



City of Rockaway Beach Planning Commission Meeting Agenda

Date: Thursday, August 20, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 Hwy 101 - Civic Facility

Watch meeting here: rockawaybeachoregon.gov/meetings

Join here to participate remotely on Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86434478861?pwd=b7H6xMU0QjvYn3Mio3f1UBr8Kfb04r.1>

Meeting ID: 864 3447 8861

Passcode: 416049

Dial by your location

253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

How to Provide Public Comment:

- Written Comments may be submitted electronically by sending an email no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting to CityHall@Corb.us
 - In Person – sign-up sheet and instructions will be located on the table outside of the meeting room.
 - Virtually on Zoom – use the “raise hand” feature when the Chair announces it is time to do so.
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1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. July 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes

5. PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS - None Scheduled

6. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Planning Department Staff Report

Rockaway Beach City Hall is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to the City Recorder Melissa Thompson at cityrecorder@corb.us or 503-374-1752.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

- a. Consideration to Approve Proposed Amendments to the Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance Related to the Flood Hazard Overly Zone (ZOA 26-01/Ordinance 2026-05) and Recommend their Adoption to the City Council

8. PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

9. OLD BUSINESS - None Scheduled

10. NEW BUSINESS - None Scheduled

11. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS & CONCERNS

12. ADJOURNMENT



City of Rockaway Beach

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, July 16, 2026

Location: Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 Hwy 101 - Civic Facility

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Hassell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Planning Commissioners Present: Bill Hassell, Penny Cole, Sandra Johnson, Stephanie Winchester, Nancy Lanyon, Jason Maxfield, Lydia Hess
Council Members Present: Mary McGinnis, Planning Commission Liaison
Staff Present: Luke Shepard, City Manager; Melissa Thompson, City Recorder; Abram Tapia, City Planner

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. June 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Hassell noted that a corrected copy of the minutes was distributed in advance of the meeting.

Motion by Jason Maxfield, seconded by Penny Cole, to approve the June 18, 2026 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion Passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 (Bill Hassell, Penny Cole, Sandra Johnson, Stephanie Winchester, Nancy Lanyon, Jason Maxfield, Lydia Hess)

No: 0 (None)

5. PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – None Scheduled

6. STAFF REPORTS

a. Planning Department Staff Report

- Tapia summarized the staff report and answered clarifying questions.

7. PUBLIC HEARING – None Scheduled

8. PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- No audience members were present.

9. OLD BUSINESS – None Scheduled

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Development Code Update Project Presentation and Draft Code Audit Report Review – Cascadia Partners

- Tapia introduced Lydia Ness and Mary Phillips with Cascadia Partners.
- Ness and Phillips gave a presentation providing project background, legal compliance audit overview of the Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision and Land Partition Ordinance, housing barriers audit and code concepts discussion, and next steps and project timeline.
- Discussion regarding concerns about the scale and compatibility of multi-unit dwelling structures in R-1 and R-2 zones. Interest in seeing more example images or addresses of multi-unit buildings.
- Concerns expressed regarding parking and preserving space for parking. Discussion regarding limitations due to the smaller size of the majority of platted lots.
- Support expressed for the minimum requirement of one parking space per unit.
- Transportation System Plan was identified as an appropriate mechanism to address potential street improvements.
- City must address 2007 Economic Opportunities Analysis commercial land deficit before allowing standalone residential permitted outright. Support expressed to preserve commercial property. Interest in reviewing more specific areas in the C-1 zone. It was noted that rezoning is outside the scope of the current project.
- Housing Needs Analysis could include policy discussion related to incentivizing habitability and use of existing properties.
- Cascadia Partners will hold public events and return to the Planning Commission in the Fall. They will revisit barriers, provide more examples and a larger zoning map for reference, and will include community feedback. Commissioners are welcome to submit feedback through City Planner Tapia.

b. Consideration to Elect Planning Commission President and Vice-President

- Hassell explained that Rockaway Beach City Code Subsection 31.01 provides that at its first meeting each July, the Planning Commission shall elect a President and Vice-President to serve 1-year terms. The President presides over meetings, and the Vice-Presidents presides when the President is unable to perform duties.
- Hassell and Maxfield confirmed that they were interested in continuing to serve as President and Vice-President. No other Commissioners expressed desire to serve.

Motion by Lydia Hess, seconded by Nancy Lanyon, to elect Bill Hassell as President and Jason Maxfield as Vice-President.

Motion Passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 (Bill Hassell, Penny Cole, Sandra Johnson, Stephanie Winchester, Nancy Lanyon, Jason Maxfield, Lydia Hess)

No: 0 (None)

11. PLANNING COMMISSION COMMENTS & CONCERNS

- Cole commented on the large crowds here for the holiday and was happy that the City was reviewing parking options. (Cole excused herself from the meeting at 7:00 p.m.)
- Johnson commented that a spreadsheet showing a progress report on Strategic Plan items was available in the December 2025 Workshop meeting packet. Johnson commended staff for their work. Johnson noted a recent newspaper article regarding Tillamook County's efforts to revise its code enforcement program and suggested the City monitor their approach and its effectiveness.
- Lanyon gave kudos to everyone for the 4th of July. Lanyon appreciated efforts to improve nuisance issues near South 6th and Easy Street. Lanyon commended Tapia for work on the Community Grant program changes. Lanyon shared concerns about noise and lights from the Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad train at night and the impact on stargazing.
- Maxfield commended staff work on the 4th of July. Maxfield advocated for a proactive strategy such as a vacancy tax to encourage housing utilization.
- McGinnis echoed praise for City employees on the 4th of July and noted the large number of visitors. McGinnis encouraged viewing of the July 16th Council Workshop for discussion regarding additional parking in the City.
- Hassell noted that an additional source of fiber optics was also discussed in the July 16th Council Workshop.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Sandra Johnson, seconded by Stephanie Winchester, to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Motion Passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 (Bill Hassell, Sandra Johnson, Stephanie Winchester, Nancy Lanyon, Jason Maxfield, Lydia Hess)

No: 0 (None)

MINUTES APPROVED THE
20TH DAY OF AUGUST 2026

William Hassell, President

ATTEST

Melissa Thompson, City Recorder



City of Rockaway Beach, Oregon

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Rockaway Beach, OR 97136

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Abram Tapia, City Planner
DATE: August 13, 2026

RE: Planning Department Monthly Report

Project to Modernize the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision Ordinance:

The City of Rockaway Beach is working with Cascadia Partners, a regional planning consulting firm, to update local regulations affecting residential development. These updates will ensure compliance with State housing laws, address permitting and land use barriers, and support housing production, affordability, and choice. Staff will review potential amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Plan Map, Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Ordinance, and Zoning Map.

Cascadia Partners brought the first draft of the Development Code Audit and Code Concepts Report to the Planning Commission on July 16th, 2026. This first draft outlined a summary of findings and potential code interventions to facilitate the development of housing. The report includes findings for four audit components: Housing Barriers, Statutory Compliance, Clear and Objective Housing Standards and Procedures, and a Comprehensive Plan review. Based on the feedback from the Planning Commission, the Project Management Team continues to refine the report. The project continues on track for adoption by August 2027.

Senate Bill 406 and the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA):

Senate Bill (SB) 406 required that certain cities and communities in Tillamook County allow middle housing on residentially zoned lands, to adopt housing production strategies, and to accommodate estimated housing needs upon lands inventoried as buildable lands. With the support of the cities, Tillamook County obtained a Planning Assistance grant to work with the planning consulting firm 3J and complete the remaining Bill components.

While the project will not include all the components required by SB 406, as initially planned, the project will include five key components: Contextualized Housing Need, Buildable Lands Inventory, Development Ready Lands Inventory, Residential Land Needs Analysis, and Land Use Efficiency Measures. These studies will help local jurisdictions make informed decisions about the management of lands for residential uses and help us better understand what our local housing conditions are. Adoption is anticipated by May 2027.

Accessible STR:

The City has partnered with Becoming rentABLE to promote the accessibility of our local short-term rental market. Becoming rentABLE conducted a comprehensive accessibility audit of 430 active short-term rental listings in Rockaway Beach, reviewing properties across several booking platforms. They found that near 20 properties currently meet baseline accessibility criteria, 15 of those with active STR licenses. Additionally, the report found that 66 properties (15.3% of all listings), could be just one modification away from accessibility and an additional 83 properties could not be fully assessed due to insufficient listing photos and descriptions, representing further untapped potential with minimal investment.

Becoming rentABLE and staff have completed the first round of direct outreach to identified property owners who have an STR License. Eligible property owners will be able to join the Becoming rentABLE platform and be listed as accessible. Additionally Becoming rentABLE is developing outreach materials to increase community awareness of project efforts and steps to increase accessibility across the whole City.

Planning Department Internship:

The Planning Department is hosting an internship that provides students and aspiring planners to receive on-the-job experience. The internship opportunity received more interest than anticipated. The program held its kick off meeting on Wednesday, August 12. Two University of Oregon Students are working with staff to help produce community-facing documents, such as FAQ's, permitting guides, and general updates to the Planning Department's website. The goal is to facilitate the permitting process and provide useful information to residents and builders.

July Permit Review:

The Planning Department approved a zoning permit for building renovation changing the envelope of the structure on N Juniper St, and a Floodplain Development Permit for a remodel on N Pacific St.



CITY OF ROCKAWAY BEACH PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION

STAFF REPORT FINDINGS OF FACT

) Case File: ZOA 26-01/Ordinance NO. 2026-05
) DLCD PAPA File: 001-26
) Hearing Date: August 20, 2026

APPLICANT: City of Rockaway Beach

NATURE OF THE APPLICATION AND BACKGROUND ON THE REQUEST:

Amendments to the Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance are proposed to allow for continued community participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and adopt higher standards that address the unique flood risk in Rockaway Beach. Updates to the current floodplain regulations, utilizing the language in the Oregon Model Flood Hazard Ordinance, was identified as a community task by the Oregon State NFIP Coordinator in a letter dated February 21, 2024, titled “Community Assistance Visit Follow up letter for *Rockaway Beach*.” The proposed changes are consistent with the identified community task.

Failure to adopt many of the proposed amendments can result in probation or suspension from the NFIP, which would result in exclusion from federal funding eligibility and Rockaway Beach residents could lose access to federally regulated mortgages and be excluded from the low-cost federal flood insurance available through the NFIP.

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes:

- Section 3.092. Flood Hazard Overlay Zone - FHO Zone
 - Replaced by Section 3.160. Flood Hazard Overlay Zone – FHO Zone
- Section 3.093. Definitions
 - Replaced by Section 3.161. Definitions.
- Section 3.094. General Provisions
 - Replaced by Section 3.162. General Provisions.
- Section 3.095. Administration
 - Replaced by Section 3.163. Administration.
- Section 3.096. Provisions for Flood Hazard Reduction
 - Replaced by Section 3.164. Provisions for Flood Hazard Reduction.
- Section 3.097. Restrictions and Prohibited Uses
 - Replaced by Section 3.165. Restrictions and Prohibited Uses.
- Section 3.098. Critical Facilities
 - Replaced by Section 3.166. Critical Facilities.

REVIEW CRITERIA:

Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance. Article 9. Amendments.

Section 9.010. Authorization to Initiate Amendments. An amendment to the text of this ordinance or to a zoning map may be initiated by the City Council, Planning Commission, or by application of the property owner(s), contract purchaser(s), or his/her/their authorized agent.

Section 9.015. Burden of Proof. The burden of proof is placed upon the initiator of the amendment. That burden shall be to prove:

1. The proposed amendment fully accords with applicable Comprehensive Plan goals and policies; and
2. The proposed amendment is required to meet a land use need.

NOTIFICATION:

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) was provided notice of the proposed legislative amendments on July 17, 2026. Per Section 11.040 (2) (a) (i), legislative changes to the Zoning Ordinance do not require mailed notice to property owners, However, written notice was provided to property owners on July 16, 2026, as required by ORS 227.186. Notice was by publication in the Headlight Herald, a newspaper of general circulation as required by Section 11.040 (3) (a) (i).

COMMENTS:

Deanna Wright, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Coordinator at the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), commented that the proposed changes are consistent with the action items of the 2024 community audit. Additionally, the state supports the proposed four higher floodplain regulations and recommend the City retains those four proposals to reduce risks in flood-prone areas and support the floodplain code's findings under proposed section 3.160.2.a.

FINDINGS:

Finding: On November 12, 2025, City Council directed City Staff to prepare amendments to the Flood Hazard Overlay (FHO) Zone. The requested amendment to the text of the ordinance has been initiated by the City Council, which is able to initiate a ordinance amendment per Section 9.010.

Finding: Comprehensive Plan policy: Land Use Element: The proposed amendments seek to further protect life and property from flood related natural disasters and hazards by imposing clear and specific regulations to structures built in areas with a one percent annual chance of flood hazard.

Finding: Comprehensive Plan policy: Coastal Shorelands (7): The proposed amendments further the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). City will rely on the requirements of its flood hazard overlay zone to regulate development in flood hazard areas. Proposed amendments are to the flood hazard overlay zone and regulate development in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)

Finding: Comprehensive Plan policy: Hazards (3): The City will rely on the requirements of its flood hazard overlay zone to regulate development in flood hazard areas. The proposed amendments are consistent with the methods included for regulating floodplain development.

Finding: The proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments to floodplain management regulations are designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry, which is an ongoing land use concern and need. The flood hazard areas of the City of Rockaway Beach are subject to periodic inundation which may result in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.

Finding: The requirement that the any combination of reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvements of a structure, within a 5-year period, where the cumulative cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the “start of construction” of the improvement. For each structure, the 5-year period begins on the date of the issuance of the permit first improvement subsequent to October 9, 2026 is proposed to encourage property owners making long-term investments in structures located within Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) to comply with Flood Hazard Overlay (FHO) requirements and regulations. The proposed amendment requires the calculation of the cumulative cost of improvements over time, rather than relying solely on single project-based assessments. By tracking costs cumulatively, this policy seeks to prevent property owners from undertaking multiple smaller renovations in succession to circumvent required flood safety improvement. The proposed period for calculating the cumulative cost of improvements to determine substantial improvement is set at 5 years to balance the practical challenges of reviewing historical records and financing substantial improvements with the community benefits of enhanced building safety.

Finding: The standard that prohibit the use of fill for landscaping or aesthetic purposes that increases the natural elevation of the ground surface prior to the placement of fill by 2 feet is proposed to reduce the volume of fill in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). The placement of fill, like all other development in a floodplain, diminishes natural floodplain water storage capacity and has the potential of increasing flood heights and velocities of displaced water. The proposed amendment minimizes the use of fill in the SFHA, reducing the possibility of flood losses caused by the cumulative effect of obstructions. To strike a balance between the goals of floodplain regulations and other comprehensive plan goals, the proposed changes do not apply to structural fill or fill used to provide access to a structure, or fill used for other purposes, and as such, the proposed changes do not conflict with economic and housing goals as included in the Comprehensive Plan.

Finding: The standard that requires that new construction, conversion to, and substantial improvement of any structure with multiple primary uses shall conform to the standards of Residential Construction when one of the uses includes a primary residential use is proposed to clarify which standards apply to multi-use structures. Damage to structures that contain multiple primary uses, including residential uses, could result in harm to human life and health. This amendment further

promotes public health, safety, and general welfare, and minimizes public and private losses due to flooding in flood hazard areas by applying residential standards to mixed-use structures.

Finding: The requirement that the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor (excluding the pilings or columns) in the Coastal High Hazard Flood Zone is elevated a minimum of one foot and six inches above the base flood level is proposed for protection against changes in water elevation due to sea-level rise. The U.S. Sea Level Change project, a 2022 Sea Level Rise Interagency Technical Report, predicted sea level rise in the Northwest Coast from 2020 to 2050 based on the five different scenarios. Under the intermediate, intermediate high, and high scenarios, sea level is expected to rise between 4 inches, 5.76 inches, and 7.28 inches from 2020 to 2050. Until new maps are adopted that reflect the actual water elevations, the proposed changes to the freeboard are expected to ensure that new and substantially improved construction continues to be reasonably safe from flooding.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Commission should review the proposed amendments and make a recommendation to the City Council. The recommendation can adopt the amendments as they are presented in the ordinance, may include suggested changes to the amendments, or may deny suggested amendments. In that decision, the Commission should note that failure to adopt many of the proposed amendments can result in probation or suspension from the NFIP, which would result in exclusion from federal funding eligibility and Rockaway Beach residents could lose access to federally regulated mortgages and be excluded from the low-cost federal flood insurance available through the NFIP. The Planning commission may suggest higher standards than those included in the Oregon Model Flood Hazard Ordinance (released October 2020), without jeopardizing NFIP participation.

Planning Staff finds that the proposed text for Ordinance No. 2026-05, amending the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance related to the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone, is consistent with the Rockaway Beach Comprehensive Plan Zoning Ordinance. City Staff recommend that the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council approval and adoption of the amendments as proposed in attached Exhibit A.

In making a decision, the Rockaway Beach Planning Commission may:

1. Recommend approval of the amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance as recommended by planning staff.

Suggested Motion: *I move that based on the facts and evaluations presented in the Staff Report, and evidence presented, the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council approval and adoption of the amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance related to the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone.*

2. Recommend approval of the amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance with additional changes.

Corresponding Motion: *I move that based on the facts and evaluations presented in the Staff Report, evidence presented, and the findings that [**LIST ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**] the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council approval and adoption of the amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance with the following changes [**LIST ADDITIONAL PROPOSED CHANGES**]*

3. Recommend denial of the amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance as recommended by planning staff.

Corresponding Motion: *I move that based on these following facts [**LIST FINDINGS FOR A DENIAL**], and evidence presented, the Planning Commission recommend to the City Council deny and not adopt the proposed amendments to the City of Rockaway Beach Zoning Ordinance related to the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone.*

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abram Tapia'.

Abram Tapia,
City Planner

Section 3.160. Flood Hazard Overlay Zone – FHO Zone

1. Statutory Authorization.

The State of Oregon has in ORS 197.175 delegated the responsibility to local governmental units to adopt floodplain management regulations designed to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of its citizenry.

2. Finding of Fact.

- a. The flood hazard areas of the City of Rockaway Beach are subject to periodic inundation which may result in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, and impairment of the tax base, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety, and general welfare.
- b. These flood losses may be caused by the cumulative effect of obstructions in special flood hazard areas which increase flood heights and velocities, and when inadequately anchored, cause damage in other areas. Uses that are inadequately floodproofed, elevated, or otherwise protected from flood damage also contribute to flood loss.

3. Statement of Purpose.

It is the purpose of the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone to promote the public health, safety and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flooding in flood hazard areas by provisions designed to:

- a. Protect human life and health;
- b. Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- c. Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- d. Minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- e. Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains; electric, telephone and sewer lines; and streets and bridges located in special flood hazard areas;
- f. Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood hazard areas so as to minimize blight areas caused by flooding;
- g. Notify potential buyers that the property is in a special flood hazard area;
- h. Notify those who occupy special flood hazard areas that they assume responsibility for their actions;

- i. Participate in and maintain eligibility for flood insurance and disaster relief.

4. **Methods of Reducing Flood Losses.**

In order to accomplish its purposes, this ordinance includes methods and provisions for:

- a. Restricting or prohibiting development which is 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;
- b. Requiring that development vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction;
- c. Controlling the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers, which help accommodate or channel flood waters;
- d. Controlling filling, grading, dredging, and other development which may increase flood damage;
- e. Preventing or regulating the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or may increase flood hazards in other areas.

Section 3.161. Definitions.

Unless specifically defined below, words or phrases used in this ordinance shall be interpreted so as to give them the meaning they have in common usage.

Appeal: A request for a review of the interpretation of any provision of this ordinance or a request for a variance.

Area of Shallow Flooding: A designated zone AO, AH, AR/AO, or AR/AH on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent or greater annual chance of flooding to an average 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: The land in the floodplain within a community subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. It is shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) as Zone A, AO, AH, A1-30, AE, A99, AR, V, V1-30, VE. "Special flood hazard area" is synonymous in meaning and definition with the phrase "area of special flood hazard."

Base Flood: The flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year.

Basement: Any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.

Below Grade Crawlspace: An enclosed area below the Base Flood Elevation in which the interior grade does not exceed two feet below the lowest adjacent exterior grade and the height, measured from the interior grade of the crawlspace to the bottom of the top of the crawlspace foundation, does not exceed four feet at any point.

Breakaway Walls: A wall that is not a 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 supporting foundation system.

Coastal High Hazard Area: 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.

Critical Facility: A facility for which even a slight chance of flooding might be too great. Critical facilities include, but are not limited to schools, nursing homes, hospitals police, fire and emergency response installations, installations which produce, use or store hazardous materials or hazardous waste.

Development: Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real property, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations, or storage of equipment or materials.

Elevated Building: For insurance purposes, a nonbasement building which has its lowest elevated floor raised above ground level by foundation walls, shear walls, post, piers, pilings, or columns.

Fill: Placement of any materials such as soil, gravel, crushed stone, or other materials that change the elevation of the floodplain. The placement of fill is considered “development.”

Flood or Flooding:

1. A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:
 - a. The overflow of inland or tidal waters.
 - b. The unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

- c. Mudslides (i.e., mudflows) which are proximately caused by flooding as defined in paragraph (1)(b) of this definition and are akin to a river of liquid and flowing mud on the surfaces of normally dry land areas, as when earth is carried by a current of water and deposited along the path of the current.
2. 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 flash flood or an abnormal tidal surge, or by some similarly unusual and unforeseeable event which results in flooding as defined in paragraph (1)(a) of this definition.

Flood Elevation Study: See “Flood Insurance Study”.

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM): The official map of a community, on which the Federal Insurance Administrator has delineated both the special flood hazards areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community. A FIRM that has been made available digitally is called a Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM).

Flood Insurance Study (FIS): An examination, evaluation and determination of flood hazards and, if appropriate, corresponding water surface elevations, or an examination, evaluation and determination of mudslide (i.e., mudflow) and/or flood-related erosion hazards.

Flood Proofing: Any combination of structural and nonstructural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate risk of flood damage to real estate or improved real property, water and sanitary facilities, structures, and their contents.

Floodway: The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height. Also referred to as "Regulatory Floodway."

Functionally Dependent Use: A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, and does not include long term storage or related manufacturing facilities.

Highest Adjacent Grade: The highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure.

Historic Structure: Any structure that is:

1. Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register; The overflow of inland or tidal waters.
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 Interior; or
4. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
 - a. By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
 - b. Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

Hydraulically Equivalent Elevation: A location (e.g., a site where no net loss standards are implemented) that is approximately equivalent to another (e.g., the impacted site) relative to the same 100-year water surface elevation contour or base flood elevation. This may be estimated based on a point that is along the same approximate line perpendicular to the direction of flow.

Hydrologically Connected: The interconnection of groundwater and surface water such that they constitute one water supply and use of either results in an impact to both.

Impervious Surface: A surface that cannot be penetrated by water and thereby prevents infiltration and increases the amount and rate of surface water runoff, leading to erosion of stream banks, degradation of habitat, and increased sediment loads in streams. Such surfaces can accumulate large amounts of pollutants that are then “flushed” into local water bodies during storms and can also interfere with recharge of groundwater and the base flows to water bodies.

Lowest Floor: The lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including basement). An unfinished or flood resistant enclosure, usable solely for parking of vehicles, building access or storage in an area other than a basement area, is not considered a building's lowest floor, provided that such enclosure is not built so as to render the structure in violation of the applicable non-elevation design requirements of this ordinance.

Manufactured Dwelling: A structure, transportable in one or more sections, which is built on a permanent chassis and is designed for use with or without a permanent foundation

when attached to the required utilities. The term “manufactured dwelling” does not include a “recreational vehicle” and is synonymous with “manufactured home”.

Manufactured Dwelling Park or Subdivision: A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured dwelling lots for rent or sale.

Mean Higher-High Water: The average of the higher-high water height of each tidal day observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch.

Mean Sea Level (MSL): 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.

New Construction: For floodplain management purposes, “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 City of Rockaway Beach and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.

Ordinary High Water Mark: The line on the shore established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear, natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

Recreational vehicle: A vehicle which is:

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

Riparian: Of, adjacent to, or living on, the bank of a river, lake, pond, or other water body.

Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA): See “Area of Special Flood Hazard” for this definition.

Start of Construction: Includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days from the date of the permit. The actual start means either the first placement of permanent construction of a structure on a site, such as the pouring of slab or footings, the installation of piles, the construction of columns, or any work beyond the stage of excavation; or the placement of a manufactured dwelling on a foundation. Permanent construction does not

include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for a basement, footings, piers, or foundations or the erection of temporary forms; nor does it include the installation on the property of accessory buildings, such as garages or sheds not occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main structure. For a substantial improvement, the actual start of construction means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor, or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building.

Structure: For floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured dwelling.

Substantial Damage: Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to its before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

Substantial Improvement: Any combination of reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, or other improvements of a structure, within a 5-year period, where the cumulative cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the “start of construction” of the improvement. For each structure, the 5-year period begins on the date of the issuance of the permit first improvement subsequent to October 9, 2026. This term includes structures which have incurred “substantial damage”, regardless of the actual repair work performed. The term does not, however, include either:

- a) 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
- b) Any alteration of a “historic structure”, provided that the alteration will not preclude the structure’s continued designation as a “historic structure”.

Variance: A grant of relief by the City of Rockaway Beach from the terms of a flood plain management regulation.

Violation: The failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community’s floodplain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in this ordinance is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

Section 3.162. General Provisions.

1. **Lands To Which This Ordinance Applies.** This ordinance shall apply to all special flood hazards areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Rockaway Beach.
2. **Basis For Establishing The Areas Of Special Flood Hazard.** The special flood hazard areas identified by the Federal Insurance Administrator through a scientific and engineering report entitled “The Flood Insurance Study for Tillamook County, Oregon and incorporated areas”, dated September 28, 2018, with accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) 4105C0377F, 41057C0381F, 14057C0214F, and 41057C0218F are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this ordinance. The FIS and FIRM panels are on file at Rockaway Beach City Hall.
3. **Coordination with State of Oregon Specialty Codes.** Pursuant to the requirement established in ORS 455 that the City of Rockaway Beach administers and enforces the State of Oregon Specialty Codes, the City of Rockaway Beach does hereby acknowledge that the Oregon Specialty Codes contain certain provisions that apply to the design and construction Corrections on pages 25 and 29. Amended 11/11/2025 of buildings and structures located in special flood hazard areas. Therefore, this ordinance is intended to be administered and enforced in conjunction with the Oregon Specialty Codes.
4. **Compliance and Penalties for Noncompliance.**
 - a. **Compliance.** All development within special flood hazard areas is subject to the terms of this ordinance and required to comply with its provisions and all other applicable regulations.
 - b. **Penalties for Noncompliance.** No structure or land shall hereafter be constructed, located, extended, converted, or altered without full compliance with the terms of this ordinance and other applicable regulations. Violations of the provisions of this ordinance by failure to comply with any of its requirements (including violations of conditions and safeguards established in connection with conditions) and penalties for noncompliance are established under Section 11.500. Nothing contained herein shall prevent the City of Rockaway Beach from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation.
5. **Abrogation and Severability.**

- a. **Abrogation.** This ordinance is not intended to repeal, abrogate, or impair any existing easements, covenants, or deed restrictions. However, where this ordinance and another ordinance, easement, covenant, or deed restriction conflict or overlap, whichever imposes the more stringent restrictions shall prevail.
 - b. **Severability.** This ordinance and the various parts thereof are hereby declared to be severable. If any section clause, sentence, or phrase of the ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way effect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.
6. **Interpretation.** In the interpretation and application of this ordinance, all provisions shall be:
- a. Considered as minimum requirements;
 - b. Liberally construed in favor of the governing body; and
 - c. Deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted under state statutes.
7. **Warning and Disclaimer of Liability.**
- a. **Warning.** The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance 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 ordinance does not imply that land outside the areas of special flood hazards or uses permitted within such areas will be free from flooding or flood damages.
 - b. **Disclaimer of Liability.** This ordinance shall not create liability on the part of the City of Rockaway Beach, any officer or employee thereof, or the Federal Insurance Administrator for any flood damages that result from reliance on this ordinance or any administrative decision lawfully made hereunder.

Section 3.163. Administration.

1. **Designation of the Floodplain Administrator.**

The City Manager, or their designee, is hereby appointed to administer, implement, and enforce this ordinance by granting or denying development permits in accordance with its provisions. The Floodplain Administrator may delegate authority to implement these provisions.

2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator.

The duties of the floodplain administrator, or their designee, shall include, but not be limited to:

a. Permit Review.

Review of all development permits to determine:

- i. That the permit requirements of this ordinance have been satisfied;
- ii. That all other required local, state, and federal permits have been obtained and approved;
- iii. If the proposed development is located in a floodway. If located in the floodway assure that the floodway provisions of this ordinance in section 3.164.2.d are met; and
- iv. If the proposed development is located in an area where Base Flood Elevation (BFE) data is available either through the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) or from another authoritative source. If BFE data is not available then ensure compliance with the provisions of sections 3.164.1.g; and
- v. If the proposed development qualifies as a substantial improvement as defined in section 3.161.

b. Information to be Obtained and Maintained.

The following information shall be obtained and maintained and shall be made available for public inspection as needed:

- i. Obtain, record, and maintain the actual elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor (including basements) and all attendant utilities of all new or substantially improved structures where Base Flood Elevation (BFE) data is provided through the Flood Insurance Study (FIS), Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), or obtained in accordance with section 3.164.1.g.
- ii. Obtain and record the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the natural grade of the building site for a structure prior to the start of construction and the placement of any fill and ensure that the requirements of sections 3.164.2.d, 3.164.3.a.iv, 3.163.2.a.ii are adhered to.
- iii. Upon placement of the lowest floor of a structure (including basement) but prior to further vertical construction, obtain documentation, prepared and sealed by a professional licensed surveyor or engineer, certifying the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor (including basement).

- iv. Where Base Flood Elevation data are utilized, obtain as-built certification of the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the lowest floor (including basement) prepared and sealed by a professional licensed surveyor or engineer, prior to the final inspection.
- v. Maintain all Elevation Certificates (EC) submitted to the community; Obtain, record, and maintain the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which the structure and all attendant utilities were floodproofed for all new or substantially improved floodproofed structures where allowed under this ordinance and where Base Flood Elevation (BFE) data is provided through the FIS, FIRM, or obtained in accordance with section 3.164.1.g.
- vi. Maintain all floodproofing certificates required under this ordinance;
- vii. Record and maintain all variance actions, including justification for their issuance;
- viii. Obtain and maintain all hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed as required under section 3.164.2.d.
- ix. Record and maintain all Substantial Improvement and Substantial Damage calculations and determinations as required under section 3.163.2.d.
- x. Maintain for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this ordinance.

c. Requirement to Notify Other Entities and Submit New Technical Data.

i. Community Boundary Alterations.

The Floodplain Administrator shall notify the Federal Insurance Administrator in writing whenever the boundaries of the community have been modified by annexation or the community has otherwise assumed authority or no longer has authority to adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations for a particular area, to ensure that all Flood Hazard Boundary Maps (FHBM) and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) accurately represent the community's boundaries. Include within such notification a copy of a map of the community suitable for reproduction, clearly delineating the new corporate limits or new area for which the community has assumed or relinquished floodplain management regulatory authority.

ii. Watercourse Alterations.

Notify adjacent communities, the Department of Land Conservation and Development, and other appropriate state and federal agencies,

prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Federal Insurance Administration. This notification shall be provided by the applicant to the Federal Insurance Administration as a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) along with either:

1. A proposed maintenance plan to assure the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of the watercourse is maintained; or
2. Certification by a registered professional engineer that the project has been designed to retain its flood carrying capacity without periodic maintenance.

The applicant shall be required to submit a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) when required under section 3.163.2.c.iii. Ensure compliance with all applicable requirements in sections 3.163.2.c.iii and 3.164.1.a.

iii. **Requirement to Submit New Technical Data.**

A community's Base Flood Elevations may increase or decrease resulting from physical changes affecting flooding conditions. As soon as practicable, but not later than six months after the date such information becomes available, a community shall notify the Federal Insurance Administrator of the changes by submitting technical or scientific data in accordance with Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 65.3. The community may require the applicant to submit such data and review fees required for compliance with this section through the applicable FEMA Letter of Map Change (LOMC) process.

The Floodplain Administrator shall require a Conditional Letter of Map Revision prior to the issuance of a floodplain development permit for:

1. Proposed floodway encroachments that increase the Base Flood Elevation; and
2. Proposed development which increases the Base Flood Elevation by more than one foot in areas where FEMA has provided Base Flood Elevations but no floodway.

An applicant shall notify FEMA within six months of project completion when an applicant has obtained a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA. This notification to FEMA shall be provided as a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).

d. Substantial Improvement and Substantial Damage Assessment and Determinations.

Conduct Substantial Improvement (SI) (as defined in section 3.161) reviews for all structural development proposal applications and maintain a record of SI calculations within permit files in accordance with section 3.163.2.b.

Conduct Substantial Damage (SD) (as defined in section 3.161) assessments when structures are damaged due to a natural hazard event or other causes. Make SD determinations whenever structures within the special flood hazard area (as established in section 3.162.2) are damaged to the extent that 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.

3. Establishment of Development Permit.

a. Floodplain Development Permit Required.

A development permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins within any area horizontally within the special flood hazard area established in section 3.162 (2). The development permit shall be required for all structures, including manufactured dwellings, and for all development, as defined in section 3.161, including fill and other development activities.

b. Application for Development Permit.

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

- i. In riverine flood zones, the proposed elevation (in relation to mean sea level), of the lowest floor (including basement) and all attendant utilities of all new and substantially improved structures; in accordance with the requirements of section 3163.2.b.
- ii. In coastal flood zones (V zones and coastal A zones), 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 all structures, and whether such structures contain a basement;
- iii. Proposed elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any non-residential structure will be floodproofed.

- iv. Certification by a registered professional engineer or architect licensed in the State of Oregon that the floodproofing method proposed for any non-residential structure meets the floodproofing criteria for non-residential structures in section 3.164.2.c.iii.
- v. Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated.
- vi. Base Flood Elevation data for subdivision proposals or other development when required per sections 3.163.2.a and 3.164.1.f.
- vii. Substantial improvement calculation for any improvement, addition, reconstruction, renovation, or rehabilitation of an existing structure.
- viii. The amount and location of any fill or excavation activities proposed.

4. **Variance Procedure.**

The issuance of a variance is for floodplain management purposes only. Flood insurance premium rates are determined by federal statute according to actuarial risk and will not be modified by the granting of a variance.

a. **Conditions for Variances.**

- i. 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, in conformance with the provisions of sections 3.163.3.a.iii, 3.163.3.a.v, and 3.163.3.b. As the lot size increases beyond one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing a variance increases.
- ii. Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.
- iii. Variances shall not be issued within a designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
- iv. Variances shall only be issued upon:
 - 1. A showing of good and sufficient cause;
 - 2. A determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant;
 - 3. 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.

- v. 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 the criteria of section 3.163.3.a.ii through 3.163.3.a.iv are met, and 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.
- vi. The administrative procedure for hearing a variance shall be as established in section 8.050.

b. Variance Notification.

Any applicant to whom a variance is granted shall be given written notice that the issuance of a variance to construct a structure below the Base Flood Elevation will result in increased premium rates for flood insurance and that such construction below the Base Flood Elevation increases risk to life and property. Such notification and record of all variance actions, including justification for their issuance shall be maintained in accordance with section 3163.1.b.

Section 3.164. Provisions for Flood Hazard Reduction.

1. General Standards.

In all special flood hazard areas, the following standards shall be adhered to:

a. Alteration of Watercourses.

Require that the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse is maintained. Require that maintenance is provided within the altered or relocated portion of said watercourse to ensure that the flood carrying capacity is not diminished. Require compliance with sections 3.163.2.c.ii and 3.163.2.c.iii.

b. Anchoring.

- i. All new construction and substantial improvement shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy.
- ii. All manufactured dwellings shall be anchored per section 3.163.2.c.iv.

c. Construction Materials and Methods.

- i. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials and utility equipment resistant to flood damage.

- ii. All new construction and substantial improvements shall be constructed using methods and practices that minimize flood damage.

d. Utilities and Equipment.

i. Water Supply, Sanitary Sewer, and On-Site Waste Disposal Systems.

- 1. All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system.
- 2. New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the systems and discharges from the systems into flood waters.

ii. Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Other Equipment.

Electrical, heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, plumbing, duct systems, and other equipment and service facilities shall be elevated one-foot or more above the base flood level or shall be designed and installed to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components and to resist hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and stresses, including the effects of buoyancy, during conditions of flooding. In addition, electrical, heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, plumbing, duct systems, and other equipment and service facilities shall:

- 1. If replaced as part of a substantial improvement shall meet all the requirements of this section.
- 2. Not be mounted on or penetrate through breakaway walls.

e. Tanks.

- i. Underground tanks shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse and lateral movement under conditions of the base flood.
- ii. Above-ground tanks shall be installed one-foot or more above the base flood level or shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, and lateral movement under conditions of the base flood.
- iii. In coastal flood zones (V Zones or coastal A Zones) when elevated on platforms, the platforms shall be cantilevered from or knee braced to the building or shall be supported on foundations that conform to the requirements of the State of Oregon Specialty Code.

f. Subdivision Proposals and Other Proposed Developments.

- i. All new subdivision proposals and other proposed new developments (including proposals for manufactured dwelling parks and subdivisions) greater than 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is the lesser, shall include within such proposals, Base Flood Elevation data.
- ii. All new subdivision proposals and other proposed new developments (including proposals for manufactured dwelling parks and subdivisions) shall:
 - 1. Be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage.
 - 2. Have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
 - 3. Have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.

g. Use of Other Base Flood Elevation Data.

When Base Flood Elevation data has not been provided in accordance with section 3.162. 2 the local floodplain administrator shall obtain, review, and reasonably utilize any Base Flood Elevation data available from a federal, state, or other source, in order to administer section 3.164. All new subdivision proposals and other proposed new developments (including proposals for manufactured dwelling parks and subdivisions) must meet the requirements of section 3.164.1.f.

Base Flood Elevations shall be determined for development proposals that are 5 acres or more in size or are 50 lots or more, whichever is lesser in any A zone that does not have an established base flood elevation. Development proposals located within a riverine unnumbered A Zone shall be reasonably safe from flooding; the test of reasonableness includes use of historical data, high water marks, FEMA provided Base Level Engineering data, and photographs of past flooding, etc... where available. Failure to elevate at least two feet above grade in these zones may result in higher insurance rates.

h. Structures Located in Multiple or Partial Flood Zones.

In coordination with the State of Oregon Specialty Codes:

- i. When a structure is located in multiple flood zones on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) the provisions for the more restrictive flood zone shall apply.
- ii. When a structure is partially located in a special flood hazard area, the entire structure shall meet the requirements for new construction and substantial improvements.

i. Fill.

- i. Prohibit the use of fill for landscaping or aesthetic purposes that increases the natural elevation of the ground surface prior to the placement of fill by 2 feet.

2. Specific Standards for Riverine (Including All Non-Coastal) Flood Zones.

These specific standards shall apply to all new construction and substantial improvements in addition to the general standards contained in section 3.164.1 of this ordinance.

a. Flood Openings.

All new construction and substantial improvements with fully enclosed areas below the lowest floor (excluding basements) are subject to the following requirements. Enclosed areas below the Base Flood Elevation, including crawl spaces shall:

- i. Be designed to automatically equalize hydrostatic flood forces on walls by allowing for the entry and exit of floodwaters;
- ii. Be used solely for parking, storage, or building access;
- iii. Be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect or meet or exceed all of the following minimum criteria:
 - 1. A minimum of two openings,
 - 2. The total net area of non-engineered openings shall be not less than one (1) square inch for each square foot of enclosed area, where the enclosed area is measured on the exterior of the enclosure walls,
 - 3. The bottom of all openings shall be no higher than one foot above grade.
 - 4. Openings may be equipped with screens, louvers, valves, or other coverings or devices provided that they shall allow the automatic flow of floodwater into and out of the enclosed areas and shall be accounted for in the determination of the net open area.
 - 5. All additional higher standards for flood openings in the State of Oregon Residential Specialty Codes Section R322.2.2 shall be complied with when applicable.

b. Garages.

- i. Attached garages may be constructed with the garage floor slab below the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) in riverine flood zones, if the following requirements are met:

1. If located within a floodway the proposed garage must comply with the requirements of section 3.164.2.d.
 2. The floors are at or above grade on not less than one side;
 3. The garage is used solely for parking, building access, and/or storage;
 4. The garage is constructed with flood openings in compliance with section 3.164.2.a to equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls by allowing for the automatic entry and exit of floodwater.
 5. The portions of the garage constructed below the BFE are constructed with materials resistant to flood damage;
 6. The garage is constructed in compliance with the standards in section 3.164.1; and
 7. The garage is constructed with electrical, and other service facilities located and installed so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of the base flood.
- ii. Detached garages must be constructed in compliance with the standards for appurtenant structures in section 3.164.2.c.vi or non-residential structures in section 3.164.2.c.iii depending on the square footage of the garage.
- c. **For Riverine (Non-Coastal) Special Flood Hazard Areas with Base Flood Elevations.**

In addition to the general standards listed in section 3.164.1 the following specific standards shall apply in Riverine (non-coastal) special flood hazard areas with Base Flood Elevations (BFE): Zones A1-A30, AH, and AE.

i. **Before Regulatory Floodway.**

1. In areas where a regulatory floodway has not been designated, no new construction, substantial improvement, or other development (including fill) shall be permitted within Zones A1-30 and AE on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), unless it is demonstrated 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 point within the community and will not result in the net loss of flood storage volume.

ii. **Residential Construction.**

1. New construction, conversion to, and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor, including basement, elevated one-foot or more above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE).
2. Enclosed areas below the lowest floor shall comply with the flood opening requirements in section 3.164.2.a.
3. New construction, conversion to, and substantial improvement of any structure with multiple primary uses shall conform to the standards of Residential Construction when one of the uses includes a primary residential use.

iii. **Non-Residential Construction.**

1. New construction, conversion to, and substantial improvement of any commercial, industrial, or other non-residential structure shall:
 - a. Have the lowest floor, including basement elevated one-foot or more above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE);
Or, together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities:
 - i. Be floodproofed so that below the base flood level the structure is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water.
 - ii. Have structural components capable of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and effects of buoyancy.
 - iii. Be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect that the design and methods of construction are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting provisions of this section based on their development and/or review of the structural design, specifications and plans. Such certifications shall be provided to the Floodplain Administrator as set forth in section 3.163.2.b.
2. Non-residential structures that are elevated, not floodproofed, shall comply with the standards for enclosed areas below the lowest floor in section 3.164.2.a.
3. Applicants floodproofing non-residential buildings shall be notified that flood insurance premiums will be based on rates

that are one foot below the floodproofed level (e.g. a building floodproofed to the base flood level will be rated as one foot below).

iv. **Manufactured Dwellings.**

1. Manufactured dwellings to be placed (new or replacement) or substantially improved that are supported on solid foundation walls shall be constructed with flood openings that comply with section 3.164.2.a;
2. The bottom of the longitudinal chassis frame beam shall be at or above Base Flood Elevation;
3. Manufactured dwellings to be placed (new or replacement) or substantially improved shall be anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, and lateral movement during the base flood. Anchoring methods may include, but are not limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors (Reference FEMA's "Manufactured Home Installation in Flood Hazard Areas" guidebook for additional techniques), and;
4. Electrical crossover connections shall be a minimum of 12 inches above Base Flood Elevation (BFE).

v. **Recreational Vehicles.**

Recreational vehicles placed on sites are required to:

1. Be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, and
2. Be fully licensed and ready for highway use, 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; or
3. Meet the requirements of section 3.164.2.c.iv, including the anchoring and elevation requirements for manufactured dwellings.

vi. **Appurtenant (Accessory) Structures.**

Relief from elevation or floodproofing requirements for residential and non-residential structures in Riverine (Non-Coastal) flood zones may be granted for appurtenant structures that meet the following requirements:

1. Appurtenant structures located partially or entirely within the floodway must comply with requirements for development within a floodway found in section 3.164.2.d.

2. Appurtenant structures must only be used for parking, access, and/or storage and shall not be used for human habitation;
3. In compliance with State of Oregon Specialty Codes, appurtenant structures on properties that are zoned residential are limited to one-story structures less than 200 square feet, or 400 square feet if the property is greater than two acres in area and the proposed appurtenant structure will be located a minimum of 20 feet from all property lines. Appurtenant structures on properties that are zoned as non-residential are limited in size to 120 square feet.
4. The portions of the appurtenant structure located below the Base Flood Elevation must be built using flood resistant materials;
5. The appurtenant structure must be adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse, and lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy, during conditions of the base flood.
6. The appurtenant structure must be designed and constructed to equalize hydrostatic flood forces on exterior walls and comply with the requirements for flood openings in section 3.164.2.a;
7. Appurtenant structures shall be located and constructed to have low damage potential;
8. Appurtenant structures shall not be used to store toxic material, oil, or gasoline, or any priority persistent pollutant identified by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality unless confined in a tank installed in compliance with section 3.164.1.e.
9. Appurtenant structures shall be constructed with electrical, mechanical, and other service facilities located and installed so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of the base flood.

d. Floodways.

Located within the special flood hazard areas established in section 3.162.2 are areas designated as floodways. Since the floodway is an extremely hazardous area due to the velocity of the floodwaters which carry debris, potential projectiles, and erosion potential, the following provisions apply:

- i. Prohibit encroachments, including fill, new construction, substantial improvements, and other development within the adopted regulatory floodway unless:
 - 1. Certification by a registered professional civil engineer is provided demonstrating through hydrologic and hydraulic analyses performed in accordance with standard engineering practice that the proposed encroachment shall not result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge; Or,
 - 2. A community may permit encroachments within the adopted regulatory floodway that would result in an increase in base flood elevations, provided that conditional approval has been obtained by the Federal Insurance Administrator through the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) application process, all requirements established under 44 CFR 65.12 are fulfilled.
 - ii. If the requirements of section 3.164.2.d.i are satisfied, all new construction, substantial improvements, and other development shall comply with all other applicable flood hazard reduction provisions of section 3.164.
- e. **Standards for Shallow Flooding Areas.**
- Shallow flooding areas appear on FIRMs as AO zones with depth designations or as AH zones with Base Flood Elevations. For AO zones the base flood depths range from one to three feet above ground where a clearly defined channel does not exist, or where the path of flooding is unpredictable and where velocity flow may be evident. Such flooding is usually characterized as sheet flow. For both AO and AH zones, adequate drainage paths are required around structures on slopes to guide floodwaters around and away from proposed structures.
- i. **Standards for AH Zones.**
- Development within AH Zones must comply with the standards in sections 3.164.1, 3.164.2, and 3.164.2.e.
- ii. **Standards for AO Zones.**
- In AO zones, the following provisions apply in addition to the requirements in sections 3.164.1 and 3.164.2.e:
- 1. New construction, conversion to, and substantial improvement of residential structures and manufactured dwellings within AO zones shall have the lowest floor, including

basement, elevated above the highest grade adjacent to the building, at minimum of one foot above the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) (at least two (2) feet if no depth number is specified). For manufactured dwellings the lowest floor is considered to be the bottom of the longitudinal chassis frame beam.

2. New construction, conversion to, and substantial improvements of non-residential structures within AO zones shall either:
 - a. Have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated above the highest adjacent grade of the building site, at minimum one foot above the depth number specified on the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS) (at least two (2) feet if no depth number is specified); or
 - b. Together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be completely floodproofed to one foot above the depth number specified on the FIRM or a minimum of two (2) feet above the highest adjacent grade if no depth number is specified, so that any space below that level is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and with structural components having the capability of resisting hydrostatic and hydrodynamic loads and the effects of buoyancy. If this method is used, compliance shall be certified by a registered professional engineer or architect as stated in section 3.164.2.c.iii.
3. Recreational vehicles placed on sites within AO Zones on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) shall either:
 - a. Be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, and
 - b. Be fully licensed and ready for highway use, 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; or
 - c. Meet the elevation requirements of section 3.164.2.e.ii.1, and the anchoring and other requirements for manufactured dwellings of section 3.164.2.c.iv.

4. In AO zones, new and substantially improved appurtenant structures must comply with the standards in section 3.164.2.c.vi.
5. In AO zones, enclosed areas beneath elevated structures shall comply with the requirements in section 3.164.2.a.

3. Specific Standards for Coastal High Hazard Flood Zones.

Located within special flood hazard areas established in section 3.162.2 are Coastal High Hazard Areas, designated as Zones V1-V30, VE, V, or coastal A zones as identified on the FIRMs as the area between the Limit of Moderate Wave Action (LiMWA) and the Zone V boundary. These areas have special flood hazards associated with high velocity waters from surges and, therefore, in addition to meeting all provisions of this ordinance and the State of Oregon Specialty Codes, the following provisions shall apply in addition to the general standards provisions in section 3.164.1.

a. Development Standards.

- i. All new construction and substantial improvements in Zones V1-V30 and VE, V, and coastal A zones (where base flood elevation data is available) shall be elevated on pilings and columns such that:
 1. The bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor (excluding the pilings or columns) is elevated a minimum of one foot and six inches above the base flood level; and
 2. The pile or column foundation and structure attached thereto is anchored to resist flotation, collapse and lateral movement due to the effects of wind and water loads acting simultaneously on all building components. Water loading values used shall be those associated with the base flood. Wind loading values used shall be those specified by the State of Oregon Specialty Codes.
- ii. A registered professional engineer or architect shall develop or review the structural design, specifications and plans for the construction, and shall certify that the design and methods of construction to be used are in accordance with accepted standards of practice for meeting the provisions of this section.
- iii. Obtain the elevation (in relation to mean sea level) of the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member of the lowest floor (excluding pilings and columns) of all new and substantially improved structures

and whether or not such structures contain a basement. The floodplain administrator shall maintain a record of all such information in accordance with section 3.163.2.b.

- iv. Provide that all new construction and substantial improvements have the space below the lowest floor either free of 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.

For the purpose of this section, a breakaway wall shall have a design safe loading resistance of not less than 10 and no more than 20 pounds per square foot. Use of breakaway walls which exceed a design safe loading resistance of 20 pounds per square foot (either by design or when so required by local or state codes) may be permitted only if a registered professional engineer or architect certifies that the designs proposed meet the following conditions:

1. Breakaway wall collapse shall result from water load less than that which would occur during the base flood; and
 2. If breakaway walls are utilized, such enclosed space shall be useable solely for parking of vehicles, building access, or storage. Such space shall not be used for human habitation.
 3. Walls intended to break away under flood loads shall have flood openings that meet or exceed the criteria for flood openings in section 3.164.2.a.
- v. The elevated portion of the building and supporting foundation system shall 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 nonstructural). Maximum water loading values to be used in this determination shall be those associated with the base flood. Maximum wind loading values used shall be those specified by the State of Oregon Specialty Codes.
 - vi. Prohibit the use of fill for structural support of buildings.
 - vii. All new construction shall be located landward of the reach of mean high tide.
 - viii. Prohibit man-made alteration of sand dunes which would increase potential flood damage.

- ix. All structures, including but not limited to residential structures, non-residential structures, appurtenant structures, and attached garages shall comply with all the requirements of section 3.164.3.a
Floodproofing of non-residential structures is prohibited.

b. Manufactured Dwelling Standards.

All manufactured dwellings to be placed (new or replacement) or substantially improved within Coastal High Hazard Areas (Zones V, V1-30, VE, or Coastal A) shall meet the following requirements:

- i. Comply with all of the standards within section 3.164.3;
- ii. The bottom of the longitudinal chassis frame beam shall be elevated to a minimum of one foot above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE); and
- iii. Electrical crossover connections shall be a minimum of 12 inches above the BFE.

c. Recreational Vehicle Standards.

Recreational Vehicles within Coastal High Hazard Areas (Zones V, V1-30, VE, or Coastal A) shall either:

- i. Be on the site for fewer than 180 consecutive days, and
- ii. Be fully licensed and ready for highway use, 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; or
- iii. Meet the permit requirements of section 3.163 and the requirements for manufactured dwellings in section 3.164.3.b.

d. Tank Standards.

Tanks shall meet the requirements of section 3.164.1.e.

Section 3.165. Restrictions and Prohibited Uses.

1. **Restrictions.** Restrictions regarding height, rear yards, side yards, front yard setbacks, minimum lot area, signs, vision clearance and parking space shall be the same as set forth in each specific zone located within the Flood Hazard Overlay Zone area.
2. **Prohibited Uses.** It shall be unlawful to erect, alter, maintain or establish in a flood hazard overlay zone any building, use or occupancy not permitted or allowed in the foregoing provisions, except existing nonconforming uses, which may continue as provided in Article 7.

Section 3.166. Critical Facilities.

Construction of new critical facilities shall be, to the extent possible, located outside the limits of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) (100-year floodplain). Construction of new critical facilities shall be permissible within the SFHA if no feasible alternative site is available. Critical facilities constructed within the SFHA shall have the lowest floor elevated three feet above BFE or to the height of the 500-year flood, whichever is higher. Access to and from the critical facility should also be protected to the height utilized above. Floodproofing and sealing measures must be taken to ensure that toxic substances will not be displaced by or released into floodwaters. Access routes elevated to or above the level of the base flood elevation shall be provided to all critical facilities to the extent possible.

8/12/2026

Dear City Planner, City Manager, Mayor, and Planning Commissioners,

I would like to speak for the bike riders, who are shoppers, visitors, residents and restaurant patrons.

I would like us to help our businesses connect to those patrons and shoppers.

I want our City to help our citizens & visitors with options for transportation, parking and biking and pedestrian access to parks, neighborhoods, the beach and to school.

Bike racks are the beginning step to making Rockaway Beach a safe bikeable and walkable community with a future network of biking/walking trails and paths. This aligns with our Strategic Plan through Improving Year-round economic vitality, Exploring financial options to improve downtown, Expanding Recreation opportunities and Completing Parks and Trails Master Plan

Here in Rockaway Beach, customers do not have a safe place to lock their bikes when they ride into the business district to buy groceries, shop at a gift shop or get a meal or at any of our Beach access points outside of the Wayside. There are often bikes piled on top of one another along our business corridor looking and hoping for a safe place to be locked.

Dollar General, no rack

Center Market, no rack

Simply Charming,

Bay Ocean Food court,

Sea Breeze Ice cream, no racks

The Hope Chest - no rack but...The Hope Chest does have a great place to have a rack in their drive-through area - We encourage that.

Put-Put!!! Needs a Rack!

Bravos

Joes Snacks

Green Coast Market

Ricks Roadhouse,

Tie Breaker

Both Center Markets

Pelican Brewing
And absolutely, Pronto Pup!

I would like to encourage our city to offer businesses bike racks and guidance on installation and placement at their business locations. Businesses have the option to install racks on their sidewalk areas. This can be in front of their stores, or other accessible locations near the entrances of their buildings. Businesses can make the choice to have bike racks on their property.

I would encourage Rockaway Beach businesses to request a bike rack from our city. They could include that in the facade enhancement grant applications or as part of the city's sidewalk, curb and bikeways budgeted expenses. This offers Business owners a better way to serve your customers and connect to your patrons.

Install Racks! It's good for business. It's good for Rockaway Beach.

Thank you,
Lydia Hess
Rockaway Beach Planning Commissioner
Co-Founder of Ride Rockaway
Rockaway Beach Citizens for Biking