

TITLE 7

CHAPTER 8

**FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION**

**60.3(b)**

SECTION:

- 7-8-1: Statutory Authorization, Findings of Fact, Purpose and Methods
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**7-8-1: STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION, FINDINGS OF FACT, PURPOSE AND METHODS**

A. Statutory Authorization:

1. The Legislature of the State of Utah Code Ann. § 10-3-701 and Utah Code Ann. § 17-53201 delegated the responsibility of local governmental units to adopt regulations designed to minimize flood losses. Therefore, the City Council of the City of River Heights, Utah, does ordain as follows:
2. The City of River Heights elects to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (P.L. 90-488, as amended). The National Flood Insurance Program, established in the aforesaid act, provides that areas of the city having a special flood hazard be identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and that floodplain management measures be applied in such flood hazard areas. The National Flood Insurance Program was broadened and modified with the passage of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and other legislative measures. It was further modified by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994. The National Flood Insurance Program is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, a component of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

B. Findings of Fact:

1. The flood hazard areas of the City of River Heights are subject to periodic inundation that results in loss of life and property, health and safety hazards, disruption of commerce and governmental services, and extraordinary public expenditures for flood protection and relief, all of which adversely affect the public health, safety and general welfare.
2. These flood losses are created by the cumulative effect of obstructions in floodplains which cause an increase in flood heights and velocities, and by the occupancy of flood hazards areas by uses vulnerable to floods and hazardous

to other lands because they are inadequately elevated, flood-proofed or otherwise protected from flood damage.

C. Statement of Purpose: It is the purpose of this ordinance 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. Protect human life and health;
2. Minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
3. Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
4. Minimize prolonged business interruptions;
5. Minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, streets and bridges located in floodplains;
6. Help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of floodprone areas in such a manner as to minimize future flood blight areas; and
7. Insure that potential buyers are notified that property is in a flood area.

D. Methods of Reducing Flood Losses: In order to accomplish its purposes, this ordinance uses the following methods:

1. Restrict or prohibit uses that are dangerous to health, safety or property in times of flood, or cause excessive increases 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 flood damage;
5. Prevent or regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert floodwaters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands.

**7-8-2: DEFINITIONS**

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

AREA OF FUTURE-CONDITIONS FLOOD HAZARD:	The land area that would be inundated by the one percent (1%) annual chance (100-year) flood based on future-conditions hydrology.
AREA OF SHALLOW FLOODING:	A designated AO, AH, AR/AO, AR/AH, or VO zone on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) with a one percent (1%) or greater annual chance of flooding to an average depth of one (1) to three (3) 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-RELATED EROSION HAZARD :	The land within a community which is most likely to be subject to severe flood-related erosion losses. The area may be designated as Zone E on the Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM). After the detailed evaluation of the special flood related erosion hazard area; in preparation for publication of the FIRM, Zone E may be further refined.
AREA OF SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD:	The land in the flood plain within a community subject to a one percent (1%) or greater chance of flooding in any given year. The area may be designated as Zone A on the FHBM. After detailed rate-making has been completed in preparation for publication of the flood insurance rate map, Zone A usually is refined into Zones A, AO, AH, A130, AE, A99, AR, AR/A1-30, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/AH, AR/A, VO, or V1-30, VE, or V. For purposes of these regulations, the term "special flood hazard area" is synonymous in meaning 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.
BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (BFE):	The water surface elevation of the one (1) percent annual chance flood. The height in relation to mean sea level expected to be reached by the waters of the base flood at pertinent points in the floodplains of coastal and riverine areas.
BASEMENT:	Any area of the building having its floor subgrade (below ground level) on all sides.
BREAKAWAY WALL:	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 supporting foundation system.
BUILDING:	See <i>Structure</i> .

DEVELOPMENT:	Any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to buildings or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials.
EROSION:	The process of the gradual wearing away of land masses. This peril is not per se covered under the Program.
EXISTING CONSTRUCTION:	For the purposes of determining rates, structures for which the “start of construction” commenced before the effective date of the FIRM or before January 1, 1975, for FIRMs effective before that date. “Existing construction” may also be referred to as “existing structures.”
EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION:	A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including, at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed before the effective date of the floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.
EXISTING STRUCTURES:	See <i>Existing Construction</i> .
EXPANSION TO AN EXISTING MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION:	The preparation of additional sites by the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufacturing 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).
FLOOD OR FLOODING:	<p>A. A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land areas from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The overflow of inland or tidal waters.</li> <li>2. The unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.</li> <li>3. Mudslides (i.e., mudflows) which are proximately caused by flooding as defined in paragraph A.2. 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.</li> </ol> <p>B. 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</p>

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 A.1. of this definition.

FLOOD  
ELEVATION  
DETERMINATION:

A determination by the Administrator of the water surface elevations of the base flood, that is, the flood level that has a one percent (1%) or greater chance of occurrence in any given year.

FLOOD  
INSURANCE  
RATE MAP  
(FIRM):

An official map of a community, on which the Administrator has delineated both the special hazard areas and the risk premium zones applicable to the community.

FLOOD  
INSURANCE  
STUDY OR  
FLOOD  
ELEVATION  
STUDY:

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 PLAIN OR  
FLOOD-PRONE  
AREA:

Any land area susceptible to being inundated by water from any source (see definition of "flooding").

FLOOD  
PROOFING:

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:

See *Regulatory Floodway*.

FLOODWAY  
ENCROACHMENT  
LINES:

The lines marking the limits of floodways on Federal, State and local flood plain maps.

FREEBOARD:

A factor of safety usually expressed in feet above a flood level for purposes of flood plain management. "Freeboard" tends to compensate for the many unknown factors that could contribute to flood heights greater than the height calculated for a selected size flood and floodway conditions, such as wave action, bridge openings, and the hydrological effect of urbanization of the watershed.

FUNCTIONALLY  
DEPENDENT  
USE:

A use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship

building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities.

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:

- A. 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;
- B. Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
- C. Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic reservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
- D. Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
  - 1. By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, or
  - 2. Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.

LEVEE:

A man-made structure usually an earthen embankment, designed and constructed in accordance with sound engineering practices to contain, control, or divert the flow of water so as to provide protection from temporary flooding.

LEVEE SYSTEM:

A flood protection system which consists of a levee, or levees, and associated structures, such as closure and drainage devices, which are constructed and operated in accordance with sound engineering practices.

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 Sec. 60.3.

MANUFACTURED HOME:	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 home” does not include a “recreational vehicle.”
MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION:	A parcel (or contiguous parcels) of land divided into two or more manufactured home lots for rent or sale.
MAP:	The Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) or the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for a community issued by the Agency.
MEAN SEA LEVEL:	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 the purposes of determining insurance rates, structures for which the “start of construction” commenced on or after the effective date of an initial FIRM or after December 31, 1974, whichever is later, and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures. 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 a community and includes any subsequent improvements to such structures.
NEW MANUFACTURED HOME PARK OR SUBDIVISION:	A manufactured home park or subdivision for which the construction of facilities for servicing the lots on which the manufactured homes are to be affixed (including at a minimum, the installation of utilities, the construction of streets, and either final site grading or the pouring of concrete pads) is completed on or after the effective date of floodplain management regulations adopted by a community.
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE:	A vehicle which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Built on a single chassis;</li><li>B. 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;</li><li>C. Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and</li></ul>

- D. Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

REGULATORY 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.

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA:

See *Area of Special Flood Hazard*.

SPECIAL HAZARD AREA:

An area having special flood, mudslide (i.e., mudflow), or flood related erosion hazards, and shown on an FHBM or FIRM as Zone A, AO, A1-30, AE, AR, AR/A1-30, AR/AE, AR/AO, AR/AH, AR/A, A99, AH, VO, V1-30, VE, V, M, or E.

START OF CONSTRUCTION:

(For other than new construction or substantial improvements under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (Pub. L. 97-348)). Includes substantial improvement, and means the date the building permit was issued provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition placement, or other improvement was within 180 days of the permit date. 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 home on a foundation. Permanent construction does not include land preparation, such as clearing, grading and filling; nor does it include the installation of streets and/or walkways; nor does it include excavation for 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 FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT PURPOSES):

A walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, which is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home.

STRUCTURE (INSURANCE PURPOSES):

- A. A building with two or more outside rigid walls and a fully secured roof, that is affixed to a permanent site;

- B. A manufactured home (“a manufactured home,” also known as a mobile home, is a structure built on a permanent chassis, transported to its site in one or more sections, and affixed to a permanent foundation); or
- C. A travel trailer without wheels built on a chassis and affixed to a permanent foundation that is regulated under the community's floodplain management and building ordinances or laws.

For the latter purpose, “structure” does not mean a recreational vehicle or a park trailer or other similar vehicle, except as described in paragraph (C) of this definition, or a gas or liquid storage tank.

**SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE:** Damage of any origin sustained by a structure whereby the cost of restoring the structure to it’s before damaged condition would equal or exceed 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the damage occurred.

**SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT:** 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. 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 a community 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 flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in Sec. 60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided.

**WATER SURFACE ELEVATION:** The height, in relation to the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929, (or other datum, where specified) of floods of various magnitudes and frequencies in the flood plains of coastal or riverine areas.

**7-8-3: GENERAL PROVISIONS:**

- A. Lands to which this Ordinance Applies: The ordinance shall apply to all areas of special flood hazard within the jurisdiction of the City of River Heights.
- B. Basis for Establishing the Areas of Special Flood Hazard: 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 City of River Heights," dated May 24, 2011, with accompanying (date maps will become effective) Flood Insurance Rate Maps and Flood Boundary-Floodway Maps (FIRM and FBFM) and any revisions thereto are hereby adopted by reference and declared to be a part of this ordinance.
- C. Establishment of Development Permit: A Development Permit shall be required to ensure conformance with the provisions of this ordinance.
- D. Compliance: No structure or land shall hereafter be located, altered, or have its use changed without full compliance with the terms of this ordinance and other applicable regulations.
- E. Abrogation and Greater Restrictions: 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.
- F. Interpretation: In the interpretation and application of this ordinance, all provisions shall be:
  - 1. Considered as minimum requirements;
  - 2. Liberally construed in favor of the governing body; and
  - 3. Deemed neither to limit nor repeal any other powers granted under State statutes.
- G. Warning and Disclaimer or Liability: The degree of flood protection required by this ordinance is considered reasonable for regulatory purposes and is based on scientific and engineering considerations. On rare occasions greater floods can and will occur and 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. This ordinance shall not create liability on the part of the community or any official or employee thereof for any flood damages that result from reliance on this ordinance or any administrative decision lawfully made there under.
- H. Severability: If a court adjudges any section, provision, or portion of this ordinance unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of the ordinance shall not be affected.

- I. Automatic Adoption: The City of River Heights automatically adopts effective FEMA Flood Insurance Studies (FIS), and automatically adopts effective FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

**7-8-4: ADMINISTRATION**

- A. Designation of the Floodplain Administrator: The City Building Official is hereby appointed the Floodplain Administrator to administer and implement the provisions of this ordinance and other appropriate sections of 44 CFR (National Flood Insurance Program Regulations) pertaining to floodplain management.
- B. Duties and Responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator: Duties and responsibilities of the Floodplain Administrator shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  1. Maintain and hold open for public inspection all records pertaining to the provisions of this ordinance.
  2. Review permit application to determine whether proposed building site, including the placement of manufactured homes, will be reasonably safe from flooding.
  3. Review, approve or deny all applications for development permits required by adoption of this ordinance.
  4. Review permits for proposed development to assure that all necessary permits have been obtained from those Federal, State or local governmental agencies (including Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, 33 U.S.C. 1334) from which prior approval is required.
  5. Where interpretation is needed as to the exact location of the boundaries of the areas of special flood hazards (for example, where there appears to be a conflict between a mapped boundary and actual field conditions) the Floodplain Administrator shall make the necessary interpretation.
  6. Notify, in riverine situations, adjacent communities and the State Coordinating Agency which is the Utah National Floodplain Coordinator, prior to any alteration or relocation of a watercourse, and submit evidence of such notification to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
  7. Assure that the flood carrying capacity within the altered or relocated portion of any watercourse is maintained.
  8. When base flood elevation data has not been provided in accordance with 7-8-3, Section B, the Floodplain Administrator shall obtain, review and reasonably utilize any base flood elevation data and floodway data available from a Federal, State or other source, in order to administer the provisions of 7-8-3.

C. Permit Procedures:

1. Application for a Development Permit shall be presented to the Floodplain Administrator on forms furnished by him/her and may include, but not be limited to, plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the location, dimensions, and elevation of proposed landscape alterations, existing and proposed structures, including the placement of manufactured homes, and the location of the foregoing in relation to areas of special flood hazard. Additionally, the following information is required:
  - a. Elevation (in relation to mean sea level), of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new and substantially improved structures;  
  
Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any nonresidential structure shall be floodproofed;
  - b. A certificate from a registered professional engineer or architect that the nonresidential floodproofed structure shall meet the floodproofing criteria of 7-8-5.B.2.;
  - c. Description of the extent to which any watercourse or natural drainage will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.
  - d. Maintain a record of all such information in accordance with 7-8-4.B.1.
2. Approval or denial of a Development Permit by the Floodplain Administrator shall be based on all of the provisions of this ordinance and the following relevant factors:
  - a. The danger to life and property due to flooding or erosion damage;
  - b. The susceptibility of the proposed facility and its contents to flood damage and the effect of such damage on the individual owner;
  - c. The danger that materials may be swept onto other lands to the injury of others;
  - d. The compatibility of the proposed use with existing and anticipated development;
  - e. The safety of access to the property in times of flood for ordinary and emergency vehicles;
  - f. The costs of providing governmental services during and after flood conditions including maintenance and repair of streets and bridges, and public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems;
  - g. 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;

- h. The necessity to the facility of a waterfront location, where applicable;
- i. The availability of alternative locations, not subject to flooding or erosion damage, for the proposed use;
- j. The relationship of the proposed use to the comprehensive plan for that area.

D. Variance Procedures:

1. The appeal Board as established by the community shall hear and render judgment on requests for variances from the requirements of this ordinance.
2. The Appeal Board shall hear and render judgment on an appeal only when it is alleged there is an error in any requirement, decision, or determination made by the Floodplain Administrator in the enforcement or administration of this ordinance.
3. Any person or persons aggrieved by the decision of the Appeal Board may appeal such decision in the courts of competent jurisdiction.
4. The Floodplain Administrator shall maintain a record of all actions involving an appeal and shall report variances to the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the State Office of Emergency Management upon issuing a variance.
5. 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 the relevant factors in 7-8-4.c.1.b have been fully considered. As the lot size increases beyond the one-half acre, the technical justification required for issuing the variance increases.
6. Upon consideration of the factors noted above and the intent of this ordinance, the Appeal Board may attach such conditions to the granting of variances as it deems necessary to further the purpose and objectives of this ordinance (7-8-1.c.).
7. Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels during the base flood discharge would result.
8. Variances may be issued for the repair or rehabilitation of historic structures upon a determination that the proposed repair or rehabilitation will not preclude the structure's continued designation as a historic structure and the variance is the minimum necessary to preserve the historic character and design of the structure.
9. Prerequisites for granting variances:
  - a. Variances shall only be issued upon a determination that the variance is the minimum necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.

- b. Variances shall only be issued upon:
  - (1) Showing a good and sufficient cause;
  - (2) Determination that failure to grant the variance would result in exceptional hardship to the applicant, and
  - (3) 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.
  - (4) Any application to whom a variance is granted shall be given written notice that the structure will be permitted to be built with the lowest floor elevation below the base flood elevation, and that the cost of flood insurance will be commensurate with the increased risk resulting from the reduced lowest floor elevation.

10. 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:

- a. The criteria outlined in 7-8-4.D.1-9 are met, and
- b. 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.

**7-8-5: PROVISIONS FOR FLOOD HAZARD REDUCTION:**

- A. General Standards: In all areas of special flood hazards the following provisions are required for all new construction and substantial improvements:
  - 1. All new construction or substantial improvements shall be designed (or modified) and adequately anchored to prevent flotation, collapse or lateral movement of the structure resulting from hydrodynamic and hydrostatic loads, including the effects of buoyancy;
  - 2. All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed by methods and practices that minimize flood damage;
  - 3. All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed with materials resistant to flood damage;
  - 4. All new construction or substantial improvements shall be constructed with electrical, heating, ventilation, plumbing, and air conditioning equipment and other service facilities that are designed and/or located so as to prevent water from entering or accumulating within the components during conditions of flooding.

5. All new and replacement water supply systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system;
  6. New and replacement sanitary sewage systems shall be designed to minimize or eliminate infiltration of flood waters into the system and discharge from the systems into flood waters; and,
  7. On-site waste disposal systems shall be located to avoid impairment to them or contamination from them during flooding.
- B. Specific Standards: In all areas of special flood hazards where base flood elevation data has been provided as set forth in 7-8-3.B., 7-8-4.B.8., 7-8-5.C.3. the following provisions are required:
1. Residential Construction: New construction and substantial improvement of any residential structure shall have the lowest floor (including basement), elevated to at least one foot above the base flood elevation. A registered professional engineer, architect, or land surveyor shall submit a certification to the Floodplain Administrator that the standard of this subsection as proposed in 7-8-4.C.1.a is satisfied.
  2. Nonresidential Construction: New construction and substantial improvements of any commercial, industrial or other nonresidential structure shall either have the lowest floor (including basement) elevated to least one foot above the base flood level or together with attendant utility and sanitary facilities, be designed so that below the base flood level the structure 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 effects of buoyancy. A registered 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 as outlined in this subsection. A record of such certification which includes the specific elevation (in relation to mean sea level) to which such structures are floodproofed shall be maintained by the Floodplain Administrator.
  3. Manufactured Homes: Require that all manufactured homes to be placed within Zone A on a community's FHBM or FIRM shall be installed using methods and practices which minimize flood damage. For the purposes of this requirement, manufactured homes must be elevated and anchored to resist flotation, collapse, or lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not 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.
- C. Standards for Subdivision Proposals:
1. All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall be consistent with 7-8-1.B.,C. and D. of this ordinance.

2. All proposals for the development of subdivisions including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall meet Development Permit requirements of 7-8-3.C.; 7-8-4.C.; and the provisions of 7-8-5 of this title.
  3. Base flood elevation data shall be generated for subdivision proposals and other proposed development including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions which is greater than 50 lots or 5 acres, whichever is lesser, if not otherwise provided pursuant to 7-8-3.B. or 7-8-4.B.8 of this title.
  4. All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall have adequate drainage provided to reduce exposure to flood hazards.
  5. All subdivision proposals including the placement of manufactured home parks and subdivisions shall have public utilities and facilities such as sewer, gas, electrical and water systems located and constructed to minimize or eliminate flood damage.
- D. 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. Violation 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) shall constitute a Class C misdemeanor. Penalty for such violations shall be as described in Title 1, Chapter 4 of this River Heights City Code. Nothing herein contained shall prevent the City of River Heights from taking such other lawful action as is necessary to prevent or remedy any violation. (4-2008, 10-28-08)