

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
PARISH OF ASCENSION

**ORDINANCE**

**PURPOSE:**

To amend the Ascension Parish Unified Land Development Code (LDC) Appendix V – Drainage, specifically amend Section 17-506.A. Protection of existing watersheds and conveyance systems, and amend Section 17-5013. Design criteria.

**WHEREAS**, Ascension Parish is a local governmental subdivision as defined by Article VI, Section 44 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and

**WHEREAS**, the Parish of Ascension is the governing and responsible body over the planning and zoning regulations within this jurisdiction, and

**WHEREAS**, Article VI of the Home Rule Charter of Ascension Parish, adopted May 4, 1993, identifies the process and manner in which to adopt ordinances regulating the lands of this parish, and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Ascension Parish Governing Authority that the Unified Land Development Code (LDC) of Ascension Parish Louisiana, Appendix V – Drainage, is amended as follows, as more fully described in Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof:

**REPEAL:** All ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby and henceforth repealed.

**SEVERABILITY:** In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is ever held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction over it, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Ordinance.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This Ordinance shall be in full effect as permitted by law.

This ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

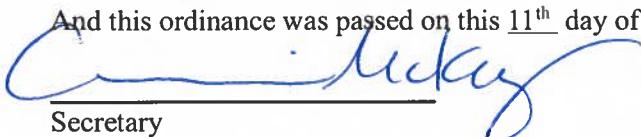
Yea: Oliver Joseph, Joel Robert, Brett Arceneaux, Todd Varnado, Chase Melancon, Blaine Petite,  
Brian Hillensbeck, Dennis Cullen, Jenn DeFrances

Nay: None

Not Voting: None

Absent: Travis Turner, Pam Alonso

And this ordinance was passed on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

  
Secretary

  
President

(Deletions are in ~~strikethrough~~, additions are underlined.)

## Exhibit A

### 17-506.A. – Protection of existing watersheds and conveyance systems.

- A. Drainage for proposed developments and redevelopments shall be designed to maintain the existing flow patterns established prior to proposed improvements at the site. All developments that are noted to be exempt in this section are still subject to items in section 17-507. Impacts to existing water surface profiles due to additional runoff shall be mitigated for all new development or redevelopment of existing sites except for the following:
  1. Redevelopment—Any proposed improvements to a commercial facility that result in a net increase in changed surface of less than 3,500 4,750 square feet, or the replacement of less than 7,000 3,500 square feet of existing impervious surface area.
  2. Any combination of new and replaced surface area totaling more than 7,000 3,500 square feet does not qualify for this exemption.

### 17-5013. – Design Criteria.

- A. Storm drainage design, shall use 10-, 25-, 50-, and 100-year rainfalls of 7.8, 9.6, 11.1, and 12.6 inches of rainfall respectively in 24 hours as determined by NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 9, Version 2, by the National Weather Service. The 50-year storm shall be used to design drainage features and stormwater detention for proposed developments. The resulting post-development outflow from proposed development sites for the 50-year storm shall be limited to ten percent reduction the outflow that would occur for the 10-year 24-hour duration storm and pre-development conditions.
- B. The natural drainage within a development subdivision shall be followed to the maximum extent practicable. Streets and lots shall be arranged to minimize relocation of drainage canals.
- C. Drainage pipes shall meet the requirements of the Ascension Parish Subdivision Construction Specifications.
- D. Open canals shall have side slopes of three to one (3:1) if not lined with concrete. Slope grades of one and one-half to one (1.5:1) may be used for concrete-lined open canals.
- E. When a proposed ditch must discharge into a major unlined canal, the subdivider shall be required to enclose the ditch, (under the access strip of the major canal), in a metal pipe meeting the requirements of the Ascension Parish Construction Specifications. The pipe shall extend four feet into the canal beyond the side slope, and shall discharge into a concrete flume or rip rap or other approved methods for ditch protection that extends a minimum of five feet into the bottom of the canal. Flume shall be constructed immediately after conduit is installed.
- F. Unless drainage channels are being dedicated or developed for recreational or other public or private open space use, the subdivider shall construct a five foot chain link fence along channels referred to in section 17-5014 E.
- G. The Parish Engineer shall operate under the direction of and be subject to the control of and follow regulations established by the Parish planning commission.
- H. Hydraulic calculations shall be stamped by a Professional Engineer and submitted with Construction Plans.
- I. Improvements on lots created along major drainage channels shall not encroach on the drainage servitude or right-of-way.
- J. Drainage impact studies shall:

1. Be prepared in accordance with the latest revision of the drainage impact study procedure (Appendix IV, Subdivision Regulations, Attachment B), as established by the Ascension Parish Planning Commission.
2. If no development has begun within 24 months following the acceptance of the drainage impact study by the Ascension Parish Office of Planning and Development, the owner, subdivider and/or developer shall resubmit a new drainage impact study for review.

J. K. All drainage impact studies, construction plans, and final drainage calculations for residential subdivisions and commercial developments submitted to the Office of Planning and Development shall be performed under the direction of and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed to practice Civil Engineering in the State of Louisiana. Exceptions may be considered by the Planning Director in consultation with the Parish Engineer for cases showing a clear reduction in total impervious area and no modifications to existing drainage elements.

K. L. Upon completion of the commercial (individual or major/minor subdivision lots) or residential (major/minor subdivision lots) project, the design engineer for the project is required to submit a signed and sealed letter of certification that states that the project was completed in accordance with the construction plans that were submitted, reviewed and approved by the Parish. A record drawing shall also be submitted including all pipe inverts, pond top bank, water surface, flow line elevations at high and low points along swales as well as the final pad elevation on all finished lots within a subdivision. Final approval will not be granted until this letter has been received.

L. M. The Parish Floodplain Administrator shall require a flood elevation certificate from a Professional Land Surveyor or Professional Engineer for residential and commercial structures.

M. N. Interior subsurface storm water system conveyance shall be designed based upon the 25-year storm event.