Introduced April 12, 2005, by Councilwoman Livaudais, seconded by Councilman Cromer (both by request of Administration)

#### Item No. 05-04-2506

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 3269**

An ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Chapter 15 Floods, Sec. 15-24 Definitions, and by adding a new Section 15-38.

WHEREAS, the Slidell City Council does hereby amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Chapter 15 Floods, Section 15-24, to add a definition as follows:

Fill Plan means a scaled site plan showing information listed below:

- a. Elevations at all property corners and the proposed finished floor elevations for all building improvements;
- b. Location and dimensions of the fill/excavation footprint.
- c. Proposed elevation of all proposed paving within the property, such as driveway, patio, etc.
- d. Net volume of fill to be hauled in to the site in cubic yards.
- e. The location of any drainage servitudes or waterways near the property.

NOTE: Elevations can be either M.S.L. or relative. If relative, please show your reference elevation and location.

Grade means the heights of a surface relative to a fixed height such as mean sea level (MSL).

Natural grade or natural ground grade means the existing elevation of land prior to any manmade changes or prior to a proposed change in grade.

Ordinary water mark means that mark on lakes, rivers, and streams that will be found by examining the bed and banks and determining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in ordinary years, as to leave a mark on the soil.

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WHEREAS, the Slidell City Council does hereby amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Chapter 15 Floods, by adding a new Sec. 15-38 as follows:

### Sec. 15-38. Fill Ordinance.

- (a) *General.* If fill is being placed on private property within city limits, a Fill Plan must be approved by the Engineering Department. In addition, for buildings within city limits, the "Finished Grade Verification" form must be approved by the Engineering Dept. prior to scheduling a foundation inspection.
- (b) Fill placement requirements.
  - (1) Generally. All fill placed on any lot or parcel must be in compliance with this section. Where this section is in conflict with any other ordinance or compliance requirement, the more stringent requirements shall prevail. The placement of fill on any lot or parcel in the city shall be permitted only after the owner has submitted a Fill Plan to the Slidell Engineering Department and the city engineer, or his designee, has approved the Fill Plan.

If fill is not placed within 6 months of filing the Development Permit, a new Fill Plan or written extension must be approved by the Engineering Department.

(2) Slope or extension of fill. Fill for foundations, slabs, parking, drives, accessory structures, playground equipment, and all other improvements that require fill material shall taper from the edge of the improvement at a minimum

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slope of 6 inches vertical to 10 feet horizontal and at a maximum slope of three horizontal feet for every one vertical foot (3:1).

- (3) For all areas within the Slidell City limits, regardless of flood zone designation or zoning classification, the following criteria shall apply:
  - a. Building improvements. For any commercial or industrial development, single or multi-family residential building, garage, pool house, swimming pool, or other building improvement, the top of any exterior foundation shall extend a minimum of 12 inches above the elevation of the street gutter at point of discharge or the inlet of an approved drainage device plus 2 percent. Only fill enough to achieve this elevation shall be used. Alternate elevations may be permitted subject to the approval of the building official and the city engineer, provided it can be demonstrated that required drainage to the point of discharge and away from the structure is provided at all location on the site; however, elevations higher than this minimum shall be achieved by using an enclosed retaining wall or other method not requiring the use of fill (such as pilings or pier construction).
  - b. *Driveways*. Fill for driveways shall not exceed an average of six inches above average natural ground grade except where connecting to a part of the foundation for a building improvement. Slopes shall not exceed 3 horizontal to 1 vertical.

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- c. Accessory uses. Fill for accessory uses, such as patios, decks walks, playhouses, playground equipment, basketball courts, dog kennels, and the like, shall be limited to an average of six inches above natural grade, unless otherwise approved by the building official and the city engineer.
- (4) Construction of fully enclosed retaining wall (chain wall) system. Additional fill within a fully enclosed retaining wall, or chain wall, shall be allowed up to the base flood elevation plus one foot. If the fill is to be placed in an X, B, or C zone, no additional fill shall be allowed. At no time shall a fully enclosed retaining wall system be built by first bringing an excessive amount of fill to the property, followed by construction of the retaining wall, then removal of excess fill. No excess fill shall be brought to the property than will ultimately remain on the property. Construction of fully enclosed retaining wall systems shall begin with construction of at least three sides of the retaining wall. Fill may then be brought into the retaining wall and compacted.
- (5) Bulkhead construction. Bulkheads and other structure projecting into a waterway shall be constructed no farther into a lake, river, canal, bayou, or stream than the ordinary average watermark or established property line, as approved by applicable local, state, and federal agencies. Bulkheads shall be designed so as not to impede positive drainage of the site and adjoining properties.

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- (6) To control erosion into drainageways, minimize required public maintenance of essential drainage and roadways systems, and reduce surface water pollution, sediment retention barriers (silt fences) that comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's best management practices for the elimination of sediment runoff shall be required wherever necessary.
- (c) *Waivers*. The mayor or his designee, the chief of staff, the city engineer, the city planning director, and the building official must jointly approve requests for waivers from the requirements stated in this section in writing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Slidell City Council that it does hereby amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Chapter 15-24 by adding new definitions and by adding a new Section 15-38.

**ADOPTED** this 10th day of May, 2005:

Marti Livaudais

President of the Council

\_Councilwoman-at-Large

Ben O. Morris

Mayor

Shawn B. McManus, CMC

Council Administrator

DELIVERED 1:00 p.m. to the Mayor

RECEIVED 3:00 pun

5/16/05 from the Mayor