

# Building Department

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## August 2011 HBA Newsletter

I have received the preliminary wind speed maps for Flagler County and all I can say is WOW! It is very unfortunate that the code writers have created a mess in my opinion but will hold final judgment until the implementation of the code occurs.

There is no longer one proposed wind speed line there are three (3) total. One wind speed line exists for each of four categories of buildings. What this means is that the category of building will be required to be determined as well as the location of the site to be able to identify the wind speed line applicable to the project. The category of building will be determined by the use-for instance: Hospitals with emergency and surgery, fire, police and other emergency service buildings will be examples of Category IV buildings; Schools, buildings with more than 5000 people. I have provided the maps and categories to the Flagler HBA for distribution to all members with the intention of demonstrating the importance of knowing changes are coming and the potential impact to your bottom line. I keep being told that the final result is not much different than where we are today however.....

I have asked in the past and will now ask again-What do you like and what do you dislike about the Flagler County Building Department? You can either let me know or if you are not comfortable with that-let the HBA know and ask that they forward the information to me. We also have surveys at Central Permitting that allow you let us know how all Growth Management is performing. It is my intention to continue to strive for perfection no matter how unattainable that may be. I truly believe that the personnel at Flagler County are dedicated to assisting the public in any way possible. A lot has been said about customer service lately and while there is always room for improvement, I think Flagler County does pretty good. Let me know your thoughts so we can continue to strive to be better.

Until next month

Gary Hiatt, CBO  
Flagler County