

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1.1. Name. The name of this body shall be the City of San Rafael Design Review Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Board."

Section 1.2. Purpose. The Board shall serve as an advisory body to the city for the purpose of reviewing and formulating recommendations on all major physical improvements requiring environmental and design review permits, except that an alternate streamlined review process may be allowed for certain eligible projects by ordinance or resolution of the city council. The Board may also serve as an advisory body on other design matters, including minor physical improvements or administrative design permits, referred to the board by the community development director, planning commission or city council. The Board shall provide professional design analysis, evaluation and judgment as to the completeness, competence and appropriateness of development proposals for the use and setting and to recommend approval, approval with conditions, redesign or denial based on design standards adopted by the city council.

Section 1.3. Board Responsibility. The Board's responsibilities shall be in accord with these Bylaws, as amended from time-to-time by the City Council. The Board's authority is advisory only. The Board has no power to act on behalf of the City of San Rafael or any other entity.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.1. Number of Members. The Board shall consist of a total of five (5) regular members and may include one alternate member appointed by the city council. The design review board members shall be qualified as follows:

1. At least two (2) members shall be licensed architects or licensed building designers;
2. At least one member shall be a licensed landscape architect;
3. At least one of the five (5) members shall have background or experience in urban design;
4. The alternate member may have qualifications in any of the above fields of expertise; and
5. In addition to the five (5) council-appointed Board members and one alternate member, one planning commissioner shall attend Board meetings. This liaison planning commissioner shall be appointed by the commission chairperson. An additional commissioner shall be appointed to serve as an "alternate liaison" in case of absence. The planning commission liaison should be present at all design review board meetings to offer advice and direction to the board on matters of commission concern.

Alternate Member. The alternate member may temporarily fill a vacancy created when a regular member: (1) leaves office prior to completion of the member's term; (2) cannot

attend a meeting; or (3) cannot participate on a particular matter due to a conflict of interest.

Section 2.2. Eligibility. Board members shall be residents of the city of San Rafael.

Section 2.3. Appointment of Board Members. Regular voting members and alternate members shall be appointed by the City Council. Appointments shall be published on the website for the City of San Rafael in accordance with Government Code Section 54973, as amended from time to time.

The liaison Planning Commissioner shall be appointed by the Commission Chairperson. An additional Commissioner shall be appointed to serve as an “alternate liaison” in case of absence.

Section 2.4. Terms of Appointment. Each Board member shall serve a term of four (4) years. An effort will be made to ensure that the terms are staggered, and not all of the appointments expire in the same year.

Section 2.5. Term Limits. Members of the Board shall be limited to three (3) consecutive four-year terms. Additional terms may be served if there is a break between terms.

Section 2.6. Absence and Removal. An unexcused absence from two (2) consecutive Board meetings without notification to the Staff Liaison shall be considered a voluntary resignation from the Board. Previously dismissed Board members may be eligible for reappointment to the Board. The members of the Board shall be subject to removal by the affirmative vote of three members of the city council.

Section 2.7. Compensation. Board members 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 Board meetings shall be the first and third Tuesday of each month, but these dates may be impacted by holidays. A schedule shall be approved annually by the Board. The Board shall meet once per month. The schedule for the upcoming year will be set by December of the previous year.