

PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1.1. Name. The name of this body shall be the City of San Rafael Planning Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission.”

Section 1.2. Purpose. The purpose of the Commission to make decisions or advise the Council on land use and property development issues. The Commission assures that new development is consistent with our long-range General Plan, State laws and other public policies that advance the interests of our community.

Section 1.3. Committee Responsibility. The Commission’s authority is decision-making.

It shall be the function and duty of the planning commission to act as a decision-making body on quasi-legislative matters including but not limited to:

- major subdivisions as delegated to the planning commission under Title 15
- conditional use permits delegated to the planning commission
- environmental and design review permits delegated to the planning commission
- appeals made by a lower body and appealed to the planning commission

It shall be the function and duty of the planning commission to act as an advisory body to the city council on legislative matters related to but not limited to the following:

- General Plan updates and amendments
- Zoning Text and Zoning Map Amendments
- Other land use item requiring City Council action

It shall be the duty of the members of the planning commission, to inform themselves on matters affecting the functions and duties of the commission and all planning matters, and, to that end, may attend training and planning conferences and the reasonable traveling expenses incidental to the attendances shall be charged upon the funds allocated to the commission.

The planning commission shall endeavor to promote public interest and understanding of plans developed, and the regulations relating thereto. The commission shall adopt rules for the transaction of business and shall keep a record of its resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations, which records shall be a public record.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.1. Number of Members. The Commission shall consist of a total of seven (7) members as follows:

- District 1 Representative
- District 2 Representative
- District 3 Representative
- District 4 Representative
- At-large Member
- At-large Member
- At-large Member

Section 2.2. Eligibility. The Commission shall be composed of seven (7) regular voting Members, one commissioner from each district, and three at-large commissioners.

Requirements for eligibility:

1. District Representatives: Each district representative must reside in the district they represent.
2. At-Large Members: Must reside in city limits.

Section 2.3. Term Limits. Members of the Committee shall be limited to three (3) consecutive four-year terms. Additional terms may be served if there is a break between terms.

Section 2.4. Absence and Removal. An unexcused absence from two (2) consecutive Commission meetings without notification to the Staff Liaison shall be considered a voluntary resignation from the Commission. Previously dismissed Commission members may be eligible for reappointment to the Commission.

Section 2.5. Compensation. Commissioners shall serve without compensation.

ARTICLE III. MEETINGS

Section 3.1. Time and date of Regular Meeting. Notification of meeting place, date, and time shall be rendered to the public through posting on the City of San Rafael website. Regularly scheduled Commission meetings shall be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, but these dates may be impacted by holidays. A schedule shall be approved annually by the Commission. The Commission shall meet once per month and shall be scheduled annually. The schedule for the upcoming year will be set by December of the previous year.