Summary and Comparison

(From Appendix A of Staff Report No. 2 for Ordinance 24-097)

Issue	Current Code	Ordinance 24-097	Amendment 3
Separate Tracts	Allows a 15% buffer width reduction when using separate tracts	Removes incentive to place critical areas and buffers in separate tracts	Reduces separate tract incentive to a 10% buffer width reduction
Protective Fencing	Allows a 15% buffer width reduction when installing fencing	Removes incentive to provide protective fencing	Reduces fencing incentive to a 10% buffer width reduction
Combining Tracts and Fences	Allows a 25% buffer width reduction when combining fences and tracts	Removes incentive to use fences and tracts	Reduces incentive to combine fences and tracts to a 20% buffer width reduction
Buffer Averaging	Allows reduction of buffer width to 50% of the standard buffer or 25 feet, whichever is greater, in some areas with corresponding increases elsewhere	Reduces flexibility for wetlands to 75% of the standard buffer or 25 feet, whichever is greater; retains 50% allowance for streams, lakes, and marine waters, with corresponding increases elsewhere	Reduces flexibility for averaging to 75% establishing a new minimum of 30 feet, AND does the same for streams, lakes, and marine waters, with corresponding increases elsewhere
Enhancement	Enhancement Only: 25% reduction in both width and area Enhancement Plus Fencing: 30% reduction in both width and area Enhancement Plus Tracts: 30% reduction in both width and area Enhancement Plus Buffer Averaging: 50% reduction in width and 30% reduction in area	Enhancement Only: 25% reduction in both width and area No incentive for enhancement with protective fences No incentive for enhancement with tracts No incentive for enhancement with buffer averaging	Enhancement Only: 20% reduction in width and 25% reduction in area Enhancement Plus Fencing: 25% reduction width and 30% reduction in area Enhancement Plus Tracts: 25% reduction width and 30% reduction in area Enhancement Plus Buffer Averaging: 25% reduction in width and 30% reduction in area
Exemptions for small wetlands	Category I: Cannot be filled Category II: Can be filled if under 5,000 square feet and mitigation provided Category III: Can be filled if under 5,000 square feet and mitigation provided Category IV: Can be filled if under 10,000 square feet and mitigation provided	Category II: Cannot be filled Category III: Cannot be filled Category III: Cannot be filled Category IV: Can be filled if under 4,000 square feet and mitigation provided	Category II: Cannot be filled Category III: Cannot be filled Category III: If under 5,000 square feet and the habitat function score is 5 or less can be filled if mitigation provided Category IV: Can be filled if under 10,000 square feet and mitigation provided