

**Sec. 47-19.3. - Boat slips, docks, boat davits, hoists and similar mooring structures.**

- (a) The following words when used in this section shall, for the purposes of this section, have the following meaning:
- (1) *Mooring device* means a subset of mooring structures as defined herein including boat davits, hoists, boat lifts and similar devices that are erected on or adjacent to a seawall or dock and upon which a vessel can be moored. A mooring device does not include docks, slips, seawall or mooring pile.
  - (2) *Mooring structure* means a dock, slip, seawall, boat davit, hoist, boat lift, mooring pile or a similar structure attached to land more or less permanently to which a vessel can be moored.
  - (3) *NGVD 29* or the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 means the vertical control datum established for vertical control surveying in the United States of America by the General Adjustment of 1929. The datum is used to measure elevation or altitude above, and depression or depth below, mean sea level (MSL).
- (b) Boat davits, hoists and similar mooring devices may be erected on a seawall or dock subject to the following limitations on the number and location as follows:
- (1) Except as provided herein, only one (1) mooring device per the first one hundred (100) feet of lot width or portion thereof, and one mooring device for each additional one hundred (100) feet of lot width. A second mooring device may be permitted within the lot area greater than one hundred (100) feet but less than two hundred (200) feet if approved as a Site Plan Level II permit, subject to the following criteria:
    - a. The location of the proposed mooring device will not interfere with the view from adjacent properties to a degree greater than the intrusion already permitted as a result of the berthing of a vessel at applicant's property within the setback and extension limitations provided in the Code.
    - b. The type of mooring device is the least intrusive and most compatible with the view from the waterway.
    - c. No conflict with a neighboring property owner's usage of the waterway will be created as a result of the additional mooring device.

Pursuant to Site Plan Level II review, the development review committee ("DRC") shall determine whether the proposed additional mooring device meets the criteria based on its location and the relationship of applicant's property to abutting properties with regard to height, angle of view of the device from abutting properties and the height, width and length of the mooring device proposed. Approval of a Site Plan Level II development permit for an additional mooring device shall not be final until thirty (30) days after preliminary DRC approval and then only if no motion is approved by the City Commission seeking to review the application pursuant to the process provided in section 47-26. The denial of an application for an additional mooring device may be appealed to the City Commission in accordance with the provisions of section 47-26.
  - (2) In addition to the mooring device described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section, one (1) lift designed and used solely for the lifting of a personal watercraft (PWC) per development site is permitted. For purposes of this subsection (2) a PWC is as defined in F.S. Ch. 327.
  - (3) The cross section of the davit, hoist or other mooring device shall not exceed one (1) square foot and have a maximum height of six and one-half (6½) feet above lot grade.
  - (4) The lowest appendage of a vessel may not be hoisted greater than one (1) foot above a seawall cap or if no seawall, above the average grade of the upland property and properties abutting either side of the upland property, whichever is less.
- (c) No boat slips, docks, boat davits, hoists, and similar mooring structures not including mooring or dolphin piles or a seawall, may be constructed by any owner of any lot unless a principal building exists on such lot and such lot abuts a waterway. Mooring structures, not including mooring or dolphin piles, shall not extend into the waterway more than twenty-five (25) percent of the width of the waterway or twenty-five (25) feet whichever is less as measured from the property line.
- (d) Mooring or dolphin piles, shall not be permitted to extend more than thirty (30) percent of the width of the waterway, or twenty-five (25) feet beyond the property line, whichever is less.
- (e) The City Commission may waive the limitations of (c) and (d) under extraordinary circumstances, provided permits from all governmental agencies, as required, are obtained after approval of the City Commission, after a public hearing and notification to property owners within three hundred (300) feet. In no event shall the extension exceed thirty (30) percent of the width of the waterway and no variance may be approved by the Board of Adjustment or other agency permitting an extension beyond the thirty (30) percent limitation. Reflector tape shall be affixed to and continually maintained on all mooring or dolphin piles authorized under this subsection to extend beyond the limitations provided in subsection (d). The reflector tape must be formulated for marine use and be in one (1) of the following uniform colors: international orange or iridescent silver. On all such piles, the reflector tape shall be at least five (5) inches wide and within eighteen (18) inches of the top of the pile.

- (f) The top surface of a boat slip, seawall or dock shall not exceed five and one-half (5½) feet above NGVD 29, except when the adjacent property is higher than five and one-half (5½) feet above the NGVD 29. When above NGVD 29, the top surface may be of the same elevation as the average grade of the upland property abutting the seawall or dock and properties abutting either side of the upland property.
- (g) No boathouse, permanent covering, or temporary covering for a boat shall be permitted within the setback area required for the zoning district in which such shelter is to be located, nor shall any boathouse, permanent covering or temporary covering for a boat, or any other structure not otherwise specifically permitted, be permitted within or cover any public waterway.
- (h) No watercraft shall be docked or anchored adjacent to residential property in such a position that causes it to extend beyond the side setback lines required for principal buildings on such property, as extended into the waterway, or is of such length that when docked or anchored adjacent to such property, the watercraft extends beyond such side setback lines as extended into the waterway. The owner of real property which would be entitled to the density limitation of a maximum of forty (40) units per acre pursuant to the terms for habitation of floating homes or vessels, section 47-19.6, may apply for an exception to the setback requirements contained herein. An application for such exception shall be heard by the Planning and Zoning Board (board) at a public hearing called for that purpose. After the public hearing, the board shall make a recommendation to the City Commission that the application be granted or denied, or granted subject to conditions. If the board recommends that the application be either granted or granted subject to conditions, the City Clerk shall place the recommendation on the agenda of the City Commission for a public hearing at a regular meeting. The City Commission shall, by resolution, either grant the application, deny the application, or grant the application subject to such conditions as it finds necessary to the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the city. In deciding whether to grant or deny the application, the City Commission shall consider the neighborhood within which the applicant's property lies and the effect that the exception to the setbacks would have on the following:
- (1) The surrounding property.
  - (2) The ability of adjacent property owners to enjoy abutting waterways.
- (i) Waiver of limitations. Property owners of lands located on the Isle of Venice and Hendricks Isle may dock or anchor watercraft adjacent to their respective properties in a manner which extends beyond side setback lines, required by this section as approved by Resolution No. 85-270.

(Ord. No. C-97-19, § 1(47-19.3), 6-18-97; Ord. No. C-04-2, § 4, 1-12-04; Ord. No. C-10-44, § 2, 12-7-10)