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OFFICE OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 27, 2012
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Proposed Amendment to Ordinance Regulating the Discharge of Firearms from Public Roadways

ST. GEORGE, S.C. – On Monday, October 1, 2012, Dorchester County Council will be considering three readings to "AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 28-7 TO ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 28 REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS FROM PUBLIC ROADWAYS IN CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS" at its regularly scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers in the Kenneth F. Waggoner Building located at 201 Johnston Street, St. George, South Carolina.

Following the second reading of this ordinance on Monday, September 17, 2012, in Summerville, several citizens have expressed concerns that the ordinance will infringe upon their rights to protect themselves and their property. In an effort to clear up any concerns regarding self defense, the following amendment to the ordinance has been prepared for County Council's consideration prior to giving the third reading:

"The prohibitions of this Ordinance shall in no way be construed to prevent a person from discharging a firearm in defense of his person, others, or his property as specifically provided in the exclusion contained in S.C. Code Ann. Sec. 23-31-510(2) or as may otherwise be allowed by law."

This new paragraph would be inserted into the proposed ordinance just before the penalty provision.

The proposed ordinance and a map showing the areas that will be covered if the ordinance is adopted can be viewed on the county's website, http://www.dorchestercounty.net, on the County Council page under pending ordinances.

-END-

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
) ORDINANCE NUMBER 12-_____
COUNTY OF DORCHESTER)

AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 28-7 TO ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 28 REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS FROM PUBLIC ROADWAYS IN CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS

It is hereby ordained by Dorchester County Council, duly assembled, that the Code of Ordinances, Dorchester County, South Carolina, is hereby supplemented to add a new Section 28-7 to Article I, Chapter 28, which shall read as follows:

Except for law enforcement officials and military personnel in the performance of their duties and except for a person operating a "shooting range" or "range" as the terms "person", "shooting range" and "range" are defined in Section 31-18-20, Code of Laws of South Carolina (1976), as amended, it is unlawful for any person to discharge a firearm (rifle, shotgun, pistol, or similar device that propels a projectile through the energy of an explosive) within five hundred (500) feet of a public road within any residential zoning district, such districts being defined in the Dorchester County Zoning Ordinance as Zoning Districts R-1, R-1(M), R-2, R-2(M), R-3, R-4, PD, TRM, and MUC.

Any person violating this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred ($500.00) dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty (30) days.

Approved and adopted at 3rd and final reading this _____ day of _____, 2012.

_____
Larry Hargett, Chairman
Dorchester County Council

First Reading: 8/13/2012
Second Reading: 9/17/2012
Public Hearing: 9/17/2012
Third Reading:_____

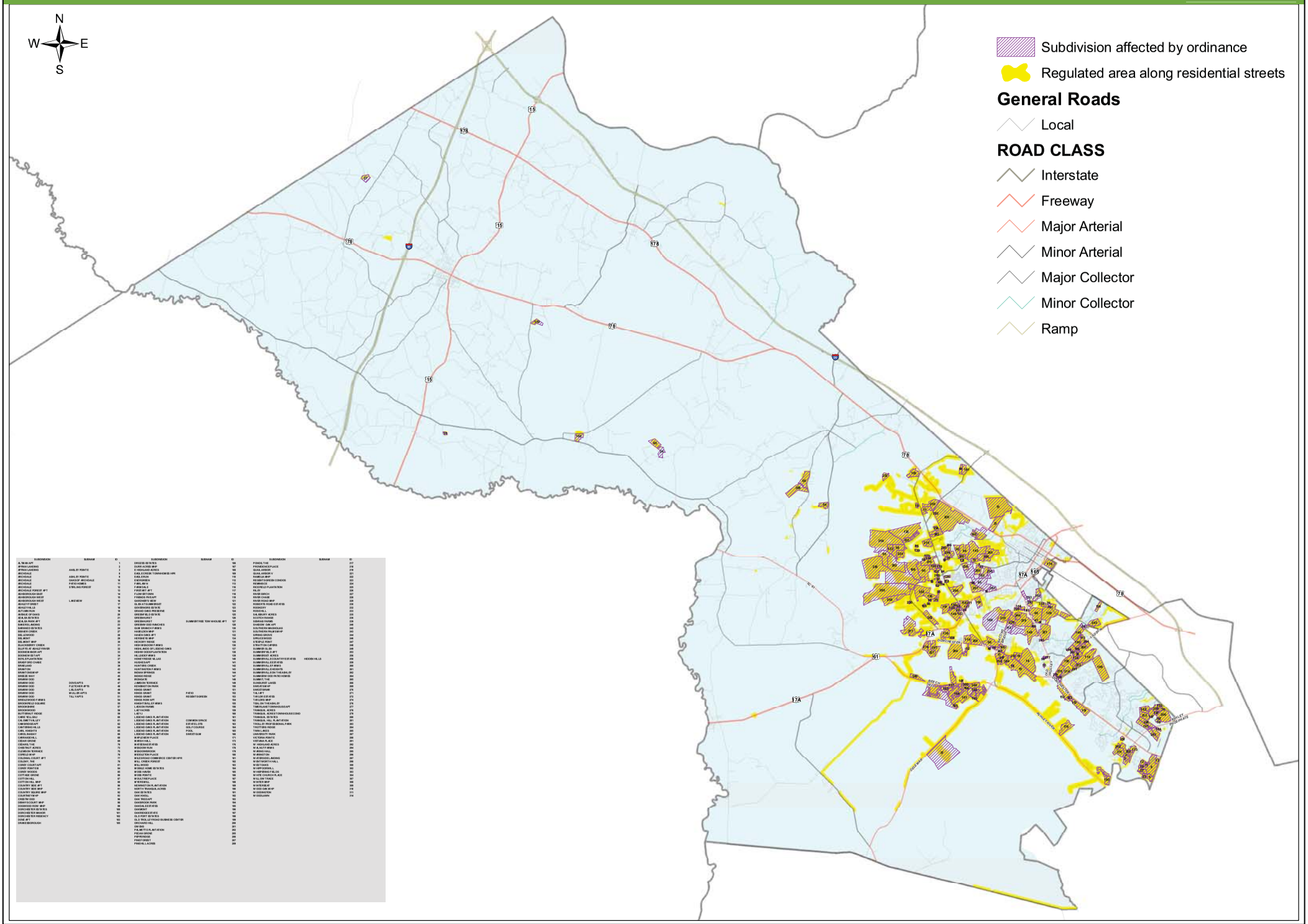
ATTEST:

_____
Sandy Lawley, Clerk of Council

12 Ordinance Supplementing Regulation of Firearms.

AN ORDINANCE TO SUPPLEMENT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, BY ADDING A NEW SECTION 28-7 TO ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 28 REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS FROM PUBLIC ROADWAYS IN CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS

Disclaimer: This map is a graphic representation of data obtained from various sources. All efforts have been made to warrant the accuracy of this map. However, Dorchester County disclaims all representation and liability for the use of this map.
Ortho Photography 2007 to 2012 - Vectors 2012
Dorchester County GIS Dept.



SUBDIVISION	SUBNAM	ID
A.W.M APT		1
AFRAM LANDING		2
AFRAM LANDING		3
AKOHALE		4
AKOHALE	ASHLEY POINTE	5
AKOHALE	OAKSAY ARCHDALE	6
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ASHBOROUGH EAST		10
ASHBOROUGH WEST		11
ASHBOROUGH WEST	LAKEVIEW	12
AVALON HILL		13
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