

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: John A. Titkanich, Jr.; County Administrator

FROM: Scott McAdam, Building Official

DATE: November 30, 2023

SUBJECT: 2023 Indian River County Amended Wind Speeds Maps

It is requested that the data herein presented be given formal consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) at its regular meeting of December 12, 2023.

DESCRIPTION & CONDITIONS:

The Florida Building Codes (FBC) are updated on a 3-year cycle. The effective date of the new 2023 8th Edition Florida Building Codes is midnight on December 31, 2023.

The FBC includes the state wind speeds maps, Figures 1609.3(1)-(4), which identifies the wind speeds zones at the state level. Those wind speed lines are then further defined/established at the local level by local ordinance (i.e. Section 401.07 of the Code of Indian River County).

According to the Florida Statutes and Florida Building Codes, the exact location of wind speeds lines shall be established by local ordinance, using recognized physical landmarks such as major roads, canals, rivers, and lake shores, wherever possible. Our current local wind speeds maps show the wind speeds zones for risk categories 1-3 (Exhibit 1), and the wind speeds zones for risk category 4 (Exhibit 2). Currently, the wind speeds zones for risk categories 1-3 (Exhibit 1) are divided by I-95, with the higher wind speeds east of I-95, and the lower wind speeds west of I-95 (see attachment 1). The new wind speeds zones for risk categories 1-3 will shift the dividing line further west. The new alignment will follow County Road (CR) 507 south from the Brevard County line to CR 512, and then CR 512 to SR 60, and then 162nd Avenue to the St. Lucie County line (New Exhibit 1; see attachment 3). This new alignment is more consistent with the state level wind speeds maps, and follows the same dividing line as the wind speeds zones for risk category 4 (Current Exhibit 2; see attachment 2), which was adopted during the last update in 2020.

There are no proposed changes to the wind speeds zones for risk category 4 (New Exhibit 2; see attachment 4). However, the exhibit is labelled as “new” since it will be adopted with the new 2023 ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the proposed ordinance amending Section 401.07 of the Code of Indian River County, approving the amended Wind Speeds Risk Maps

New Exhibits 1 and 2 (The Indian River County Wind Borne Debris Region and Basic Wind Speed map).

ATTACHMENTS

1. Current – Exhibit 1: Indian River County Wind Speeds Risk Categories 1-3 Map
2. Current – Exhibit 2: Indian River County Wind Speeds Risk Category 4 Map
3. New – Exhibit 1: Indian River County Wind Speeds Risk Categories 1-3 Map
4. New – Exhibit 2: Indian River County Wind Speeds Risk Category 4 Map
5. Proposed Ordinance