

Storm Recovery/Reconstruction Ordinance

- **Questions to answer**
 - What is the objective for such an ordinance?
 - What does it include?
 - How does it work?
 - Is such an ordinance appropriate for Dewey Beach?
 - If appropriate, what should it include?
- **Three possible elements:**¹
 - **Storm recovery ordinance.** Provides legal authority for actions to expedite recovery, together with emergency powers protecting public health and safety, and fostering beneficial long-term recovery outcomes
 - **Storm recovery framework.** Guides recovery activities both before and after a disaster and explores options for restoration of critical community functions, services, vital resources, facilities, programs, and infrastructure.
 - **Disaster reconstruction ordinance.** Establishes legal authority and decision-making protocols for expediting permitting for repairs and reconstruction on private property, while at the same time identifying and capturing critical opportunities for increasing community resilience to future disasters and protecting environmental resources.
- **Examples:**
 - Model Recovery Ordinance – American Planning Association²
 - “An ordinance establishing a recovery organization, authorizing the preparation of a recovery plan, and granting emergency powers for staff actions that can ensure timely and expeditious post-disaster recovery for the Town (or equivalent) and amending Section(s) __ of the Municipal Code (or equivalent).”
 - Nags Head, NC Storm Reconstruction Ordinance³
 - “Following a damaging storm and enactment of a building moratorium it is the intent of the town to allow rebuilding and reconstruction in an orderly manner. The town will control the issuance of building permits to manage the location, timing, and sequence of reconstruction and repair. It is further the intent of this chapter that the town establish, prior to the storm, a special reconstruction task force which will oversee the recovery and reconstruction process and serve as an advisory body to the town board of commissioners on recovery/reconstruction issues. A main responsibility of this body will be to identify opportunities to mitigate future storm damages through the management of reconstruction. “

¹ <https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/training/disaster-recovery-preparedness.html> 8/27/24

² [modelrecoveryordinance.pdf \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

³ [Chapter 32 - STORM RECONSTRUCTION | Code of Ordinances | Nags Head, NC | Municode Library](#)

