



Alachua County Development Review Committee Staff Report

Project Number: DR24-000026

Final Development Plan and Floodplain Development Permit for David Salter Boat House

SUBJECT: David Salter Boat House

DESCRIPTION: Construction of an 844 SF Dock and Boathouse

AGENT/APPLICANT: Mike Thompson/J.M. Thompson Construction, Inc.

PROPERTY OWNER: David P & Donna V Salter

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION:

Location	2300 SE 30 th Street, Melrose
Parcel Numbers	06060-B-00100 (Bradford County)
Land Use	Residential Estate
Zoning	Residential Estate
Acreage	0.44 Acres

CHRONOLOGY:

Application Submittal	06/03/2024
Sufficiency Determination	07/03/2024
Final Development Plan Hearing	07/18/2024

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Recommend **approval with conditions** of the Final Development Plan and Floodplain Development Permit for David Salter Boathouse.

**Alachua County
Development Review Committee
Staff Report**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PLAN:

The Final Development Plan and Flood Plain Development Permit proposes the addition of an 844 square foot boat house to an existing dock on Lake Santa Fe. The original boathouse was damaged in a storm and removed, but the existing dock (walkway) still remain.

According to Section 404.108(d) *Development Review Committee (DRC) approval is required for docks that do not meet the standards in Section 404.108(c) provided the following conditions are satisfied (see table below). The DRC may also approve reconfigurations of existing docks that do not meet one or more of the standards in Section 404.108(c) and or/ this Section provided those standards are not made further non-compliant.*

Standard	Pre-Application Screening approval limit	Development Review Committee approval limit
Maximum platform size	600 square feet	900 square feet
Maximum width	25 feet for properties > 80 feet wide 20 feet for properties ≤ 80 feet wide	The lesser of 40 feet or 40% of the property width at the shoreline
Maximum covered width	25 feet for properties > 80 feet wide 20 feet for properties ≤ 80 feet wide	30 feet
Maximum height	14 feet	14 feet
Setbacks	10 feet for properties <65 feet wide 25 feet for properties ≥ 65 feet wide	Less only if it is necessary to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to natural resources or riparian rights
Santa Fe River docks	Limited to a single uncovered platform ≤ 160 square feet	Limited to a single covered platform ≤160 square feet and total footprint ≤300 square feet

Table 404.108.1

Section 404.108(f), requires DRC approval for docks greater than 600 square feet of surface area with a limit of 900 square feet. The proposed dock will be 844 square feet and therefore requires DRC approval.

CONSISTENCY ANALYSIS:

Following is an analysis of the consistency of the proposed plan with the applicable policies of the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations.

**Alachua County
Development Review Committee
Staff Report**

UNIFIED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE:

Sec 404.108(b) *Docks* are allowed as limited uses in the unincorporated area, provided the conditions of this section are satisfied. According to 404.108(d), “*The DRC may also approve reconfigurations of existing docks that do not meet one or more of the standards in 404.108(c) and/or this section provided those standards are not made further non-compliant.*”

404.108(d)(1) *Maximum size. The total footprint as calculated in 404.108(c)(1)a shall not exceed 900 square feet.*

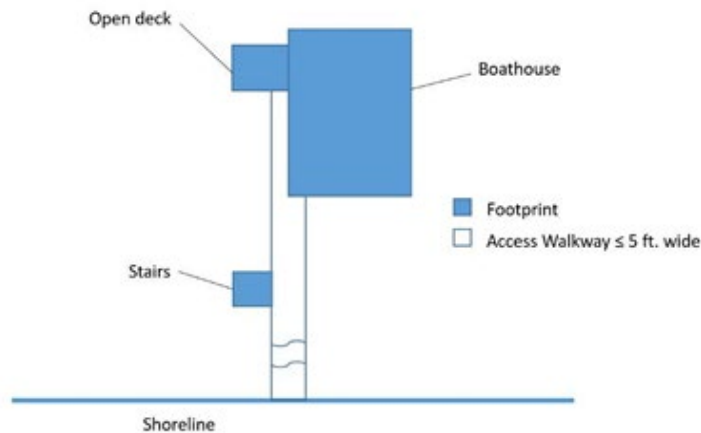


Figure 404.108.1

The total footprint of the dock is made up of a covered platform and boat slip, and two uncovered sections. The covered area is a total of 728 SF. One uncovered platform is 80 SF and one is 36 SF. The total footprint of the dock is 728 SF + 80 SF + 36 SF or 844 SF.

404.108(d)(2) Maximum width. The maximum width of a dock shall not exceed 40 feet or 40% of the property width at the lateral shoreline, whichever is less. For purposes of this section, the property width at the lateral shoreline is measured as a straight perpendicular line from one property line to the other at the lake edge. The DRC may authorize a dock serving multiple residences or public access docks to exceed the maximum size and width standards upon determination that such joint use would result in greater environmental protection.

The property width is approximately 72 feet wide at the lateral shoreline, 40% of which is 28 feet. Therefore, the dock must be less than 28 feet wide. The proposed dock is 26 feet wide.

**Alachua County
Development Review Committee
Staff Report**

404.108(d)(3) Maximum covered width. The maximum covered width of a dock shall not exceed 30 feet.

The covered width is 26 feet and meets this section.

404.108(c)(1.)(c)Maximum height. The maximum height shall not exceed 14 feet as measured from the floor elevation to the highest point of the dock.

The proposed height of the covered area is 14 feet measured from the floor of the elevation.

404.108(c)(3) Hazards to navigation. A dock may not create a hazardous condition to the navigation of waterways and to other pursuits of water sports. Hazard to navigation means a watercraft or structure erected, under construction or moored that obstructs the navigation of watercraft proceeding along a navigable water or obstructs reasonable riparian access to adjacent properties.

Staff is of the opinion that the proposed location of the dock would not create a hazard to navigation as demonstrated in the image below as it does not extend further into the lake than the existing dock.



**Alachua County
Development Review Committee
Staff Report**

404.108(c)(4) Impact on natural systems. A dock may not be detrimental to the continued function of natural systems, including aquatic vegetation. All structures shall be constructed to cause the least possible impact to wetland and aquatic vegetation.

The proposed location and dimensions of the new dock does not cause significant adverse impacts to natural systems including aquatic vegetation.

404.108(c)(5) Setbacks. If the property width of the lateral shoreline is 65 feet or greater, the dock must be set back at least 25 feet from the side property lines (see figure below). If the property width at the lateral shoreline is less than 65 feet, the dock must be set back at least ten feet from the property line.

The width of the property is approximately 72 feet wide, therefore the dock must be setback at least 25 feet from the side property lines. The proposed platform will be constructed on the end of an existing dock. It is setback 40 feet from the western property line but encroaches on the eastern setback/property line due to the relationship of the shoreline and riparian rights of the property. The DRC may approve an exception to the setback standard if necessary to avoid or minimize impacts to natural resources or riparian rights. Staff supports placing the dock within the eastern setback due to the unique riparian lines and because moving the existing dock platform would result in an impact to aquatic grasses.

404.108(c)(2) Other permits required. Issuance of a building permit from the Alachua County Building Official for a dock, does not take place of applicable local, federal, state and water management district permits that may be required before beginning construction. If modifications to the design of a County permitted dock are necessary to meet federal, state, or water management district permits, the applicant shall resubmit revised plans to the appropriate County reviewing body.

Staff has included conditions of the approval which states:

- a. Any required FDEP permit or letter of consent shall be obtained and a copy provided to ACEPD prior to commencement of dock construction [§406.05, ULDC; §404.108(b), ULDC].
- b. Aquatic vegetation removal is prohibited without prior authorization by the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department [Article VI, Chapter 406, ULDC].

STATE AND FEDERAL PERMIT

The issuance of a state or federal permit shall not obligate the County to grant approval of any local permit and shall not be deemed to satisfy the requirements of the ULDC.

**Alachua County
Development Review Committee
Staff Report**

As well, the issuance of this permit does not indicate that Alachua County believes that the applicant has all federal and state permits necessary prior to commencing construction.

Because §125.022(4), F.S. makes it hard for local governments to coordinate their permitting activities with state and federal permitting agencies, the applicant is advised that conflict with a subsequently issued state or federal permit may cause a need to apply for an amendment to this development plan approval.

Upon approval of a development plan, the applicant shall obtain all required state and federal permits prior to commencement of the development. Upon issuance of a required state or federal permit, the applicant shall furnish a copy of such permit to the applicable County department.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN EXPIRATION:

According to Section 402.47(b), an approved Final Development Plan shall expire unless a complete application for a construction, building or other required permit has been accepted by the appropriate reviewing department within 12 months of the date of final approval and that such development is continuing in good faith. Applications for extension of time limit may be processed pursuant to Article 6 or Article 10 of Chapter 402 of the ULDC.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has found the proposed Final Development Plan and Floodplain Development Permit to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and requirements of the Unified Land Development Code.

Staff recommends **approval with conditions** of the Final Development Plan and Floodplain Development Permit for **David Salter Boathouse**.

CONDITIONS

1. Any required FDEP permit or letter of consent shall be obtained and a copy provided to ACEPD prior to commencement of dock construction [§406.05, ULDC; §404.108(b), ULDC].
2. Aquatic vegetation removal is prohibited without prior authorization by the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department [Article VI, Chapter 406, ULDC].