l	Inter	office	Mem	orandum
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## AGENDA ITEM

April 1, 2022

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings -AND-County Commissioners
FROM: Jon V. Weiss, P.E., Director Planning, Environmental, and Development Services Department
CONTACT PERSON: David D. Jones, P.E., CEP, Manager

CONTACT PERSON:	David D. Jones, P.E., CEP, Manager
	Environmental Protection Division
	407-836-1406

SUBJECT:

April 26, 2022 – Discussion Item Dock Construction Ordinance

Orange County's Dock Construction Ordinance (Chapter 15, Article IX) was last updated in 2004. Input received during an environmental charrette and other feedback received from stakeholders during the Mayor's Customer First Development Services initiative indicated that updating the ordinance should be a high priority.

On March 8, 2022, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) staff presented a work session that included an overview of the current code and proposed changes, goals for the code update, public input, and proposed next steps. During that meeting, staff indicated that there were still ongoing conversations about side setbacks, noticing timeframes, penalties for after-the-fact permit applications, and the potential to allow the Environmental Protection Officer (i.e., Manager of EPD) to approve minor deviations from approved plans that occur during construction. During this discussion item, EPD staff will revisit these aspects of the code to obtain further input from the Board.

This discussion item will allow EPD to obtain Board direction prior to coming back to the Board for the adoption hearing in late spring or early summer 2022.

DDJ/JVW: jk

Attachment

# 2

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#### ORDINANCE NO. 2022-\_\_\_\_

#### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ORANGE COUNTY CODE, CHAPTER 15, ARTICLE IX, DIVISIONS 1 AND 2 PERTAINING TO DOCK CONSTRUCTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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### BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF

#### 12 **ORANGE COUNTY:**

Section 1.	Amendments; In General.	Article IX, Chapter	15, Divisions	1 and 2 of the
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14 Orange County Code is hereby amended as set forth in Sections 2 and 3 below, with additions being shown as <u>underlined</u> and deletions being shown as <u>strike throughs</u>.

#### 16 Section 2. Amendments to Article IX, Chapter 15, Division 1, Generally. Article IX,

Chapter 15, Division 1, of the Orange County Code is amended to read as follows:

18	CHAPTER 15
	ARTICLE IX. DOCK CONSTRUCTION
20	<b>DIVISION 1. GENERALLY</b>
	Sec. 15-321. Short title.
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24	This article <u>is</u> -shall be known and may be cited as the "Construction of Dock Construction Ordinance."
26	Sec. 15-322. Policy, purpose, intent, and and scope.
28	(a) An intert of the heard of county commissioners is to protect
30	(a) An intent of the board of county commissioners is to protect and enhance the county's water bodies so that the public may continue to enjoy the traditional recreational uses of those waters
32	such as swimming, boating, and fishing.
34	(b) Water bodies in the county provide important habitat and functions to fish and wildlife. Orange <u>County County's</u> water bodies contain littoral areas that are significant and productive in the

maintenance and preservation of aquatic plants and animals.
Additionally, these littoral areas effectively assimilate nutrients in
the sediment and water <u>column</u> column. as well as stabilize soils affected by wave action and erosional forces.

- 40 (c) Dock construction involves activities that may cause pollution to water bodies. Additionally, activities associated with docks may cause pollution to water bodies.
- (d) A purpose of this article is to regulate dock construction,
   <u>including dock repairs</u> which for the purposes of this article includes dock repairing, within unincorporated areas of the <u>county-county</u>. in
   order to minimize adverse impacts of such activities upon the natural resources of the county. The county may regulate dock construction
   activities pursuant to the provisions of this article, in areas not described in this paragraph upon execution of an interlocal agreement by the county and the municipality.
  - (e) A purpose of this article is to regulate the construction of docks such that the navigation of water bodies is not unreasonably impeded.
  - (f) <u>An The</u>-intent of the board of county commissioners is to apply these regulations in a manner sensitive to the riparian rights and other property rights of the applicant, the riparian rights and other property rights of <u>other</u> waterfront property owners, and the rights of the public to the traditional uses and enjoyment of water bodies in the county.
- (g) The board of county commissioners recognizes that the cumulative and secondary impacts of docks may adversely affect the water quality of the water bodies, as well as the functions the water bodies provide to fish and other wildlife. The reduction in water quality and functions to fish and other wildlife will result in the decline <u>of-in</u> the recreational value of the water body. Therefore, it is the intent of the board of county commissioners and <u>a</u> the-purpose of this article to regulate dock construction in a manner that addresses cumulative and secondary impacts.
- (h) <u>An The-intent of the board of county commissioners is that</u>
   the environmental protection officer shall be responsible for the interpretation of this article.
  - Sec. 15-323. Definitions.

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The following words, terms<u>, and and</u> phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section. except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

78	<i>Access walkway</i> means that portion of the dock that commences on the upland parcel and terminates at the junction with the terminal
80	platform. Dock accessories, including kayak and canoe storage racks, or other cantilevered structures designed to store non-
82	motorized craft, are not to be included in the calculation of access walkway width if no part of the accessory extends below the normal
84	high water elevation.
	Boat. Refer to vessel.
86	Board means the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida.
88	<i>Building official</i> means for unincorporated Orange County, the Orange County Building Official as defined in section <u>9-11-9-1</u> ; and
90	for incorporated Orange County, the principal enforcing officer for the building code within the particular municipality.
92	<i>Dock</i> means any permanently fixed or floating structure extending from the upland into the water, capable of use for vessel
94	mooring and other water-dependent recreational activities. The term "dock" also includes any floating structure, boat lift or mooring
96	piling, detached from the land, capable of use for mooring vessels or and/or for other water-dependent recreational activities. The term
98	"dock" also includes any area adjacent to the dock designated for mooring purposes when a mooring feature, including but not limited
100	to a piling or buoy anchored to the lake bottom, is utilized to moor a vessel of any type. This term <u>excludes</u> does not include any vessel
102	that is not permanently docked, moored, or anchored.
104	<u>Dock accessory means an item that is added to an access</u> walkway or terminal platform that makes the dock more useful,
104	versatile, or attractive, including but not limited to bumpers,
106	brackets, mooring arms, lighting, kayak racks, benches, stairs, or canoe racks. A dock accessory does not substantially preempt the
108	use of the water or shoreline and is not included in the calculation of the access walkway width or terminal platform size if no part of
110	the accessory (excluding stairs) extends below the normal high water elevation.
112	<u>Dock accessory structure means an item that preempts the use</u> of the water or shoreline, including but not limited to floating vessel
114	platforms, personal watercraft lifts, shore stations, or any recreational item.
116	<i>Enclosed dock</i> means a dock which has any portion of its structure completely or partially enclosed with walls and/or doors.
118	Screened enclosures and storage lockers shall not be included in this definition.

120	<i>Environmental protection commission</i> (EPC) means the commission created and established pursuant to section 15-29.
122	<i>Environmental protection officer</i> means the Orange County official as defined in section 15-32.
124	<i>EPD</i> means the Orange County Environmental Protection Division.
126	Institutional means a non-residential parcel designated and zoned for public uses, government, schools or religious organizations, such as churches.
130	<i>Maintenance</i> means the act of keeping the dock in a safe and useable condition consistent with original design specifications.
132	Mooring area means an area adjacent to any permanently fixed or floating structure where a vessel may be secured.
134	<i>Normal high water elevation (NHWE)</i> means the landward edge of any natural surface water body during normal hydrological conditions, as determined by the <u>public works director</u> county
136	engineer or according to article IX of chapter 30.
138	Person has the same meaning as set forth in section 1-2 and includes means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, or other entity, including governmental entities.
140	<i>Principal structure</i> means the building or structure in which the principal use of the parcel or lot is conducted. A dock <u>cannot</u> -shall
142 144	not be the principal structure on a parcel or lot <u>unless the parcel or</u> lot is within a residential subdivision and has been designated as recreation or a similar common area or open space tract on the plat, commercial, institutional, or is government-owned property.
146	Principal use means a use of the upland parcel for residential.
148	commercial, institutional, or governmental purposes. At a minimum, a principal use <u>must-shall</u> be established by the issuance of a building permit for a principal structure. For the exceptions
150	where a dock is allowed as the principal structure, no building permit will be required to establish the principal use, however, a
152	building permit will be required prior to beginning construction of the dock.
154	<i>Private dock</i> means a dock <u>that</u> , which may be used by only those persons living in a single-family residence on the upland parcel and their usual and customary guests.
100	Projected property line means a continuation of, and extension
158	to, the upland <u>a</u> property line <u>where it intersects with the NHWE</u> . In cases of privately owned bottomland, that is, non-sovereignty
160	submerged lands underlying a water body, the projected property

162	line is the actual property line as described in the deed of the property.
164 166	<i>Public dock</i> means a dock <u>that</u> which is subject to public accessible by members of the public. Docks associated with commercial establishments and activities, <u>and</u> governmental and non-governmental institutions, and private organizations are
	included in the definition of public dock.
168	<i>Repair</i> means to restore <u>a dock structure</u> to the original design specifications of a dock structure, including the replacement of the
170	entire dock or portions of the dock.
172	<i>Riparian rights</i> means those rights incident to lands bordering upon navigable waters, as recognized by the courts of this state and common law defined in section 253.141, Florida Statutes.
174	Satisfactory evidence of title means a warranty deed or a current title insurance policy issued by a title insurance company authorized
176	to do business in the State of Florida, or an opinion of title prepared by a member of the Florida Bar, covering title to lands involved and
178	indicating, at least, such minimum interest in the applicant that which may entitle the applicant to the relief sought.
180	<i>Semi-private dock</i> means a dock <u>that</u> , which may be used by a group of residents living in a subdivision or multi-family
182	development and their usual and customary guests, or by the
184	membership of a private club or organization and their usual and customary guests. Semi-private docks must not be used by the general public.
186	Shoreline means the edge of a body of water <u>measured</u> at the normal high water elevation (NHWE).
188	<i>Terminal platform</i> means that portion of a dock beginning at the terminal end of the access walkway. <u>The terminal platform includes</u>
190	the area occupied by accessory structures that are fixed to or located adjacent to the platform. The terminal platform must-shall be
192	designed for the mooring and launching of vessels or other water- dependent activities. The size calculation for the terminal platform
194	does not includes any uncovered area adjacent to the dock with pillings designated for mooring purposes.
196	<u>Vessel is synonymous with boat, as referenced in section 1(b),</u> article VII of the Florida Constitution and includes every description
198	of watercraft, barge, and airboat used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water. The term vessel does not
200	distinguish between motorized and non-motorized. Vessel does not mean a seaplane on the water.

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202 204	<i>Waters</i> means and includes, but is not limited to, rivers, lakes, streams, waterways, bays, springs, impoundments, inlets, canals, and all other waters or bodies of water, whether natural or artificial, located in Orange County.
206	<i>Water-dependent activity</i> means any activity <u>that which</u> can only be conducted on, in, over, or adjacent to, water areas because the
208	activity requires direct access to the water body for transportation or recreation, and where the use of the water is an integral part of the
210	activity.
	USGS means the United States Geological Survey.
212	Sec. 15-324. Permits Dock construction permits required.
214	Sec. 15-524. Fernits Dock construction permits required.
216	Unless expressly exempted in section 15-346, any person desiring to construct or repair a dock or modify an existing dock
218	shall- <u>must</u> first receive a permit from the environmental protection officer authorizing the construction or <u>modification activity</u> repair of the dock. Floating docks or structures installed in Orange County
220	are subject to the regulations in this article and in general will be treated similar to fixed docks for the purposes of this article, unless
222	expressly exempted by section 403.813, Florida Statutes.
224	Sec. 15-325 Fees.
226	By resolution, the board may may, from time to time, establish fees to be applicable to all permits, variances, <u>appeals</u> , waivers, or
228	other regulatory activities authorized in this article. Fees for dock
230	construction permits, variances, <u>appeals</u> , waivers, or other regulatory activities set forth in the county's fee directory <u>will shall</u>
232	remain in force until modified by the board.
234	Secs. 15-326—15-340. Reserved.
236	Section 3. Amendments to Article IX, Chapter 15, Division 2, Permits. Article IX.
	Chapter 15, Division 2, of the Orange County Code is amended to read as follows:
238	
240	<b>DIVISION 2. PERMITS</b>
270	Sec. 15-341. Permit application and procedures.
242	
244	(a) Generally. Dock construction <u>permit</u> and repair application forms are available at the <u>environmental protection division EPD</u> office and on the county's website. Applicants must submit

246		ations for dock construction or repair permits to the county
248	environmental protection division. <u>EPD and Applicants must</u> pay an <u>a non-refundable</u> application-processing fee <u>at</u> the time the application is submitted for review. Review of the permit	
250	applic	ation will not begin until the application fee is paid in full and ent does not Payment of such application fee shall in no way
252	guarar non re	ntee issuance of a dock <u>construction</u> permit, and such fee is <del>ofundable</del> . No permit application shall be submitted unless s a principal use established on the property.
	(b)	Applications <u>must-shall</u> contain the following information:
256 258	(1)	The original signature(s) of the property owner(s) of upon which the upland portion of the parcel where the dock is to be constructed:
260	(2)	The original signature(s) of the applicant(s), if the applicant is not the property owner;
	(3)	Satisfactory evidence of title;
262	(4)	Documentation showing riparian rights for the parcel, such as an any legal instrument indicating ownership to the
264		shoreline or legal permission to construct or modify a dock and use of the submerged lands:
266	(5)	A copy of a survey of the real property <u>that</u> -which accurately depicts current conditions;
268	(6)	Four (4) sets of a <u>A</u> site plan depicting the exact location of the proposed dock, and shall include that includes the following:
270		a. An arrow indicating the northerly direction of the scale
272		that to which the sketch or drawing was prepared and the name of the water body that upon which the proposed
274		<ul><li>dock structure or renovation is to be located;</li><li>b. The exact distance between the existing shoreline, at <u>at</u></li></ul>
276		the point where the dock is to be constructed, or or is currently located, and a permanent object or marker (e.g.,
278		house, tree, USGS United States Geological Survey benchmark) to be used as a reference point;
280		<ul> <li>c. The exact setback distance from <u>adjacent the</u> property lines and projected property lines to all portions of the dock;</li> </ul>
202		d. Floor and roof elevations of the proposed or existing
284		dock;
286		e. The current water depth at the end of the proposed or existing dock and, and at all proposed mooring locations:

288		f. The length of the proposed or existing dock, as measured from the normal high water elevation (NHWE) to the point most waterward of the NHWE:
290		g. The NHWE-as established by the county;
292		h. The location of any conservation easement <u>area</u> areas or <u>wetland</u> and wetlands-within twenty (20) feet from any portion of the dock;
294 296		i. A description of vegetation types identified occurring within the area described in paragraph 15-341(b)(6)h. Private dock applicants may request EPD to assist with
290		identifying vegetation types; and
298		j. Location of lifts, hoists, mooring pilings, and mooring areas, and dock accessory structures.
300	(7)	A statement indicating whether <u>any portion of the dock will</u> <u>be</u> docks are located on abutting properties:
302	(8)	A mitigation plan offsetting adverse impacts to the <u>surface</u> <u>waters</u> , conservation easement <u>areas</u> areas, or wetlands,
304		resulting from the construction or modification of the terminal platform or access walkway as may be required
306		under <u>this</u> articles X, XI, and XIII, of chapter 15;
308	(9)	A description of sediment and erosion control measures to be used during construction or modification and/or repair of the dock. These measures must be depicted on the site plan:
310		and
312	(10)	Indicate whether the proposed dock is for public, semi- private, or private use. (If the proposed dock is for public or semi-private use, approval of a special exception may be
314		required through the board of zoning adjustment and the board. The application must demonstrate that the property is
316		appropriately zoned prior to permit issuance.)
318	(11)	<u>An applicant Applicants</u> may submit the following information with their applications:
320		a. A request for a variance or waiver under pursuant to section 15-350.
322		b. <u>If applicable to the variance request, an original,</u> Original, signed and notarized <u>letter letters</u> of no objection from the abutting <u>or affected</u> shoreline
324		property <u>owner(s) owners</u> when applicable. The letter of no objection must identify the variance request on the
326		site plan and construction plan for the proposed dock and a copy of the site plan and construction plan must be
328		attached to the letter.

330	Sec. 15-342. Conditions for issuance of dock construction permits.
332	To obtain a dock construction permit, the following criteria must
334	be satisfied:
336	(a) <u>The dock must be designed and constructed to be open to the</u> <u>environment and without opaque walls, solid panels, or fencing,</u> <u>except for partial walls less than thirty-six (36) inches in height. See-</u>
338	through mesh insect screening is allowed for enclosing the dock.
340	(b) The dock must only extend shall extend only to the point where reasonable water depth for vessel mooring and access to navigable water is achieved. A reasonable water depth may be
342	defined by a determination that the dock does not extend further than the nearest permitted docks (within three hundred (300) feet or three
344	(3) abutting lots) or a maximum of five (5) feet of water depth as measured from the NHWE, unless the natural conditions of the
346	water body necessitate a greater water depth to allow reasonable mooring conditions. The dock length necessary to achieve a
348	reasonable water depth must not create a navigation hazard, as determined by EPD or law enforcement. The maximum water depth
350	allowed for mooring areas is five feet, as measured from the NHWE.
352	unless the natural conditions of the water body necessitate a greater water depth to allow reasonable mooring conditions. The dock must have a minimum mooring depth of twenty-four (24) inches, as
354	measured from the NHWE, to prevent bottom scouring.
356	(c) The dock <u>must-shall</u> not adversely affect the rights of other persons <u>or other and</u> property <u>owner's owners'</u> use of, and access to, the water body <u>or constitute a navigation hazard</u> , as determined by
358	<u>EPD or law enforcement</u> . No work should be done within areas, which that constitute easements for ingress or egress or for drainage
360	unless authorized by the county.
362	(d) Docks and dock accessory structures are prohibited for Under no circumstances shall a permit for construction of a dock be utilized to construct any facilities to be used for residential purposes
364	or-other non-water dependent non-water-dependent activities. Dock accessory structures are prohibited within wetlands or conservation
366	easements that prohibit structures.
368	(be) The maximum allowable square footage of the terminal platform shall not exceed the square footage of ten is the calculation of fifteen (15) times the linear shoreline frontage, for the first
370	seventy five (75) feet of shoreline and five times the linear shoreline frontage for each foot in excess of seventy five (75) feet, not to
372	exceed a maximum of not to exceed one thousand five hundred

374 376	(1,500) (1,000)-square feet. In addition to the requirements of paragraph 15-341(b)(8), EPD will require mitigation for a terminal platform in excess of one thousand (1,000) square feet as established using the uniform mitigation assessment methodology provided in chapter 62-345, F.A.C.
378	(ef) Access walkways are shall be limited to a five foot six (6) feet in width. Impacts to wetlands must shall be avoided to the
380	greatest extent practicable. Access walkways traversing any wetland or platted upland buffer must-shall be elevated a minimum of three
382	(3) feet above the ground surface. The environmental protection officer may require an access walkway be elevated above the three-
384	foot above ground surface minimum elevation to <u>further minimize</u> or avoid impacts to wetlands or upland buffers.
386	(g) Board spacing on the structure should ensure light penetration underneath.
388	$(\underline{dh})$ The floor elevation <u>must shall</u> be a minimum of one (1) foot above the established control elevation or NHWE.
390	(ei) The maximum <u>allowable</u> roof height <u>is-shall be no higher</u> than twelve (12) <u>fifteen (15)</u> feet above the floor elevation.
392	(fj) There shall be no fish cleaning <u>Fish-cleaning</u> stations, wet bars, living quarters, or other similar facilities over wetlands or other
394	surface waters or are prohibited on docks the dock. (g) Enclosed docks are prohibited.
396	$(\frac{b}{b})$ Generally, the construction of more than one (1) dock per
398	residential lot is not allowed; however, permitted. However, one a dock may be permitted on each water body to which that a
400	residential lot has frontage on if there is no navigable connection between the water bodies.
400	(i) Docks <u>must-shall</u> be designed to accommodate vessel use
402	without bottom scouring or propeller dredging.
404	$(j\underline{m})$ There <u>must not be any shall be no</u> dredging or filling associated with construction of the dock and boat shelter, other than that required for the installation of the actual pilings for the dock.
406	(n) On Outstanding Florida Waters or Outstanding National Resources, a reasonable demonstration that dock pilings will not
408	cause degradation of ambient water quality consistent with rules 62-302.300 and 62-302.700, F.A.C. Acceptable measures could
410	include, but not be limited to, wrapping pilings or using polymer coated pilings that have been installed or treated in a manner that
412	will prevent the leaching of constituents contained in treated wood, or using alternative materials such as concrete or recycled plastic
414	pilings.

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#### Sec. 15-343. Additional conditions of issuance-of-permits for permits of private docks.

- (a) On lots or parcels having a shoreline frontage of less than
   seventy five (75) feet, docks, Private docks, including designated mooring areas, must-shall have a minimum side setback side setback
   422 of ten (10) feet from any property line or the projected property line.
- (b) On lots or parcels having a shoreline frontage of seventy five (75) feet or greater, docks shall have a minimum side setback 424 of twenty-five (25) feet from the projected property line, unless such requirement is reduced by an appropriate waiver which shall be 426 reviewed by the environmental protection division. Certain lots or parcels may be able to meet the minimum setback distance at the 428 shoreline, however, when the projected property lines converge due to an irregular lot shape, a proposed dock may not meet the 430 minimum setback distance at some point along the projected property line. At the point where the distance between the projected 432 property lines is equal to or less than seventy five (75) feet, the minimum setback shall be ten feet. Waivers from side setback 434 requirements may be granted by the environmental protection 436 officer if a notarized letter of no objection to the waiver is received from the shoreline property owner abutting the applicant's property 438 line affected by the waiver. All other waivers to the minimum side setback requirement shall be granted in accordance with the 440 provisions of section 15 350.
- (eb) Storage lockers shall be are limited to a cumulative maximum of sixty-five (65) cubic feet. Storage lockers must not shall not be used to store boat maintenance or and/or repair equipment or and materials, fuel, fueling equipment, and or hazardous materials or hazardous wastes. Storage lockers are prohibited on semi private docks and public docks.
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### Sec. 15-344. Additional conditions of issuance-of permits for permits of semi-private and public docks.

(a) Semi-private <u>and public docks, including designated</u>
 452 <u>mooring areas, must shall</u> have a minimum <u>side setback side setback</u> of twenty-five (25) feet from <u>any property line or the</u> projected
 454 property line, unless such requirement is reduced by an appropriate waiver, which shall be reviewed by the environmental protection
 456 division. Final approval of a side setback waiver under this provision shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of section1 15 350.

(b) -- Semi private docks shall not be used by the general public.

460	(eb) All storage facilities shall be located on the upland parcel. Storage lockers are prohibited on semi-private and public docks.
462	(d) Applicants for semi-private docks for use in subdivisions or planned developments must provide a conservation casement or
464	other restriction, on a form acceptable to the board, of the appropriate length along the affected riparian shoreline to prohibit
466	the construction of additional docks that would exceed the maximum allowed for private docks under this article.
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470	Sec. 15-345. Additional conditions of issuance of permits for public docks. <u>Reserved.</u>
472	(a) Docks shall have a minimum side setback of twenty five (25) feet from the projected property line, unless such requirement
474	is reduced by an appropriate waiver, which shall be reviewed by the environmental protection division. Final approval of the side
476	setback waiver shall be granted in accordance with the provisions of section 15-350.
478	(b) All storage facilities shall be located on the upland parcel.
480	Sec. 15-346. Dock maintenance and repair <u>; and minor</u> modifications.
482	(a) Dock maintenance and repair, generally. Docks-shall_must
484	be maintained in a safe and useable condition. <u>All maintenance and</u> repair activities must maintain the original design and original
486	footprint of the dock, as approved in the boat dock construction permit. If the design and footprint of the dock will change as a result
488	of a maintenance or repair activity, approval of a minor modification or a new permit will be required. The owner of property on which a
490	dock is located is responsible for maintaining a dock in safe and useable condition. Best management practices must be used during
492	all maintenance and repair activities to prevent soil erosion and water quality violations in the project area. Information on best
494	management practices may be obtained from the environmental protection division EPD.
496	(b) Owner's duty to repair, replace, or remove unsafe structures. The owner(s) of property where a dock is located must
498	promptly repair, replace, or remove a dock structure, or part(s) of the structure, that because of dilapidation, deterioration, decay,
500	faulty construction, the removal or movement of some portion of the
	ground necessary for the support, or if for any other reason is likely

504	(b) Maintenance and repair of docks permitted by Orange
	County. When maintenance and repair of docks permitted under this
506	article involves the repair or replacement of pilings, or other
500	portions of the dock at or below the water surface, the permit holder
508	shall provide written notice to the environmental protection officer of the proposed maintenance and repair activities at least ten days
510	prior to initiating the maintenance or repair activity. The notice must
510	be provided on the notification form that may be obtained at the
512	environmental protection division. At a minimum, the permit holder
	must identify the permit number, physical address of the property
514	on which the dock is located, name of the permit holder, or current
<b>F</b> 4.6	owner of the property if not the original permit holder, a description
516	of the proposed maintenance or repair, and the date that the permit holdor intende to commonce the activity. Repairs that do not involve
518	holder intends to commence the activity. Repairs that do not involve activity at or below the water surface are allowed without notice or
510	permit. All maintenance and repair activities must maintain the
520	original design and original footprint of the dock, as approved in the
	county permit.
522	(c) Repair of unpermitted "grandfathered" docks constructed
	on or before December 19, 1988. The repair of unpermitted docks
524	constructed on or before December 19, 1988, requires a permit
	issued under this article. Applications for the repair of docks
526	constructed without a dock construction permit prior to December
528	19, 1988, shall contain the information required in paragraphs 15- 341(b)(1), (2), (5), (6), (9) and (10). It is intended that docks
JZ8	constructed before December 19, 1988, be allowed to remain as
530	constructed.
	(dc) Maintenance of unpermitted "grandfathered" docks
532	(dc) Maintenance of unpermitted "grandfathered" docks constructed on or before December 19, 1988. Docks constructed on
552	or before December 19, 1988, are allowed to remain as originally
534	constructed. Maintenance activities of unpermitted docks
	constructed on or before December 19, 1988, do not require a permit
536	under this article, unless repair or replacement occurs to more than
538	fifty (50) percent of the dock if the maintenance activities do not
230	include repair or replacement of pilings or portions of the dock at or below the water surface.
540	( <u>ed</u> ) Maintenance <u>, modification, or and</u> -repair of unpermitted docks constructed after December 19, 1988. Maintenance A permit
542	under this article is required prior to maintenance, modification, or
J 12	and repair of unpermitted docks that were constructed after
544	December 19, 1988, shall be treated as the construction of a new
	dock and shall be required to obtain a dock construction permit prior
546	to initiating construction, including demolition.
	(fe) Minor modifications to permitted docks. Minor
548	modifications to existing permitted structures or for unpermitted
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"grandfathered" docks (including but not limited to adding to the roof, adding to the terminal platform less than twenty-five (25) 550 square feet, or changing the layout of a boat slip), must be approved by the environmental protection officer. The applicant must submit 552 a request for the proposed deviation change or minor modification to the original site plan to the environmental protection officer for 554 consideration. Additional information may be requested from the applicant in order to complete the review. Minor modifications must 556 comply with the provisions of this article. Any modification that will may require a variance or waiver of any provision of this article 558 ordinance cannot shall not be considered a minor modification. Any modification that increases the size of the terminal platform shall 560 not be considered a minor modification. The environmental protection officer may require notification of abutting shoreline 562 property owners of the application for minor modification.

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### Sec. 15-347. Notification of adjacent property owners and comments.

The environmental protection officer will send notice of 568 (a) receipt of an application for variance or waiver under the provisions of this article by certified mail to the owners of the-shoreline 570 properties situated within three hundred (300) feet of the property that on which the proposed dock is to be located on. For a variance 572 request waiver requests to reduce side setback the side setback requirements, the environmental protection officer will only send 574 such notice to the abutting shoreline property owner(s) affected by the waiver request. The environmental protection officer may send 576 additional notices to other shoreline property owners as appropriate.

(b) The environmental protection officer will also send notice of receipt of an application for variance and a copy of the application to the Windermere Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board or the Conway Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board, where <u>applicable</u>, <u>appropriate</u>, and may request comments from, and provide copies to, other county departments, agencies, <u>or or</u> governmental bodies.

(c) All-With the exception of subsection 15-374(e), all notices
 provided in accordance with this section\_will-shall-require that written comments-on the proposed dock be sent to the environmental
 protection officer within\_twenty-one (21) thirty five (35) calendar days of receipt of-such\_notice.-notices. Objections to a variance
 request should detail the grounds of the objection and any impact or effect of the requested variance.

(d) Failure to return written comments within twenty-one (21) thirty five (35) calendar days will-shall be presumed to indicate that 594 no objections exist, provided that in cases where the addressee does not receive the notice, the environmental protection officer may
596 make other reasonable efforts to notify the addressee.

The Windermere Water and Navigation Control District (e) Advisory Board and the Conway Water and Navigation Control 598 District Advisory Board may submit to the environmental protection officer a recommendation to approve or deny an application for 600 variance applications for docks within their jurisdictions. Recommendations shall must be approved by a majority of the 602 advisory board at a public meeting, duly noticed and conducted in accordance with the Florida Sunshine Law, section 286.011, Florida 604 Statutes, as may be transferred or amended from time to time. Advisory board recommendations shall-must be submitted to the 606 environmental protection officer within thirty-five (35) calendar days of receipt of notice. 608

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#### Sec. 15-348. Decisions of the environmental protection officer.

Generally. The decision of the environmental protection 612 (a) officer shall be in writing, and will include findings of fact material to the decision, and shall-indicate the date of the decision. Copies of 614 the decision will be sent to the applicant, and by certified mail to those who previously filed written objections to the application and 616 as applicable, to the Windermere Water and Navigation Control District Advisory Board or the Conway Water and Navigation 618 Control District Advisory Board, if appropriate. If no objections have been filed and the environmental protection officer's decision 620 is to approve has approved the application, the approval shall be is effective-immediately following the appeal provisions pursuant to 622 section 15-349.

(b) Decisions relating to new dock construction. Upon receipt of comments from all parties that have been notified <u>pursuant to this</u>
article, or upon the expiration of the thirty five (35) calendar day period for written comments or and recommendations, when applicable, and following staff review of the complete dock application, the environmental protection officer shall approve, deny, or approve with conditions, the application to construct the dock.

- 632 (c) Decisions relating to applications to repair pursuant to section 15 346(b). The environmental protection officer shall approve, deny, or approve with conditions, applications for repairs that meet the criteria set forth in section 15 346(b) following the staff review of a complete application.
- (dc) Decisions relating to applications for minor modifications638pursuant to paragraph 15-346(e) section 15 346(f). Following staff

review of the request, the environmental protection officer will shall either: (1) render a decision stating that the request is non-substantial 640 or insignificant and issue a letter authorizing modification of the permit; or-(2) refer the request to the environmental protection 642 commission EPC to make a recommendation regarding issuance of the permit modification. The environmental protection commission 644 EPC shall render to the board a recommendation stating that the request is non-substantial or insignificant and recommending 646 approval of the permit modification or that a new dock construction permit would be needed to authorize the applicant's request. The 648 board may accept the recommendation or call for a public hearing.

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### Sec. 15-349. Appeals <u>of from</u> decisions of <u>the</u> environmental protection officer.

The appeal provisions in section 15-38 govern appeals of 654 (a) final decisions of the environmental protection officer under this article. The applicant, or parties who have previously filed written 656 objections, may, within fifteen (15) calendar days of the decision of the environmental protection officer, file a written notice of appeal 658 with the environmental protection officer. If no notice of appeal is 660 received within the fifteen (15) calendar day period, then the prior ruling of the environmental protection officer shall be final. If an appeal is taken, such appeal shall be heard by the environmental 662 protection commission. The environmental protection commission shall render a recommendation to the board approving, approving 664 with modifications, or denying the recommendation of the environmental protection officer. The recommendation of the 666 environmental protection commission shall be provided to the board within twenty one (21) days, provided that if no meeting is 668 scheduled within the 21 day period, then the recommendation shall be presented at the first-meeting of the board following the 670 expiration of the 21 day period. The board may accept the recommendation or call for a public hearing. 672

(b) Parties who have previously filed written objections and
 674 whose substantial interests are adversely affected by the recommendation of the environmental protection commission may
 676 appeal to the board within ten days of the rendering of the recommendation. The appeal shall be filed with the environmental
 678 protection officer and shall be scheduled for a public hearing before the board. The notice of the appeal will be provided to the applicant
 680 and to parties who have previously objected in writing. The board may affirm, reverse, or modify the decision of the environmental protection commission. The decision of the board shall be final.

(eb)For the purposes of this section, the terms term "party" or684"person" as used in section 15-38 do shall not include the

686 688	Windermere Water and Navigational Control District Advisory Board, the Conway Water and Navigational Control District Advisory Board, other county departments, agencies, or governmental bodies.
690	(d) Notices of appeal filed pursuant to this section shall contain the following:
	(1) A statement identifying the decision being appealed:
692 694	(2) The name, address, telephone number, and facsimile number (if any) of the person or persons appealing the decision (the "appellant");
	(3) A detailed statement asserting the grounds for appeal; and
696	(4) A statement describing with particularity each section and paragraph of this article the appellant contends requires
698	reversal or modification of the decision.
700	(e) Failure to provide the information required in subsection 15- 349(d) shall be a basis for dismissal of the appeal by the environmental protection officer. The environmental protection
702	officer shall promptly give written notice to the appellant of the dismissal of the appeal and shall state the reasons for the dismissal.
704	Dismissal of an appeal shall, at least once, be without prejudice to appellant's filing an amended notice of appeal within fourteen (14)
706	days of the date of the dismissal.
708	Sec. 15-350. Variance <u>s and waiver</u> .
710	(a) Generally. An applicant may apply for a variance from a requirement of this article to EPD and must pay a non-refundable
712	variance application processing fee. Review of the variance application will not begin until the fee is paid in full and payment
714	does not guarantee approval of the variance request. At a minimum, the applicant must:
716	(1) Identify the section(s) of this article that the applicant seeks a variance for and the extent of the requested variance;
718	(2) Describe the impact of the requested variance on the water body and the environment;
720	(3) Explain the effect of the requested variance on any abutting or affected shoreline property owner(s);
722	(4) Describe how strict compliance with the section(s) of this article would impose a unique, unreasonable, and
724	unintended hardship on the applicant; and
	(5) Explain why the hardship is not self-imposed.

726	(6) The environmental protection officer, the EPC, or the board may require the applicant provide additional information
728	necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.
730	(1) Variances. An application for variance from the requirements of this article shall be made to the environmental protection officer. At a minimum, the
732	applicant shall identify the sections and paragraphs of this article from which the applicant seeks a variance and the
734	extent of the requested variance. The applicant shall also describe (1) how strict compliance with the provisions from
736	which a variance is sought would impose a unique and unnecessary hardship on the applicant the hardship cannot
738	be self imposed; and (2) the effect of the proposed variance on abutting shoreline owners. The environmental protection
740	officer, environmental protection commission and the board may require of the applicant information necessary to carry
742	out the purposes of this article. A variance application may receive an approval or approval with conditions when such
744	variance: (1) would not be contrary to the public interest; (2) where, owing to special conditions, compliance with the
746	provisions herein would impose an unnecessary hardship on the permit applicant; (3) that the hardship is not self
748	imposed; and (4) the granting of the variance would not be contrary to the intent and purpose of this article.
750	(b) <i>Mitigation</i> . In addition to the requirements of paragraph 15- 341(b)(8), the environmental protection officer may require
752	mitigation appropriate for the variance and the extent of the requested variance.
754	(c) Procedure. Except for variances granted pursuant to paragraph 15-350(e) of (f), the environmental protection officer
756	shall either render a recommendation to approve, deny, or approve with conditions a variance application consistent with paragraph 15-
758	<u>350(d)</u> , and schedule a hearing on the variance application before the EPC. The EPC shall render a recommendation to the board to
760	approve, approve with conditions, or deny the variance application. The recommendation of the EPC will be timely provided to the
762	board and the board may accept the recommendation or call for a public hearing.
764	(d) Criteria. A variance application may receive an approval or an approval with conditions if granting the variance:
766	(1) Would not negatively impact the water body or the environment or if there is a negative impact, sufficient
768	mitigation is proposed pursuant to paragraph 15-350(b), if appropriate;

770	(2) Would not be contrary to the public interest;
772	(3) Where, owing to special conditions, compliance with the provisions herein would impose a unique and substantial hardship on the applicant;
774	(4) Where the environmental protection officer has determined that the hardship is not self-imposed on the applicant; and
776	(5) Would not be contrary to the intent and purpose of this <u>article.</u>
778	(i) The environmental protection officer may approve variances to the provisions of this ordinance to
780	accommodate persons with disabilities or to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
782	(ii) The environmental protection officer may approve variances to the provisions of this article in order to
784	provide greater protection to the water bodies and shorelines than provided under this article.
786	(iii) Applicants may seek variances from the provisions of the ordinance not addressed in paragraphs (i) and (ii)
788	above from the environmental protection commission.
790	(2) Waivers. An application for waivers from the requirements of sections 15 342(b), 15 343(b), 15 344(a) and 15 345(a) shall be made to the environmental protection officer. At a
792	minimum, the applicant shall identify the sections and
794	paragraphs of this article from which the applicant seeks a waiver and the extent of the requested waiver. The applicant shall also describe (1) how this waiver would not negatively
796	impact the environment, and (2) the effect of the proposed waiver on abutting shoreline owners. The environmental
798	protection officer and the board may require of the applicant information necessary to carry out the purposes of this
800	article.
802	(e) The environmental protection officer may approve or approve with conditions a variance to the provisions of this article
204	to accommodate persons with disabilities or to comply with the
804	<u>Americans with Disabilities Act. The environmental protection</u> officer may approve or approve with conditions a variance to the
806	provisions of this article in order to provide greater protection to the water bodies and shorelines than provided under this article. This
808	may include an approval with conditions to provide additional mitigation beyond any required pursuant to paragraph 15-341(b)(8).
810	
812	(f) The environmental protection officer may approve or approve with conditions a variance to side setback requirements for

	adjoining properties that share a common dock, if the adjoining
814	property owners record a legal instrument allowing each owner the
	right to construct, repair, replace, access, and use the proposed
816	shared dock. The Orange County Attorney's Office must approve
	the legal instrument as to form. Applications for each portion of the
818	proposed shared dock must be reviewed by EPD concurrently. This
	provision will only apply when the internal property lines between
820	the property owners cross the proposed shared dock.
822	(b) Procedure. Except as otherwise provided in section 15
	343(b), the environmental protection officer shall make a
824	recommendation to approve, deny, or approve with conditions a
	variance or waiver application to the environmental protection
826	commission. The environmental protection commission shall render
	to the board a recommendation to approve, approve with conditions.
828	or deny the variance or waiver application. The recommendation of
	the environmental protection commission shall be provided to the
830	board within twenty one (21) days, provided that if no meeting is
	scheduled within the twenty one day period, then the
832	recommendation shall be presented at the first meeting of the board
	following the expiration of the 21 day period. The board may accept
834	the recommendation or call for a public hearing.

- 836 Sec. 15-351. Building permit required.
- Following the issuance of a dock permit, the permittee permit 838 holder must obtain a building permit from the appropriate building official prior to commencing construction. The construction plan 840 submitted as part of the building permit application must be the construction plan approved by the environmental protection officer 842 and incorporated into the dock permit. The provisions of the Florida Building Code shall-apply to the construction, alteration, repair, 844 modification, and demolition of docks under this article, and any associated electrical or plumbing system application as required by 846 for the required building official prior to the commencement of 848 work.
- 850 Sec. 15-352. Compliance checks.
- (a) The permittee or permit holder and/or designated agent must submit a notice of completion to the environmental protection division <u>EPD</u> within thirty (30) days of completion of the construction or repair of the permitted structure so that a compliance check may be performed by environmental protection division <u>EPD</u> staff.

858	(b) With the notice of completion, the permittee The permit
860	holder and/or designated agent must provide as-built drawings on a final survey, signed and sealed by an appropriate professional licensed by the State of Florida, with the notice of completion.
862	(c) The compliance check will-shall determine if the structure
864	was built according to the plans <u>and permit</u> approved by the environmental protection <u>officer</u> <u>division</u> . The environmental protection officer is authorized to approve a non-substantial
866	deviation from a permit condition for sections 15-342(a), (b), (e), (f), (h), (i), 15-343, and 15-344(a), based on the submitted as-built
868	drawing, provided that no deviation exceeds three (3) percent of the permit requirement.
870	
872	Sec. 15-353. Violations; penalties; enforcement.
874	(a) It is shall be unlawful for any person to violate any provision of this article, or any provision of any resolution enacted pursuant to the authority of this article. Any person who violates this chapter,
876	or any provision of any resolution enacted pursuant to the authority of this article, may be prosecuted in accordance with chapter 11.
878	Violations of this chapter, or any provision of any resolution enacted pursuant to the authority of this article, may be punished as provided
880	in section 1-9.
882	(b) In addition to the enforcement and penalty provisions provided in paragraph 15-353(a), the county may avail itself of any other legal or equitable remedy available to it, including without
884	limitation, injunctive relief or revocation of any permit involved.
886	(c) Any person violating this article <u>will-shall</u> be liable for all costs incurred by the county in connection with enforcing this article or any provision of any resolution enacted pursuant to this article,
888	including without limitation, attorneys' fees and investigative and court costs.
890	(d) If the environmental protection officer determines that construction is occurring or has occurred without prior approval or
892	not in accordance with a permit or this article, these regulations, the environmental protection officer shall promptly issue a written
894	notice of violation to the applicant and/or designated contractor. The notice of violation will-shall include a description of the site where
896	the violation has occurred, eite citation to the provision(s) provisions of this article, these regulations, general or special laws that which
898	have been violated, and set forth the remedial action required by the county. Such remedial action may include submittal of revised
900	drawings, reapplication submittal of an application for a permit or permit modification, removal of the dock or any offending portion
902	thereof, and administrative and civil penalties. The environmental

		protection officer may imp	ose additional penalties for
904			on determined to have violated
			in a permit prior to constructing a
906			ock such that a variance would be
			lditional administrative penalty in
908			0) times the application fee. The
			d in this section is not intended to
910		limit the judicial imposition of civ	il penalties in state court.
912		Sec. 15-354. Effect of permit.	
914		Any permit issued under this art	ticle <u>cannot-shall not</u> substitute for
			y state or federal agencies but will
916			onmental permits. The board shall
		not permit any dock in any wa	tter body where state or federal
918		regulations prohibit such installat	ion.
920		Secs. 15-355-15-360. Reserved	1.
922	Section 4.	Effective Date. This ordinance s	hall become effective on July 1, 2022.
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