

Michelle Rogers & Alan DaFonte
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September 1, 2022

To Whom it may concern:

Michelle Rogers and Alan Da Fonte are requesting a variance for our property located at: 4375 3'd Isle Drive in Hernando Beach, Fl. The variance that we are requesting is for the installation of (6) pilings, particularly piling #6. See attached diagram, at the end of Lobster Canal. The Lobster canal is located between 3'd Isle Drive and Gulf Coast Rd. This request will not be detrimental to the development pattern in the neighborhood considering, we are located at the very end of the canal with no apparent boat traffic. We are asking for an increase in distance waterward from 27' to 33'.

The piling that we are asking a variance for is crucial in securing the front (bow) of our boat should a squall or sudden storm come upon us, we have experienced such storms since we have occupied this property. We have taken special considerations placing these piling to protect the mangroves located on the Southern end of the canal, as well as, not placing any pilings on the outside of the vessel, to prevent any navigational obstructions in the canal, as minimal boat traffic there is in this canal. The ordinance that we are asking relief from is Chapter 8, Article 5, Section 8-24 #11.

We have taken time to study the securing of other vessels in our neighborhood, most comparable vessels seem to use a floating dock as a securing point for their boats. Due to daily varying tides, we experience in our canals, in conjunction with storms, these structures are inadequate, they are the first to collapse, allowing a vessel to be unsecured, possibly damaged, sunk, or causing damage to the neighboring properties. While taking these considerations in fact, we have designed our anchoring points (pilings) to maximize our vessels stability along with incorporating flexibility for our ever-changing tides in the canal, particularly providing our vessels safety on the lowest of tide. We also have allowing boat traffic maximum room to turn around at the end of the canal. We have also met with Eric of Waterways to go over what exactly we are requesting, and he has stated that this would not be an issue for the Waterways Department.

Being conscientious and respectful of the heavy trafficked main canals in our area, we are hoping to incorporate these pilings near the end of our canal, staying away from the thoroughfare, along with providing a safe and secure place for our boat, protecting our neighbor's property, and personal safety, preventing a possible accident due to an improperly secured vessel.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request to provide a safe, secure, well managed place for our boat, as well as, protecting the beauty of our natural mangroves, while also providing our neighbors with peace of mind knowing that we have taken the proper preparations to Properly anchor down our boat in stormy weather.

Alan da Forte.