OF LYME for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-

## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

## 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### 4.4-5 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### 4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### 4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### **4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED**

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### **SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS**

#### **5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS**

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### **5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

- (i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

- (ii) the TOWN OF LYME agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the TOWN OF LYME for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the TOWN OF LYME for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

- (i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

- (ii) the TOWN OF LYME agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all

necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the TOWN OF LYME for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the TOWN OF LYME for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.



### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

## 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two

feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:

- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
- (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
- (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:

- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
- (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone

A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS as established by the TOWN OF LYME shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "Historic structure".
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 8th day of JULY, 1993 by the  
TOWN BOARD of the TOWN  
OF LYME, JEFFERSON County,  
New York, to be effective SEPTEMBER 2, 1993.

Supervisor James E. Golden

Councilman Lynda Carney

Councilman Michael Countryman

Councilman James Madill

Councilman Michael White

SEAL

Gail E. Walker, Town Clerk

ATTEST Gail E. Walker CLERK

Attachment A

MODEL FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT  
APPLICATION FORM



## FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION

This form is to be filled out in duplicate.

**SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS (APPLICANT to read and sign):** \_\_\_\_\_

1. No work may start until a permit is issued.
2. The permit may be revoked if any false statements are made herein.
3. If revoked, all work must cease until permit is re-issued.
4. Development shall not be used or occupied until a Certificate of Compliance is issued.
5. The permit will expire if no work is commenced within six months of issuance.
6. Applicant is hereby informed that other permits may be required to fulfill local, state and federal regulatory requirements.
7. Applicant hereby gives consent to the Local Administrator or his/her representative to make reasonable inspections required to verify compliance.
8. I, THE APPLICANT, CERTIFY THAT ALL STATEMENTS HEREIN AND IN ATTACHMENTS TO THIS APPLICATION ARE, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, TRUE AND ACCURATE.

(APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT (To be completed by APPLICANT)**

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
APPLICANT	_____	_____
BUILDER	_____	_____
ENGINEER	_____	_____

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

To avoid delay in processing the application, please provide enough information to easily identify the project location. Provide the street address, lot number or legal description (attach) and, outside urban areas, the distance to the nearest intersecting road or well-known landmark. A sketch attached to this application showing the project location would be helpful.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF WORK (Check all applicable boxes):

A. STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>STRUCTURE TYPE</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> New Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (1-4 Family)
<input type="checkbox"/> Addition	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential (More than 4 Family)
<input type="checkbox"/> Alteration	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-residential (Floodproofing? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes)
<input type="checkbox"/> Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Use (Residential & Commercial)
<input type="checkbox"/> Demolition	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufactured (Mobile) Home (In Manu-
<input type="checkbox"/> Replacement	factured Home Park? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes)

ESTIMATED COST OF PROJECT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

B. OTHER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

- ☐ Fill ☐ Mining ☐ Drilling ☐ Grading  
☐ Excavation (Except for Structural Development Checked Above)  
☐ Watercourse Alteration (Including Dredging and Channel Modifications)  
☐ Drainage Improvements (Including Culvert Work)  
☐ Road, Street or Bridge Construction  
☐ Subdivision (New or Expansion)  
☐ Individual Water or Sewer System  
☐ Other (Please Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

After completing SECTION 2, APPLICANT should submit form to Local Administrator for review.

SECTION 3: FLOODPLAIN DETERMINATION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)

The proposed development is located on FIRM Panel No. \_\_\_\_\_, Dated \_\_\_\_\_.

The Proposed Development:

- ☐ Is NOT located in a Special Flood Hazard Area (Notify the applicant that the application review is complete and NO FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT IS REQUIRED).
- ☐ Is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area.  
FIRM zone designation is \_\_\_\_\_  
100-Year flood elevation at the site is: \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL)  
☐ Unavailable
- ☐ The proposed development is located in a floodway.  
FBFM Panel No. \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ See Section 4 for additional instructions.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

The applicant must submit the documents checked below before the application can be processed:

- ☐ A site plan showing the location of all existing structures, water bodies, adjacent roads, lot dimensions and proposed development.
- ☐ Development plans, drawn to scale, and specifications, including where applicable: details for anchoring structures, proposed elevation of lowest floor (including basement), types of water resistant materials used below the first floor, details of floodproofing of utilities located below the first floor and details of enclosures below the first floor.

Also, \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Subdivision or other development plans (If the subdivision or other development exceeds 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is the lesser, the applicant must provide 100-year flood elevations if they are not otherwise available).

- ☐ Plans showing the extent of watercourse relocation and/or landform alterations.

- ☐ Top of new fill elevation \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL).

- ☐ Floodproofing protection level (non-residential only) \_\_\_\_\_ Ft. NGVD (MSL). For floodproofed structures, applicant must attach certification from registered engineer or architect.

- ☐ Certification from a registered engineer that the proposed activity in a regulatory floodway will not result in any increase in the height of the 100-year flood. A copy of all data and calculations supporting this finding must also be submitted.

- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 5: PERMIT DETERMINATION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

I have determined that the proposed activity: A. ☐ Is  
B. ☐ Is not  
in conformance with provisions of Local Law # \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_. The permit is issued subject to the conditions attached to and made part of this permit.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_, DATE \_\_\_\_\_

If BOX A is checked, the Local Administrator may issue a Development Permit upon payment of designated fee.

If BOX B is checked, the Local Administrator will provide a written summary of deficiencies. Applicant may revise and resubmit an application to the Local Administrator or may request a hearing from the Board of Appeals.

APPEALS: Appealed to Board of Appeals? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Hearing date: \_\_\_\_\_

Appeals Board Decision --- Approved? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 6: AS-BUILT ELEVATIONS (To be submitted by APPLICANT before Certificate of Compliance is issued)**

The following information must be provided for project structures. This section must be completed by a registered professional engineer or a licensed land surveyor (or attach a certification to this application). Complete 1 or 2 below.

1. Actual (As-Built) Elevation of the top of the lowest floor, including basement (in Coastal High Hazard Areas, bottom of lowest structural member of the lowest floor, excluding piling and columns) is: \_\_\_\_\_ FT. NGVD (MSL).
2. Actual (As-Built) Elevation of floodproofing protection is \_\_\_\_\_ FT. NGVD (MSL).

NOTE: Any work performed prior to submittal of the above information is at the risk of the Applicant.

**SECTION 7: COMPLIANCE ACTION (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

The LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR will complete this section as applicable based on inspection of the project to ensure compliance with the community's local law for flood damage prevention.

INSPECTIONS:	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
	DATE _____	BY _____	DEFICIENCIES?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

**SECTION 8: CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE (To be completed by LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR)**

Certificate of Compliance issued: DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE  
FOR DEVELOPMENT IN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA  
(OWNER MUST RETAIN THIS CERTIFICATE)**

**PREMISES LOCATED AT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PERMIT NO.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PERMIT DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNERS NAME AND ADDRESS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE:**  
☐ NEW BUILDING  
☐ EXISTING BUILDING  
☐ VACANT LAND

**THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR IS TO COMPLETE A. OR B. BELOW:**

**A. COMPLIANCE IS HEREBY CERTIFIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
LOCAL LAW # \_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**B. COMPLIANCE IS HEREBY CERTIFIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF  
LOCAL LAW # \_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_, AS MODIFIED BY VARIANCE # \_\_\_\_\_,  
DATED \_\_\_\_\_.**

**SIGNED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATED:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 2 of 19 93 of the ~~(County)~~(City)(Town)(Village) of Lyme was duly passed by the Town Board on July 8 1993, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph 1, above.

Paul E. Wasker  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

(Seal)

Date: July 8, 1993

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF Jefferson

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

Signature

Title

County

City

Town

Village

Date:

(3)

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of PAMELIA  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 1 of the year 19 92

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION  
(Insert title)

Be it enacted by the TOWN BOARD of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of PAMELIA JEFFERSON Co. NY as follows:  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

See ATTACHED PAGES:

(If additional space is needed, please attach sheets of the same size as this and number each)



LOCAL LAW I OF 1988 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard have been identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study Town of Pamela, New York, Jefferson County" dated January 2, 1992 with Flood Insurance Rate Maps enumerated on map index no. 360346 0001-0010 dated January 2, 1992.

The above documents are, hereby, adopted and declared to be a part of this local law and are filed at the Town Clerk's Office.

5.3 FLOODWAYS

Located within areas of special flood hazard are areas designated as floodways (see definition, Section 2.0). The floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to high velocity flood waters carrying debris and posing additional threats from potential erosion forces. When floodway data is available for a particular site as provided by Section 3.2 and Section 4.3-2. all encroachments including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development are prohibited within the limits of the floodway unless a technical evaluation demonstrates that such encroachments shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

~~no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of ..... 19 .....~~  
~~in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.~~

---

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

(Complete the certification in the paragraph which applies to the filing of this local law and strike out the matter therein which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. ....1.... of 1992..  
County  
City  
of the Town of PAMELIA... was duly passed by the ....TOWN BOARD.....  
Village (Name of Legislative Body)  
on March 9, 1992 in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval or no disapproval by Elective Chief Executive Officer\* or repassage after disapproval.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
City  
of the Town of ..... was duly passed by the .....  
Village (Name of Legislative Body)  
on ..... 19..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the .....  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
and was deemed duly adopted on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
City  
of the Town of ..... was duly passed by the .....  
Village (Name of Legislative Body)  
on ..... 19..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the .....  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
on ..... 19..... Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a  
mandatory referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting  
permissive general  
thereon at the special election held on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable  
annual provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum, and final adoption because no valid petition filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
City  
of the Town of ..... was duly passed by the .....  
Village (Name of Legislative Body)  
on ..... 19..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the .....  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
on ..... 19..... Such local law was subject to a permissive referendum and  
no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

~~(City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)~~

~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19 ..... of the City of ..... having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of <sup>§36</sup>~~§37~~ of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the <sup>special</sup>~~general~~ election held on ..... 19..... became operative.~~

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

~~I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19..... of the County of ....., State of New York, having been submitted to the Electors at the General Election of November ....., 19....., pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.  
(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)~~

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph ...~~above~~ above.

Paula V. Schell

Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or  
officer designated by local legislative body

Date: March 9, 1992

Paula V. Schell, Town Clerk  
of Town of Pamela

(Seal)

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF T Jefferson

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

Paul D. Tringer  
Paul D. Tringer Signature for Weldon-Tringer  
Law Firm, P.C.  
..... Town Attorney .....  
Title

Date: March 9, 1992

County  
~~City~~  
Town  
Village

of Pamela

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

County~~xxx~~

City~~xxx~~

Town

Village~~xxx~~

of Pamela County of Jefferson  
Local Law No. 1 of the year 19 88

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION  
(Insert title)

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation Law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

County

City

Town

Village

of Pamela Jefferson County, N.Y. as follows:

SEE ATTACHED PAGES

RECEIVED

APR 4 1988

(If additional space is needed, please attach sheets of the same size as this and number each)

(FOLLOWING COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE  
PROGRAM FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT CRITERIA FOR FLOOD-PRONE AREAS  
(44 CFR 60.3[b] & [c]) AS REVISED 10/1/86)

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION LOCAL LAW

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The Town Board of the Town of Pamelia finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Pamelia and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publically and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;
- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands; and
- (6) qualify and maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;

- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

## SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with base flood depths from one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and indeterminate, and where velocity flow may be evident.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, AI-99, V, VO, VE, or VI-30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a 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 the supporting foundation system.

"Building" means any structure built for support, shelter, or enclosure for occupancy or storage.

"Cellar" - has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Coastal high hazard area" means the area subject to high velocity waters including, but not limited to, hurricane wave wash. The area is designated on a FIRM as Zone VI - 30, VE, VO or V.

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations located within the area of special flood hazard.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building built to have the lowest floor elevated above the ground level by means of fill, solid foundation perimeter walls, pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls.

"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 Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM) means an official map of the Community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine Community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)" means 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 but no water surface elevation data is provided.

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means 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.

"Flood Insurance Study" is the official report provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The report contains flood profiles, as well as the Flood Boundary Floodway Map and the water surface elevations of the base flood.

"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.

"Floodway" - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

"Floor" means the top surface of an enclosed area in a building (including basement), i.e., top of slab in concrete slab construction or top of wood flooring in wood frame construction.

"Functionally dependent use" means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water, such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacture, sales, or service facilities.

"Highest adjacent grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

"Lowest Floor" means lowest level including basement or cellar of the lowest enclosed area. An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage in an area other than a basement or cellar 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 also includes park trailers, travel trailers, and similar transportable structures placed on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer and intended to be improved property.

"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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing elevations within the flood plain.

"New construction" means structures for which the "start of construction" commenced on or after the effective date of this Local Law.

"Principally Above Ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"100-year Flood" - has the same meaning as "Base Flood."

"Regulatory Floodway" means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

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

"Start of construction" means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials.

"Structure" means a walled and roofed building, a manufactured home, or a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground.

"Substantial improvement" means any repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a structure, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure, excluding land values, either:

- (1) before the improvement or repair is started; or
- (2) if the structure has been damaged and is being restored, before the damage occurred.

For the purposes of this definition "substantial improvement" is considered to commence when the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of the building commences, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the structure. The term does not, however, include either:

- (1) any project for improvement of a structure to comply with existing state or local building, fire, health, sanitary, or safety code specifications which are solely necessary to assure safe living conditions; or
- (2) any alteration of a structure or contributing structure listed on the National Register of Historic Places or a State Inventory of Historic Places.

"Variance" means a grant of relief from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.



SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazards within the jurisdiction of Town of Pamelaia

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

- (1) The areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a scientific and engineering report entitled "The Flood Insurance Study for the Town of Pamelaia of Jefferson County, New York", dated January 6, 1988, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps is hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and FIRM are on file at Town Clerk of Pamelaia or Jefferson County Emergency Management Office.

(OR)

- (2) ~~The areas of special flood hazard identified by the Federal Insurance Administration on its Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FIRM) or Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) No. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX dated XX is hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The FIRM or FIRM is on file at~~

3.3 INTERPRETATION, CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law is adopted in response to revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program effective October 1, 1986 and shall supercede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of establishing and maintaining eligibility for flood insurance.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this Local Law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this Local Law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this Local Law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of Pamelaia

from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this Local Law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared noncompliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Pamela, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Officer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permit applications in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

A Development Permit shall be obtained before the start of construction or any other development within the area of special flood hazard as established in Section 3.2. Application for a Development Permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-1 APPLICATION STAGE.

The following information is required where applicable:

- (a) Elevation in relation to mean sea level of the proposed lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of all structures;
- (b) Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any non-residential structure will be flood-proofed;
- (c) When required, a certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that the utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.1-3(1);
- (d) Certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that the non-residential flood-proofed structure will meet the flood-proofing criteria in Section 5.2-2; and
- (e) Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.

## 4.2-2 CONSTRUCTION STAGE.

Upon placement of the lowest floor, or flood-proofing by whatever means, it shall be the duty of the permit holder to submit to the Local Administrator a certificate of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor, or flood-proofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The elevation certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. When flood-proofing is utilized for a particular building, the flood proofing certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed professional engineer or architect and certified by same. Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certificate shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop-work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

## 4.3 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited to:

## 4.3-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

- (1) Review all development permit applications to determine that the requirements of this local law have been satisfied.
- (2) Review all development permit applications to determine that all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, State or local governmental agencies from which prior approval is required.
- (3) Review all development permit applications to determine if the proposed development adversely affects the area of special flood hazard. For the purposes of this local law, "adversely affects" means physical damage to adjacent properties. A hydraulic engineering study may be required of the applicant for this purpose.
  - (i) If there is no adverse effect, then the permit shall be granted consistent with the provisions of this local law.
  - (ii) If there is an adverse effect, then flood damage mitigation measures shall be made a condition of the permit.
- (4) Review all development permits for compliance with the provisions of Section 5.1-5, Encroachments.

## 4.3-2 USE OF OTHER BASE FLOOD AND FLOODWAY DATA

When base flood elevation data has not been provided in accordance with Section 3.2, BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to Section 5.1-4(4) in order to administer Section 5.2, SPECIFIC STANDARDS and Section 5.3 FLOODWAYS.

## 4.3-3 INFORMATION TO BE OBTAINED AND MAINTAINED

- (1) Obtain and record the actual elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor including basement or cellar of all new or substantially improved

structures, and whether or not the structure contains a basement or cellar.

- (2) For all new or substantially improved floodproofed structures:
  - (i) obtain and record the actual elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which the structure has been floodproofed; and
  - (ii) maintain the floodproofing certifications required in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.
- (3) Maintain for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this local law including variances, when granted, and Certificates of Compliance.

#### 4.3-4 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notify adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region II, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.
- (2) Require that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.3-5 INTERPRETATION OF FHEM, FIRM OR FBEM BOUNDARIES

The Local Administrator shall have the authority to make interpretations when there appears to be a conflict between the limits of the federally identified area of special flood hazard and actual field conditions.

Base flood elevation data established pursuant to Section 3.2 and/or Section 4.3-2, when available, shall be used to accurately delineate the area of special flood hazards.

The Local Administrator shall use flood information from any other authoritative source, including historical data, to establish the limits of the area of special flood hazards when base flood elevations are not available.

#### 4.3-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) All floodplain development found ongoing without an approved permit shall be subject to the issuance of a stop work order by the Local Administrator. Disregard of a stop work order shall be subject to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this Local Law.
- (2) All floodplain development found noncompliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the approved permit shall be subject to the issuance of a stop work order by the Local Administrator. Disregard of a stop work order shall be subject to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this Local Law.

#### 4.3-7 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify that the development is in compliance with the requirements of this Local Law.

#### 4.3-8 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) It shall be unlawful to use or occupy or to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a Certificate of Compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of either the Development Permit or the approved variance.
- (2) All other development occurring within the area of special flood hazard will have upon completion a Certificate of Compliance issued by the Local Administrator.

All certificates shall be based upon the inspections conducted subject to Section 4.3-7 and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic information, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analysis which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

### SECTION 5.0 PROVISIONS FOR FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION

#### 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

In all areas of special flood hazards the following standards are required:

##### 5.1-1 ANCHORING

- (1) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure.
- (2) All manufactured homes shall be installed using methods and practices which minimize flood damage. Manufactured homes must be elevated and anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not to be 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.

##### 5.1-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.

##### 5.1-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, air conditioning equipment, and other service facilities shall be designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding. When designed for location below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification is required.
- (2) All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system.

- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters.
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

#### 5.1-4 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

- (1) All subdivision proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage.
- (2) All subdivision proposals shall have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems located and constructed to minimize flood damage.
- (3) All subdivision proposals shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.
- (4) Base flood elevation data shall be provided for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home parks and subdivisions) greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

#### 5.1-5 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) All proposed development in riverine situations where no flood elevation data is available (unnumbered A Zones) shall be analyzed to determine the effects on the flood carrying capacity of the area of special flood hazards set forth in section 4.3-1(3), Permit Review. This may require the submission of additional technical data to assist in the determination.
- (2) In all areas of special flood hazard in which base flood elevation data is available pursuant to Section 4.3-2 or Section 5.1-4(4) and no floodway has been determined the cumulative effects of any proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, shall not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any point.
- (3) In all areas of the special flood hazard where floodway data is provided or available pursuant to Section 4.3-2, the requirements of Section 5.3 FLOODWAYS, shall apply.

#### 5.2 SPECIFIC STANDARDS

In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data has been provided as set forth in Section 3.2(1) BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD and Section 4.3-2, USE OF OTHER BASE FLOOD DATA, the following standards are required:

##### 5.2-1 RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

New construction and substantial improvements of any resident structure shall:

- (1) Have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation.

- (2) Have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding 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 licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### 5.2-2 NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

New construction and substantial improvements of any commercial, industrial or other non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either: have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or be floodproofed to the base flood level.

- (1) If the structure is to be elevated, fully enclosed areas below the base flood elevation shall be designed to automatically (without human intervention) allow for the entry and exit of floodwaters for the purpose of equalizing hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or a licensed architect or meet the following criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.
- (2) If the structure is to be floodproofed:
  - (i) a licensed 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 to make the structure watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water, with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy; and
  - (ii) a licensed professional engineer or licensed land surveyor shall certify the specific elevation (in

relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is floodproofed.

The Local Administrator shall maintain on record a copy of all such certificates noted in this section.

#### 5.2-3 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS FOR AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARDS WITHOUT BASE FLOOD ELEVATIONS

- (1) New construction or substantial improvements of structures including manufactured homes shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least 2 feet above the highest adjacent grade next to the proposed foundation of the structure.
- (2) Fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are subject to flooding shall be designed to automatically (without human intervention) allow for the entry and exit of floodwaters for the purpose of equalizing hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or a licensed architect or meet the following criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding;
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings shall be no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade; and
  - (iii) openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters.

#### 5.3 FLOODWAYS

Located within areas of special flood hazard are areas designated as floodways (see definition, Section 2.0). The floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to high velocity flood waters carrying debris and posing additional threats from potential erosion forces. When floodway data is available for a particular site as provided by Section 4.3-2, all encroachments including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development are prohibited within the limits of the floodway unless a technical evaluation demonstrates that such encroachments shall not result in any increase in flood levels during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

### SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

#### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Town of Pamela shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.



- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:
- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and flood plain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise, and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing item (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.

- (2) Variances may be issued for the reconstruction, rehabilitation or restoration of structures and contributing structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the State Inventory of Historic Places, without regard to the procedures set forth in this local law.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (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..
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification:
  - (i) a showing of 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.
- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk.

Be it enacted this 8 day of February, 19 88 by the  
Town Board of Town of  
Pamelia, Jefferson County, New York, to be effective upon filing with the  
Secretary of State.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL

ATTEST.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 CLERK

(Complete the certification in the paragraph which applies to the filing of this local law and strike out the matter therein which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 1 of 1988.

County  
City of Pamelia was duly passed by the Town Board  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village

on February 8 1988 in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval or no disapproval by Elective Chief Executive Officer,\* or repassage after disapproval.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_\_

County  
City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village

on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_  
not disapproved  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*

and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_\_

County  
City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village

on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_  
not disapproved  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*

on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a  
mandatory referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting  
permissive general  
thereon at the special election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
annual

4. (Subject to permissive referendum, and final adoption because no valid petition filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_\_

County  
City of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ On  
Town (Name of Legislative Body)  
Village

\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_ and was approved by the \_\_\_\_\_ On  
not disapproved  
repassed after disapproval Elective Chief Executive Officer \*

\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_. Such local law being subject to a permissive referendum and no  
valid petition requesting such referendum having been filed, said local law was deemed duly adopted on  
\_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town, where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

(Use this form to file a local law with the Secretary of State.)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~COUNTY~~

~~CITY~~

~~TOWN~~

Village

of .....Sackets Harbor.....

Local Law No. .....1..... of the year 19 ..94.

A local law for amending the Village of Sackets Harbor Local Law No. 1 of the Year (Insert Title) 1993 Village of Sackets Harbor Flood Damage Prevention Law

Be it enacted by the .....Board of Trustees.....of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

~~COUNTY~~

~~CITY~~

~~TOWN~~

Village

of .....Sackets Harbor..... as follows:

Section 1. Local Law No. 1 of the Year 1993, the Village of Sackets Harbor Flood Damage Prevention Law, is hereby amended, in part, as follows:

Section 3.2 (1) of Local Law No. 1 of the Year 1993, the Village of Sackets Harbor Flood Damage Prevention Law, is amended to read as follows:

Section 3.2 (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. 3603510001C, whose effective date is May 2, 1994.

Section 2. This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the New York State Secretary of State.

(If additional space is needed, attach pages the same size as this sheet, and number each.)

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

**1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 1 of 1994 of the ~~(County)(City)(Town)~~(Village) of Sackets Harbor was duly passed by the Board of Trustees on March 9, 1994, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

**2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**3. (Final adoption by referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph 1, above.

Betsy Stoker, Acting Village Clerk  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

(Seal)

Date: March 16, , 1994

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

[Signature]  
Signature  
Village Counsel  
Title

~~County~~  
~~City~~ of Sackets Harbor  
~~Town~~  
Village

Date: April 1, 1994

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

~~Town~~  
~~City~~ of Sackets Harbor  
Village

Local Law No. 1 of the year 1993

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Board of Trustees of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
~~Town~~  
~~City~~ of Sackets Harbor, Jefferson County,  
Village

N.Y. as follows:

SECTION 1.0  
STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 FINDINGS

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Sackets Harbor finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Village of Sackets Harbor and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;

- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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



"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Building" see "Structure"

"Cellar" has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

"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) is complete before

the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

"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).

"Federal Emergency Management Agency" means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

"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" or "flooding" also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)" means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

"Flood Elevation Study" means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)" means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means 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.

"Flood Insurance Study" 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").

"Floodproofing" 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.

"Floodway" - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

"Functionally dependent use" means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

"Highest adjacent grade" means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

"Historic structure" means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

"Local Administrator" is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

"Lowest floor" means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood" has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

"Principally above ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

"Regulatory Floodway" means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

"Start of construction" includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

"Structure" means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the Village of Sackets Harbor.

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY):

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. 3603510001B, whose effective date is December 2, 1992.
- (2) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (3) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, Village of Sackets Harbor, New York, Jefferson County" dated December 2, 1992.
- (4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at: Village of Sackets Harbor's Clerk's Office.

3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention, including Local Law Number 3 of the year 1990 and Local Law Number 1 of the year 1987.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Village of Sackets Harbor from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Village of Sackets Harbor, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Zoning Enforcement Officer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community, for the purpose of

protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$10.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Village of Sackets Harbor for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. ~~The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.~~

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-



## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

### 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

#### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### 4.4-5 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### 4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### 4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### 4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

#### 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### **.5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS**

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

(ii) the Village of Sackets Harbor agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Village of Sackets Harbor for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Village of Sackets Harbor for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

(ii) the Village of Sackets Harbor agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all

necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Village of Sackets Harbor for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Village of Sackets Harbor for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.

### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

## 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two

feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.



- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:
- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
  - (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
  - (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:
- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
  - (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone

A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
  - (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Zoning Law shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "Historic structure".
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

**1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 1 of 19 93 of the ~~(County)~~(City)~~(Town)~~(Village) of Sackett Harbor was duly passed by the Board of Trustees on February 10, 1993, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

**2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19 \_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

**3. (Final adoption by referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19 \_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

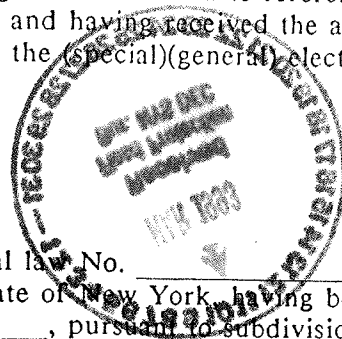
**4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)**

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19 \_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)  
(Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.



6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph \_\_\_\_\_, above.

Andrew J. Pennock  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

(Seal)

Date: February 10, 1993

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

BOND, SCHOENECK & KING

[Signature]  
Signature

Village Council

Title

~~XXXX~~

~~XXXX~~

~~XXXX~~

Village

of Sackets Harbor

Date: February 10, 1993

## ORDINANCE

Page 1 of 23

Local Law No. 4 of 1993

July 19, 1993

Councilman COOKE, Laurence H.

Councilman GOODWIN, Roy C.

Councilman HARTZ, Kenneth H.

Councilman KIEFF, Kevin A.

Mayor GRAHAM, Jeffrey E.

Total .....

YEA	NAY
X	
X	
X	
X	
X	
5	0



By Councilman

Kenneth H. Hartz

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the City Council of the  
 (Name of Legislative Body)  
 Town-  
 City of Watertown, Jefferson County,  
 Village

N.Y. as follows:

### SECTION 1.0 STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE

#### 1.1 FINDINGS

The City Council of the City of  
Watertown, New York finds that the potential and/or actual damages  
 from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the  
City of Watertown, New York and that such  
 damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing,  
 damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and  
 injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of  
 such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set  
 forth, this local law is adopted.

#### 1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property  
 due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging  
 increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;



- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Building" see "Structure"

"Cellar" has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

"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) is complete before

the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

**"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).

**"Federal Emergency Management Agency"** means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

**"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" or "flooding"** also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

**"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)"** means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

**"Flood Elevation Study"** means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

**"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)"** means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

**"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)"** means 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.

**"Flood Insurance Study"** 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - (i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
  - (ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood" has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

"Principally above ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.3-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.

SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the City of Watertown.

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY):

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360354 0001-0004, whose effective date is August 2, 1993.
- (3) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, City of Watertown, New York, Jefferson County" dated August 2, 1993.
- (4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.
- (5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) No. \_\_\_\_\_, whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at: the City Engineer's Office, Room 305, Municipal Building, 245 Washington Street, Watertown, N.Y. 13601.

3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City of Watertown, New York from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the City of Watertown, New York, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The City Engineer is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of



protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$ 25.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the City of Watertown, New York for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-

## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

## 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### 4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### 4.4-5 INSPECTIONS

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### 4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### 4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### 4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

#### 5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:
  - (i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,
  - (ii) the City of Watertown, New York agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the City of Watertown, New York for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the City of Watertown, New York for all costs related to the final map revision.
- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:
  - (i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,
  - (ii) the City of Watertown, New York agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all

necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the City of Watertown, New York for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the City of Watertown, New York for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## 5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES

### 5.2-1 ANCHORING

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### 5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:

(i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and

(ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.

### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

## 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone AO, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two



feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:
  - (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or
  - (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy.
- (2) Within Zone AO, new construction and substantial improvements of non-residential structures shall:
  - (i) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or
  - (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)
- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:
- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
  - (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
  - (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:
- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
  - (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
  - (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone

A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
  - (5) Within Zone A0, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

## SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the City Charter shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the           Zoning Board of Appeals           may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

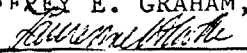
## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

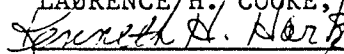
- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a **"Historic structure"**.
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 2nd day of August, 1993 by the  
City Council of the City of Watertown  
Jefferson County,  
New York, to be effective immediately.

  
JEFFREY E. GRAHAM, MAYOR

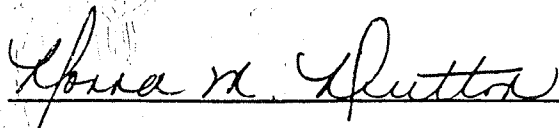
  
LAURENCE H. COOKE, COUNCILMAN

  
KENNETH H. HARTZ, COUNCILMAN

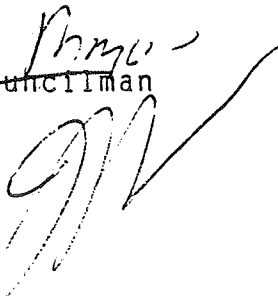
  
KEVIN A. KIEFF, COUNCILMAN

  
ROY C. GOODWIN, COUNCILMAN

SEAL



ATTEST DONNA M. DUTTON CLERK

Seconded by   
Councilman

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.



~~County~~  
~~City~~ ~~XX~~ of Watertown  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

Local Law No. 4 of the year 19 93

A local law to amend Town of Watertown Local Law No. 2 of the year 1993.  
(Insert title)

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

~~County~~  
~~City~~ ~~XX~~ of Watertown as follows:  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~

Section 1. Section 3.2 of Town of Watertown Local Law No. 2 of the year 1993 is amended to read as follows:

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency:

- (1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360355 0001-0020, whose effective date is August 2, 1993.
- (2) A scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, Town of Watertown, New York, Jefferson County" dated August 2, 1993.

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:

6873 Brookside Drive  
Watertown, N.Y. 13601

- (2) This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State as required by Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

(If additional space is needed, please attach sheets of the same size as this and number each)

(Complete the certification in the paragraph which applies to the filing of this local law and strike out the matter therein which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. ...4.... of 19 93....  
~~County~~  
of the ~~City~~ of Watertown... was duly passed by the Town Board... (Name of Legislative Body)  
~~Town~~  
~~Village~~  
on ...December 9,..... 19 93.... in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval of the Elective Chief Executive Officer or repassage after disapproval.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
and was deemed duly adopted on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
on ..... 19 ..... Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a  
mandatory referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting  
permissive  
thereon at the ~~special~~ general election held on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable  
annual provisions of law.

4. (Subject to permissive referendum, and final adoption because no valid petition filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19.....  
County  
of the City of ..... was duly passed by the ..... (Name of Legislative Body)  
Town  
Village  
on ..... 19 ..... not disapproved  
and was approved by the ..... Elective Chief Executive Officer\*  
repassed after disapproval  
on ..... 19 ..... Such local law being subject to a permissive referendum and no  
valid petition requesting such referendum having been filed, said local law was deemed duly adopted  
on ..... 19 ....., in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.



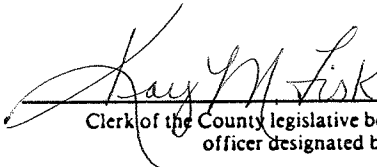
5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19 ..... of the City of ..... having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of <sup>§36</sup>§37 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the <sup>special</sup>general election held on ..... 19..... became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. .... of 19..... of the County of ....., State of New York, having been submitted to the Electors at the General Election of November ....., 19....., pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.  
(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph .....<sup>1</sup>..... above.

  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk or officer designated by local legislative body

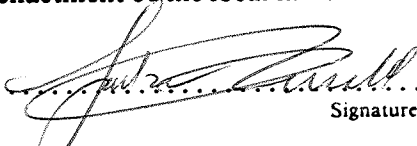
Date: December 14, 1993

(Seal)

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF .....Jefferson.....

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

  
Signature  
Attorney for Town of Watertown  
Title

Date: 12/10/93  
~~County~~  
~~City~~ of .....Watertown.....  
Town  
~~Village~~

(Please Use this Form for Filing your Local Law with the Secretary of State)

Text of law should be given as amended. Do not include matter being eliminated and do not use italics or underlining to indicate new matter.

Town  
City of Watertown  
Village

Local Law No. 2 of the year 1993

A local law for FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

as authorized by the New York State Constitution, Article IX, Section 2, and Environmental Conservation law, Article 36.

Be it enacted by the Town Board of the  
(Name of Legislative Body)

Town  
City of Watertown, Jefferson County,  
Village

N.Y. as follows:

**SECTION 1.0**  
**STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION AND PURPOSE**

**1.1 FINDINGS**

The Town Board of the Town of  
Watertown finds that the potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Watertown and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life. In order to minimize the threat of such damages and to achieve the purposes and objectives hereinafter set forth, this local law is adopted.

**1.2 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of this local law 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) regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities;

- (2) require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- (3) control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters;
- (4) control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages;
- (5) regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands, and;
- (6) qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

### 1.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this local law are:

- (1) to protect human life and health;
- (2) to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- (3) to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- (4) to minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- (5) to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;
- (6) to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- (7) to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and,
- (8) to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

### SECTION 2.0 DEFINITIONS

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

"Appeal" means a request for a review of the Local Administrator's interpretation of any provision of this Local Law or a request for a variance.

"Area of shallow flooding" means a designated AO, AH or VO Zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average annual depth of one to three feet where a clearly defined channel does not exist, where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is characterized by ponding or sheet flow.

"Area of special flood hazard" is the land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This area may be designated as Zone A, AE, AH, AO, A1-A30, A99, V, VO, VE, or V1-V30. It is also commonly referred to as the base floodplain or 100-year floodplain.

"Base flood" means the flood having a one percent chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

"Basement" means that portion of a building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

"Building" see "Structure"

"Cellar" has the same meaning as "Basement".

"Development" means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.

"Elevated building" means a non-basement building (i) built, in the case of a building in Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, to have the top of the elevated floor, or in the case of a building in Zones V1-30, VE, or V, to have the bottom of the lowest horizontal structure member of the elevated floor elevated above the ground level by means of pilings, columns (posts and piers), or shear walls parallel to the flow of the water and (ii) adequately anchored so as not to impair the structural integrity of the building during a flood of up to the magnitude of the base flood. In the case of Zones A1-A30, AE, A, A99, AO, AH, B, C, X, or D, "elevated building" also includes a building elevated by means of fill or solid foundation perimeter walls with openings sufficient to facilitate the unimpeded movement of flood waters. In the case of Zones V1-V30, VE, or V, "elevated building" also includes a building otherwise meeting the definition of "elevated building", even though the lower area is enclosed by means of breakaway walls that meet the federal standards.

"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) is complete before

the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by the community.

"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).

"Federal Emergency Management Agency" means the Federal agency that administers the National Flood Insurance Program.

"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" or "flooding" also means the collapse or subsidence of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water as a result of erosion or undermining caused by waves or currents of water exceeding anticipated cyclical levels or suddenly caused by an unusually high water level in a natural body of water, accompanied by a severe storm, or by an unanticipated force of nature, such as a flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in (1) above.

"Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (FBFM)" means an official map of the community published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as part of a riverine community's Flood Insurance Study. The FBFM delineates a Regulatory Floodway along water courses studied in detail in the Flood Insurance Study.

"Flood Elevation Study" means an examination, evaluation and determination of the flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of flood-related erosion hazards.

"Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM)" means 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 designated as Zone A but no flood elevations are provided.

"Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)" means 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.

"Flood Insurance Study" 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").

**"Floodproofing"** 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.

**"Floodway"** - has the same meaning as "Regulatory Floodway".

**"Functionally dependent use"** means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water, such as a docking or port facility necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, shipbuilding, and ship repair facilities. The term does not include long-term storage, manufacturing, sales, or service facilities.

**"Highest adjacent grade"** means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface, prior to construction, next to the proposed walls of a structure.

**"Historic structure"** means any structure that is:

- (1) listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of the Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
- (2) 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;
- (3) individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- (4) individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:

(i) by an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or

(ii) directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

**"Local Administrator"** is the person appointed by the community to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. This person is often the Code Enforcement Officer, Building Inspector or employee of an engineering department.

**"Lowest floor"** means lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement or cellar). 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 Local Law.

"Manufactured home" means 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 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.

"Mobile home" - has the same meaning as "Manufactured home".

"National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD)" as corrected in 1929 is a vertical control used as a reference for establishing varying elevations within the flood plain.

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

"New 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) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.

"One hundred year flood" or "100-year flood" has the same meaning as "Base Flood".

"Principally above ground" means that at least 51 percent of the actual cash value of the structure, excluding land value, is above ground.

"Recreational vehicle" means a vehicle which is:

- (1) built on a single chassis;
- (2) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projections;
- (3) designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
- (4) not designed primarily for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

**"Regulatory Floodway"** means 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 a designated height as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in a Flood Insurance Study or by other agencies as provided in Section 4.4-2 of this Law.

**"Start of construction"** includes substantial improvement and means the initiation, excluding planning and design, of any phase of a project, physical alteration of the property, and shall include land preparation, such as clearing, grading, and filling; installation of streets and/or walkways; excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms. It also includes the placement and/or installation on the property of accessory buildings (garages, sheds), storage trailers, and building materials. For manufactured homes the "actual start" means affixing of the manufactured home to its permanent site.

**"Structure"** means 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 the "start of construction" of the improvement. The 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 from the requirements of this local law which permits construction or use in a manner that would otherwise be prohibited by this local law.



SECTION 3.0  
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 LANDS TO WHICH THIS LOCAL LAW APPLIES

This local law shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the Town of Watertown.

3.2 BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE AREAS OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD

The areas of special flood hazard are identified and defined on the following documents prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (COMPLETE ONE THROUGH FIVE AS NECESSARY, RENUMBER SEQUENTIALLY AND CROSS OUT OR DELETE UNUSED SUBSECTIONS):

~~(1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_~~

(1) Flood Insurance Rate Map (multiple panels) Index No. 360355  
0001-0020, whose effective date is August 2, 1993.

~~(2) Scientific and engineering report entitled "Flood Insurance Study, \_\_\_\_\_ New York, \_\_\_\_\_ County," dated \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~(4) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (single panel) No. \_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_~~

~~(5) Flood Boundary and Floodway Map (multiple panels) Index No. \_\_\_\_\_~~  
~~whose effective date is \_\_\_\_\_~~

The above documents are hereby adopted and declared to be a part of this Local Law. The Flood Insurance Study and/or maps are on file at:  
6873 Brookside Drive  
Watertown, New York 13601

3.3 INTERPRETATION AND CONFLICT WITH OTHER LAWS

This Local Law includes all revisions to the National Flood Insurance Program through November 1, 1989 and shall supersede all previous laws adopted for the purpose of flood damage prevention.

In their interpretation and application, the provisions of this local law shall be held to be minimum requirements, adopted for the promotion of the public health, safety, and welfare. Whenever the requirements of this local law are at variance with the requirements of any other lawfully adopted rules, regulations, or ordinances, the most restrictive, or that imposing the higher standards, shall govern.

3.4 SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any section or provision of this local law shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof.

### 3.5 PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE

No structure in an area of special flood hazard shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered and no land shall be excavated or filled without full compliance with the terms of this local law and any other applicable regulations. Any infraction of the provisions of this local law by failure to comply with any of its requirements, including infractions of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions of the permit, shall constitute a violation. Any person who violates this local law or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined no more than \$250 or imprisoned for not more than 15 days or both. Each day of noncompliance shall be considered a separate offense. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the Town of Watertown

from taking such other lawful action as necessary to prevent or remedy an infraction. Any structure found not compliant with the requirements of this local law for which the developer and/or owner has not applied for and received an approved variance under Section 6.0 will be declared non-compliant and notification sent to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

### 3.6 WARNING AND DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The degree of flood protection required by this local law is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. Larger floods can and will occur on rare occasions. Flood heights may be increased by man-made or natural causes. This local law does not imply that land outside the area of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages. This local law shall not create liability on the part of the Town of Watertown, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for any flood damages that result from reliance on this local law or any administrative decision lawfully made thereunder.

## SECTION 4.0 ADMINISTRATION

### 4.1 DESIGNATION OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Building Inspector is hereby appointed Local Administrator to administer and implement this local law by granting or denying floodplain development permits in accordance with its provisions.

### 4.2 THE FLOODPLAIN DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

#### 4.2-1 PURPOSE

A floodplain development permit is hereby established for all construction and other development to be undertaken in areas of special flood hazard in this community for the purpose of

protecting its citizens from increased flood hazards and insuring that new development is constructed in a manner that minimizes its exposure to flooding. It shall be unlawful to undertake any development in an area of special flood hazard, as shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2, without a valid floodplain development permit. Application for a permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Local Administrator and may include, but not be limited to: plans, in duplicate, drawn to scale and showing: the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities, and the location of the foregoing.

#### 4.2-2 FEES

- (1) All applications for a floodplain development permit shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$ 20.00. In addition, the applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Watertown for any additional costs necessary for review, inspection and approval of this project. The Local Administrator may require a deposit of no more than \$500.00 to cover these additional costs.

#### 4.3 APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT

The applicant shall provide the following information as appropriate. Additional information may be required on the permit application form.

- (1) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement or cellar) of any new or substantially improved structure to be located in Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, or Zone A if base flood elevation data are available. Upon completion of the lowest floor, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built elevation, certified by a licensed professional engineer or surveyor.
- (2) The proposed elevation, in relation to mean sea level, to which any new or substantially improved non-residential structure will be floodproofed. Upon completion of the floodproofed portion of the structure, the permittee shall submit to the Local Administrator the as-built floodproofed elevation, certified by a professional engineer or surveyor.
- (3) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any utility floodproofing will meet the criteria in Section 5.2-3, UTILITIES.
- (4) A certificate from a licensed professional engineer or architect that any non-residential floodproofed structure will meet the floodproofing criteria in Section 5.4, NON-RESIDEN-

## TIAL STRUCTURES.

- (5) A description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development. Computations by a licensed professional engineer must be submitted that demonstrate that the altered or relocated segment will provide equal or greater conveyance than the original stream segment. The applicant must submit any maps, computations or other material required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to revise the documents enumerated in Section 3.2, when notified by the Local Administrator, and must pay any fees or other costs assessed by FEMA for this purpose. The applicant must also provide assurances that the conveyance capacity of the altered or relocated stream segment will be maintained.
- (6) A technical analysis, by a licensed professional engineer, if required by the Local Administrator, which shows whether proposed development to be located in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property.
- (7) In Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available from other sources, base flood elevation data shall be provided by the permit applicant for subdivision proposals and other proposed developments (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions) that are greater than either 50 lots or 5 acres.

### 4.4 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATOR

Duties of the Local Administrator shall include, but not be limited the following.

#### 4.4-1 PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

The Local Administrator shall conduct the following permit application review before issuing a floodplain development permit:

- (1) Review all applications for completeness, particularly with the requirements of subsection 4.3, APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT, and for compliance with the provisions and standards of this law.
- (2) Review subdivision and other proposed new development, including manufactured home parks to determine whether proposed building sites will be reasonably safe from flooding. If a proposed building site is located in an area of special flood hazard, all new construction and substantial improvements shall meet the applicable standards of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS and, in particular, sub-section

#### 5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS.

- (3) Determine whether any proposed development in an area of special flood hazard may result in physical damage to any other property (e.g., stream bank erosion and increased flood velocities). The Local Administrator may require the applicant to submit additional technical analyses and data necessary to complete the determination.

If the proposed development may result in physical damage to any other property or fails to meet the requirements of Section 5.0, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS,\* no permit shall be issued. The applicant may revise the application to include measures that mitigate or eliminate the adverse effects and re-submit the application.

- (4) Determine that all necessary permits have been received from those governmental agencies from which approval is required by State or Federal law.

#### 4.4-2 USE OF OTHER FLOOD DATA

- (1) When the Federal Emergency Management Agency has designated areas of special flood hazard on the community's Flood Insurance Rate map (FIRM) but has neither produced water surface elevation data (these areas are designated Zone A or V on the FIRM) nor identified a floodway, the Local Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, including data developed pursuant to paragraph 4.3(7), as criteria for requiring that new construction, substantial improvements or other proposed development meet the requirements of this law.
- (2) When base flood elevation data are not available, the Local Administrator may use flood information from any other authoritative source, such as historical data, to establish flood elevations within the areas of special flood hazard, for the purposes of this law.

#### 4.4-3 ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES

- (1) Notification to adjacent communities and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation prior to permitting any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submittal of evidence of such notification to the Regional Director, Region II, Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (2) Determine that the permit holder has provided for maintenance within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse so that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished.

#### **4.4-4 CONSTRUCTION STAGE**

- (1) In Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, upon placement of the lowest floor or completion of floodproofing of a new or substantially improved structure, obtain from the permit holder a certification of the as-built elevation of the lowest floor or floodproofed elevation, in relation to mean sea level. The certificate shall be prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed land surveyor or professional engineer and certified by same. For manufactured homes, the permit holder shall submit the certificate of elevation upon placement of the structure on the site. A certificate of elevation must also be submitted for a recreational vehicle if it remains on a site for 180 consecutive days or longer (unless it is fully licensed and ready for highway use).
- (2) Any further work undertaken prior to submission and approval of the certification shall be at the permit holder's risk. The Local Administrator shall review all data submitted. Deficiencies detected shall be cause to issue a stop work order for the project unless immediately corrected.

#### **4.4-5 INSPECTIONS**

The Local Administrator and/or the developer's engineer or architect shall make periodic inspections at appropriate times throughout the period of construction in order to monitor compliance with permit conditions and enable said inspector to certify, if requested, that the development is in compliance with the requirements of the floodplain development permit and/or any variance provisions.

#### **4.4-6 STOP WORK ORDERS**

- (1) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found ongoing without a development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.
- (2) The Local Administrator shall issue, or cause to be issued, a stop work order for any floodplain development found non-compliant with the provisions of this law and/or the conditions of the development permit. Disregard of a stop work order shall subject the violator to the penalties described in Section 3.5 of this local law.

#### **4.4-7 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

- (1) In areas of special flood hazard, as determined by documents enumerated in Section 3.2, it shall be unlawful to occupy or

to permit the use or occupancy of any building or premises, or both, or part thereof hereafter created, erected, changed, converted or wholly or partly altered or enlarged in its use or structure until a certificate of compliance has been issued by the Local Administrator stating that the building or land conforms to the requirements of this local law.

- (2) A certificate of compliance shall be issued by the Local Administrator upon satisfactory completion of all development in areas of special flood hazard.
- (3) Issuance of the certificate shall be based upon the inspections conducted as prescribed in Section 4.4-5, INSPECTIONS, and/or any certified elevations, hydraulic data, floodproofing, anchoring requirements or encroachment analyses which may have been required as a condition of the approved permit.

#### **4.4-8 INFORMATION TO BE RETAINED**

The Local Administrator shall retain and make available for inspection, copies of the following:

- (1) Floodplain development permits and certificates of compliance;
- (2) Certifications of as-built lowest floor elevations of structures, required pursuant to sub-sections 4.4-4(1) and 4.4-4(2), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (3) Floodproofing certificates required pursuant to sub-section 4.4-4(1), and whether or not the structures contain a basement;
- (4) Variances issued pursuant to Section 6.0, VARIANCE PROCEDURES; and,
- (5) Notices required under sub-section 4.4-3, ALTERATION OF WATERCOURSES.

### **SECTION 5.0 CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS**

#### **5.1 GENERAL STANDARDS**

The following standards apply to new development, including new and substantially improved structures, in the areas of special flood hazard shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map designated in Section 3.2.

##### **5.1-1 SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS**

The following standards apply to all new subdivision proposals

and other proposed development in areas of special flood hazard (including proposals for manufactured home and recreational vehicle parks and subdivisions):

- (1) Proposals shall be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage;
- (2) Public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems shall be located and constructed so as to minimize flood damage; and,
- (3) Adequate drainage shall be provided to reduce exposure to flood damage.

#### 5.1-2 ENCROACHMENTS

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30 and AE, on streams without a regulatory floodway, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) the applicant demonstrates that the cumulative effect of the proposed development, when combined with all other existing and anticipated development, will not increase the water surface elevation of the base flood more than one foot at any location, or,

(ii) the Town of Watertown agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Watertown for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Watertown for all costs related to the final map revision.

- (2) On streams with a regulatory floodway, as shown on the Flood Boundary and Floodway Map or the Flood Insurance Rate Map adopted in Section 3.2, no new construction, substantial improvements or other development in the floodway (including fill) shall be permitted unless:

(i) a technical evaluation by a licensed professional engineer shows that such an encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels during occurrence of the base flood, or,

(ii) the Town of Watertown agrees to apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for a conditional FIRM and floodway revision, FEMA approval is received and the applicant provides all



necessary data, analyses and mapping and reimburses the Town of Watertown for all fees and other costs in relation to the application. The applicant must also provide all data, analyses and mapping and reimburse the Town of Watertown for all costs related to the final map revisions.

## **5.2 STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES**

### **5.2-1 ANCHORING**

- (1) New structures and substantial improvement to structures in areas of special flood hazard shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement during the base flood. This requirement is in addition to applicable State and local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.

### **5.2-2 CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS**

- (1) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.
- (2) New construction and substantial improvements to structures shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.
- (3) For enclosed areas below the lowest floor of a structure within Zones A1-A30, AE or AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor that are useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement and which are subject to flooding, designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the entry and exit of flood waters. Designs for meeting this requirement must either be certified by a licensed professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed the following minimum criteria:
  - (i) a minimum of two openings having a total net area of not less than one square inch for every square foot of enclosed area subject to flooding; and
  - (ii) the bottom of all such openings no higher than one foot above the lowest adjacent finished grade.

Openings may be equipped with louvers, valves, screens or other coverings or devices provided they permit the automatic entry and exit of floodwaters. Enclosed areas sub-grade on all sides are considered basements and are not permitted.

### 5.2-3 UTILITIES

- (1) Machinery and equipment servicing a building must either be elevated to or above the base flood level or designed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during a flood. This includes heating, ventilating, and air conditioning equipment, hot water heaters, appliances, elevator lift machinery, and electrical junction and circuit breaker boxes. When located below the base flood elevation, a professional engineer's or architect's certification of the design is required;
- (2) New and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
- (3) New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters. Sanitary sewer and storm drainage systems for buildings that have openings below the base flood elevation shall be provided with automatic backflow valves or other automatic backflow devices that are installed in each discharge line passing through a building's exterior wall; and,
- (4) On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.

### 5.3 RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

#### 5.3-1 ELEVATION

The following standards, in addition to the standards in subsections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES, apply to structures located in areas of special flood hazard as indicated.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to or above the base flood level.
- (2) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.
- (3) Within Zone A0, new and substantially improved structures shall have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two

feet if no depth number is specified).

- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

#### 5.4 NON-RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

The following standards apply to new and substantially improved commercial, industrial and other non-residential structures, in addition to the requirements in sub-sections 5.1-1, SUBDIVISION PROPOSALS, and 5.1-2, ENCROACHMENTS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES.

- (1) Within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH, and also Zone A if base flood elevation data are available, new construction and substantial improvements of any non-residential structure, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, shall either:

- (i) have the lowest floor, including basement or cellar, elevated to or above the base flood elevation; or

- (ii) be floodproofed so that the structure is watertight below the base flood level with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water. All structural components located below the base flood level must be capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads without undue damage or deformation.

- (ii) have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified in feet on the community's FIRM (at least two feet if no depth number is specified), or

- (ii) together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to that level to meet the floodproofing standard specified in sub-section 5.4(1)(ii)

- (3) If the structure is to be floodproofed, a licensed professional engineer or architect shall develop and/or review structural design, specifications, and plans for construction. A Floodproofing Certificate or other certification shall be provided to the Local Administrator that certifies the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of Section 5.4(1)(ii), including the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure is to be floodproofed.
- (4) Within Zones AH and AO, adequate drainage paths are required to guide flood waters around and away from proposed structures on slopes.

- (5) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, the lowest floor (including basement) shall be elevated at least three feet above the highest adjacent grade.

#### 5.5 MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

The following standards in addition to the standards in Section 5.1, GENERAL STANDARDS, and Section 5.2, STANDARDS FOR ALL STRUCTURES apply, as indicated, in areas of special flood hazard to manufactured homes and to recreational vehicles which are located in areas of special flood hazard.

- (1) Recreational vehicles placed on sites within Zones A1-A30, AE and AH shall either:

- (i) be on site fewer than 180 consecutive days,
- (ii) be fully licensed and ready for highway use, or
- (iii) meet the requirements for manufactured homes in paragraphs 5.5(2), (4) and (5).

A recreational vehicle is ready for highway use if it is on its wheels or jacking system, is attached to the site only by quick disconnect type utilities and security devices and has no permanently attached additions.

- (2) A manufactured home that is placed or substantially improved in Zones A1-A30, AE and AH that is on a site either:

- (i) outside of an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (ii) in a new manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined;
- (iii) in an expansion to an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined; or
- (iv) in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision as herein defined on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage as the result of a flood;

shall be elevated on a permanent foundation such that the lowest floor is elevated to or above the base flood elevation and is securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors.

- (3) A manufactured home to be placed or substantially improved in Zone

A1-A30, AE and AH in an existing manufactured home park or subdivision that is not to be placed on a site on which a manufactured home has incurred substantial damage shall be:

- (i) elevated in a manner such as required in paragraph 5.5(2), or
  - (ii) elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
- (4) Within Zone A, when no base flood elevation data are available, new and substantially improved manufactured homes shall be elevated such that 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 the lowest adjacent grade and are securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system to resist flotation, collapse or lateral movement. Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.
  - (5) Within Zone AO, the floor shall be elevated above the highest adjacent grade at least as high as the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Map enumerated in Section 3.2 (at least two feet if no depth number is specified). Elevation on piers consisting of dry stacked blocks is prohibited.

#### SECTION 6.0 VARIANCE PROCEDURE

##### 6.1 APPEALS BOARD

- (1) The Zoning Board of Appeals as established by the Town of Watertown shall hear and decide appeals and requests for variances from the requirements of this local law.
- (2) The Zoning Board of Appeals shall hear and decide appeals when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Local Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this local law.
- (3) Those aggrieved by the decision of the Zoning Board of Appeals may appeal such decision to the Supreme Court pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.
- (4) In passing upon such applications, the Zoning Board of Appeals, shall consider all technical evaluations, all relevant factors, standards specified in other sections of this local law and:

- (i) the danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - (ii) the danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (iii) the susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - (iv) the importance of the services provided by the proposed facility to the community;
  - (v) the necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
  - (vi) the availability of alternative locations for the proposed use which are not subject to flooding or erosion damage;
  - (vii) the compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - (viii) the relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan and floodplain management program of that area;
  - (ix) the safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - (x) the costs to local governments and the dangers associated with conducting search and rescue operations during periods of flooding;
  - (xi) the expected heights, velocity, duration, rate of rise and sediment transport of the flood waters and the effects of wave action, if applicable, expected at the site; and
  - (xii) the costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions, including search and rescue operations, maintenance and repair of public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical, and water systems and streets and bridges.
- (5) Upon consideration of the factors of Section 6.1(4) and the purposes of this local law, the Zoning Board of Appeals may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purposes of this local law.
- (6) The Local Administrator shall maintain the records of all appeal actions including technical information and report any variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency upon request.

## 6.2 CONDITIONS FOR VARIANCES

- (1) Generally, variances may be issued for new construction and substantial improvements to be erected on a lot of one-half acre or less in size contiguous to and surrounded by lots with existing structures constructed below the base flood level, providing items (i-xii) in Section 6.1(4) have been fully considered. As the lot size increases, beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
- (2) Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon determination that:
  - (i) the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a "Historic structure".
  - (ii) the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
- (3) Variances may be issued by a community for new construction and substantial improvements and for other development necessary for the conduct of a functionally dependent use provided that:
  - (i) the criteria of subparagraphs 1, 4, 5, and 6 of this Section are met;
  - (ii) the structure or other development is protected by methods that minimize flood damages during the base flood and create no additional threat to public safety.
- (4) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- (5) Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- (6) Variances shall only be issued upon receiving written justification of:
  - (i) a showing of 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.

- (7) Any applicant to whom a variance is granted for a building with the lowest floor below the base flood elevation shall be given written notice over the signature of a community official that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from lowest floor elevation.

Be it enacted this 20th day of July, 1993 by the  
Town Board \_\_\_\_\_ of the Town of Watertown  
\_\_\_\_\_, Jefferson County,  
New York, to be effective upon the filing with the Secretary of State.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor Ralph Green

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Rich

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Desormo

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Wilson

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Clement

SEAL

Town of Watertown

ATTEST

Kay M. Lisk

CLERK



(Complete the certification in the paragraph that applies to the filing of this local law and strike out that which is not applicable.)

1. (Final adoption by local legislative body only.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. 2 of 1993 of the ~~(County)~~(City)(Town)(Village) of Watertown was duly passed by the Town Board on July 20 1993, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body)

2. (Passage by local legislative body with approval, no disapproval or repassage after disapproval by the Elective Chief Executive Officer\*.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ and was deemed duly adopted on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_ in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

3. (Final adoption by referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was submitted to the people by reason of a (mandatory)(permissive) referendum, and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon at the (general)(special)(annual) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

4. (Subject to permissive referendum and final adoption because no valid petition was filed requesting referendum.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the (County)(City)(Town)(Village) of \_\_\_\_\_ was duly passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, and was (approved)(not disapproved)(repassed after disapproval) by the \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_. Such local law was subject to permissive referendum and no valid petition requesting such referendum was filed as of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the applicable provisions of law.  
(Name of Legislative Body) (Elective Chief Executive Officer\*)

\*Elective Chief Executive Officer means or includes the chief executive officer of a county elected on a county-wide basis or, if there be none, the chairman of the county legislative body, the mayor of a city or village, or the supervisor of a town where such officer is vested with the power to approve or veto local laws or ordinances.

5. (City local law concerning Charter revision proposed by petition.)

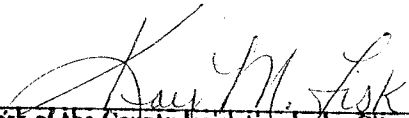
I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the City of \_\_\_\_\_ having been submitted to referendum pursuant to the provisions of section (36)(37) of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such city voting thereon at the (special)(general) election held on \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, became operative.

6. (County local law concerning adoption of Charter.)

I hereby certify that the local law annexed hereto, designated as local law No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 19\_\_\_\_ of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of New York, having been submitted to the electors at the General Election of November \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, pursuant to subdivisions 5 and 7 of section 33 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, and having received the affirmative vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the cities of said county as a unit and of a majority of the qualified electors of the towns of said county considered as a unit voting at said general election, became operative.

(If any other authorized form of final adoption has been followed, please provide an appropriate certification.)

I further certify that I have compared the preceding local law with the original on file in this office and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of such original local law, and was finally adopted in the manner indicated in paragraph \_\_\_\_\_ 1\_\_\_\_, above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the County legislative body, City, Town or Village Clerk  
or officer designated by local legislative body

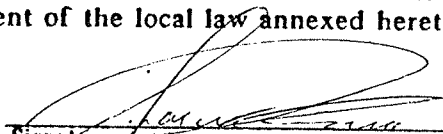
(Seal)

Date: 8-2-93

(Certification to be executed by County Attorney, Corporation Counsel, Town Attorney, Village Attorney or other authorized Attorney of locality.)

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF Jefferson

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing local law contains the correct text and that all proper proceedings have been had or taken for the enactment of the local law annexed hereto.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Joseph W. Russell  
Attorney for

Title \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_  
~~City~~ of Watertown  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Village \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 7/30/93