

DEPTH CRITERION, FLOODPLAIN
MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 4-88

Land within the depth criterion portion of the identified 100-year floodplain which is below the base flood elevation, but at an elevation which is at or above the base flood elevation (bfe) minus the specified depth criterion, as shown on the effective Flood Insurance Rate Map in selected reaches of the floodplain(s), are hereby designated as the floodway fringe. For example, base flood elevation equals 20' NGVD and the depth criterion equals 3', then the floodway fringe property would be that which is at or above (20' - 3' = 17' NGVD). These fringe areas may be developed, or otherwise filled, above the base flood elevation, without performing an analysis of impact on flood levels. However, levee systems or other continuous fills in the floodway fringe exceeding 500 feet in any dimension or forming a potential barrier to the movement of waters during the occurrence of the base flood are not permitted unless hydrologic and hydraulic analyses, certified by a registered professional engineer demonstrating 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.

No development, including fill, may be placed within designated floodways, natural stream channels or other floodplain areas not designated as floodway fringe unless a hydrologic and hydraulic analysis, certified by a registered professional engineer, demonstrates that no increase in base flood elevations throughout the watershed will occur. Since AO and AH Zones do not have floodways this would not apply.

Prior to granting a permit for the construction of a structure designed for purposes of human occupancy, the floodplain administrator or another responsible community official must conduct an on site visit and review where the depth of flooding would equal or exceed 1.5 feet or where access roads would be inundated by depths greater than 1.5 feet. The purpose of the visit and review is to assess the availability of suitable evacuation routes and emergency services capability during the occurrence of the discharge of the 100-year flood. Where there would be a danger to health and/or safety with regard to evacuation and emergency services, the development permit request should be denied.

Passed and Approved this 18 day of July 1988

Mary M. Coleman
Mayor

ATTEST:

Clean C. Coleman Sec. - 2.