



# REPORT TO LAW & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

CONSENT  
July 24, 2012

Honorable Members of the  
Law and Legislation Committee

**Title:** Title 2 Amendment relating to the Planning and Design Commission Member Qualifications (M12-005)

**Location/Council District:** Citywide

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Law and Legislation Committee review and recommend approval of the proposed ordinance and forward their recommendation to the City Council.

**Contact:** Sandra Yope, Senior Planner, (916) 808-7158, Greg Bitter, Principal Planner, (916) 808-7816;

**Presenters:** None

**Department:** Community Development

**Division:** Planning

**Organization No:** 21001221

## **Description/Analysis**

**Issue:** On February 28, 2012, the City Council adopted ordinances to merge the Planning Commission and Design Commission into the Planning and Design Commission. The requirements for being a member of the new commission were listed in Title 2 of the City Code. Recently, the Personnel and Public Employees Committee (P&PE) requested staff to remove one specific requirement from the qualifications for the four P&PE appointees. Currently, the qualification section requires three of the appointees to be qualified by training or professional experience in any of the following categories: a licensed architect; a licensed LEED (or equivalent) architect; a licensed landscape architect, a licensed contractor; or a licensed engineer. It further states that a minimum of two out of three members be qualified in different categories. P&PE wants to eliminate the requirement that two of the three must be qualified from different categories. This requirement has severely limited their ability to appoint members to the new Planning and Design Commission due to the lack of applicants from various disciplines.

The proposed Ordinance would remove the sentence “A minimum of two of these members shall be qualified in different categories.” There would be no other changes made to the qualification requirements.

**Policy Considerations:** The City Council adopted the 2030 General Plan on March 3, 2009. In recognition of their interdependence, policies addressing both land use and urban design were combined into one element of the General Plan to ensure that the physical forms and patterns of future development advance the City’s desire for a higher quality of life and a more sustainable future. The consolidated Planning and Design Commission provides an opportunity to more effectively and efficiently implement the Land Use and Urban Design Element of the General Plan. The proposed change in the requirement allows for flexibility in filling all positions on the Commission.

**Environmental Considerations:** : Because this report concerns general policy and procedure making, CEQA, does not apply per section 15378 (b)(3), which states that continuing administrative or maintenance activities, which are not conducted in conjunction with a project subject to CEQA review, are not considered to be “projects” and are therefore exempt.

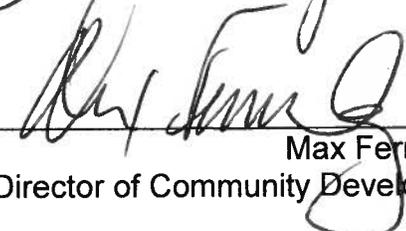
**Sustainability Considerations:** None

**Rationale for Recommendation:** Removing the restrictive qualification allows the P&PE flexibility to fill positions on the Planning and Design Commission and avoid extended vacancies due to a lack of qualified applicants who meet the restrictive qualifications.

**Financial Considerations:** None.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** No goods or services are being purchased under this report.

Respectfully Submitted by:   
David Kwong, Planning Director

Approved by:   
Max Fernandez  
Director of Community Development

**Title 2 Change to the Design  
and Planning Commission (12-005)**

**July 24, 2012**

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Attachments

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Attachment 1: Ordinance Amending Title 2 of the City Code- Redlined

**ORDINANCE NO. 2012-**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

Date Adopted

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.60.020 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY  
CODE RELATING TO THE PLANNING AND DESIGN COMMISSION**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

**SECTION 1.**

Subsection (B)(1)(b) of Section 2.60.020 is amended to read as follows:

b. Three shall have: (i) demonstrated interest in urban design, landscape or architectural design, or physical development of the city; and (ii) shall be qualified by training or professional experience and demonstrated leadership in any of the following categories: a licensed architect; a licensed LEED (or equivalent) architect; a licensed landscape architect; a licensed contractor; or a licensed engineer. ~~A minimum of two of these members shall be qualified in different categories.~~

**SECTION 2.**

Except as specifically amended as set forth in Section 1 above, Section 2.60.020 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

Attachment 2: Ordinance Amending Title 2 of the City Code

Date Adopted

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.60.020 OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY  
CODE RELATING TO THE PLANNING AND DESIGN COMMISSION**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

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Subsection (B)(1)(b) of Section 2.60.020 is amended to read as follows:

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**SECTION 2.**

Except as specifically amended as set forth in Section 1 above, Section 2.60.020 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.