

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM REPORT FOR MEETING OF: January 21, 2025

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To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: John Jay, Associate Planner
Subject: Conduct interviews for openings on the Design Review/Tree Board

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RECOMMENDATIONS:

The item is to request the Council conduct interviews for the open positions on the Design Review Board.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD – 2 YEAR TERM

The Design Review Board meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 3:30 p.m. at the Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA. Appointments are for two years and the term ending date for the current vacancies was December 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

Municipal Code Chapter 2.32, Design Review Board states for Members and Terms as follows:

The Board shall consist of five members or such other number as the City Council shall, from time to time, determine by resolution, but in no event less than five members. The Board members shall serve a term of two years or until their successors are appointed. Initially, three members of the Board shall be appointed for two years and two members shall be appointed for one year. Thereafter, the terms shall be staggered in accordance with their expiration dates. In making the appointments the City Council shall select, insofar as possible, the following:

- A. Two persons, at least one of whom shall be a licensed architect and at least one of whom shall be a licensed landscape architect.
- B. One person who may be any of the following: architect, landscape architect, building designer, building contractor, landscape contractor.
- C. Two persons not in subsection A or B of this section.
- D. One alternate who may be in subsection A of this section or who possesses a particular expertise in the area of design, land use patterns, urban development or other related fields to serve at any meeting or on any matter in the absence of a Board member, or in the event a member has a conflict of interest.
- E. In the event suitable candidates satisfactory to the City Council in the above categories are not available to serve, the City Council may then select any person or persons in their discretion. All terms of office shall terminate December 31st of the last year of the term of appointment.

The current Design Review Board members are as follows:

| DESIGN REVIEW BOARD | TERM ENDING DATE | CATEGORY |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Lars Langberg, Chair | 12/31/2025 | Category A |
| Melissa Hanley, Vice-Chair | 12/31/2025 | Category C |
| Christine Level | 12/31/2025 | Category C |
| Lynn Deedler | 12/31/2024 | Category B |
| Cary Bush | 12/31/2024 | Category A |
| Marshall Balfe (Alternate) | 12/31/2024 | Category D |

The City Council received applications from the following individuals for the three openings on the Design Review Board.

| DESIGN REVIEW BOARD | CATEGORY |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Lynn Deedler | Category B |
| Marshall Balfe (Alternate) | Category D |
| Christian D. Macke | Category A/C |

Design Review Board INTERVIEW

Design Review Board (Three Seats Open)

5:45 p.m. Lynn Deedler Category B
 6:00 p.m. Marshall Balfe Category D
 6:15 p.m. Christian D. Macke Category A/C

STAFF ANALYSIS:

The City received three applications within the time period for the three openings. This item is for the Council to conduct interviews for the three vacancies on the Design Review Board.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

This item has been noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight.

RESTATED RECOMMENDATION:

1. Conduct interviews with the three applicants

OPTIONS:

None. Consideration of appointment will be considered later in the agenda.

ATTACHMENTS:

Applications (redacted)

APPROVALS:

Department Head Approval: Approval Date: 12/30/2024

CEQA Determination (Planning): Approval Date: 12/30/2024

The proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Administrative Services (Financial) Approval Date: 1/2/2025

Costs authorized in City Approved Budget: Yes No N/A

Account Code (f applicable) _____

City Attorney Approval: Approval Date: 1/6/25

City Manager Approval: Approval Date: 1/7/25

DRB

The Board shall consist of five members and the City Council shall select, if possible, the following:

- A. Two persons, at least one of whom shall be a licensed architect and at least one of whom shall be a licensed landscape architect.
- B. One person who may be any of the following: architect, landscape architect, building designer, building contractor, landscape contractor.
- C. Two persons not in subsection A or B of this section.
- D. One alternate who may be in subsection A of this section or who possesses a particular expertise in the area of design, land use patterns, urban development or other related fields to serve at any meeting or on any matter in the absence of a Board member, or in the event a member has a conflict of interest.
- E. In the event suitable candidates satisfactory to the City Council in the above categories are not available to serve, the City Council may then select any person or persons in their discretion. All terms of office shall terminate December 31st of the last year of the term of appointment.

Which category is being applied for? (Check all that apply)

- A
- B
- C
- D

Name: Lynn Deedler

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Home Phone Number: 707 823-3309

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

- Yes
- No

Work Phone Number: none

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

- Yes
- No

Facsimile Number: ?

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

- Yes
- No

E-Mail Address: Lynndeed@sonic.net

If appointed, do you want this address to be visible to the

public?
 Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? 2 yr.

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?


many

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? many times

Present Employer: retired

Job Title:  _____

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

This is my town. I care about it. This is an area I know about. I want to see harmony in the look and feel of our town architecture. We have a number of newer building that are attractive good architecture, but do not fit the character of our town. Show off architecture. They do not harmonize or meet the criteria of our General Plan or DRB guidelines. Such architecture creates a hodgepodge off of styles and diminishes our towns uniqueness.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: NA

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

How did you hear about this opening?

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

18 year on the sign Review Board

12 years on the Ives Pool Board

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

Sebastopol TrailMakers Sonoma County Bike Coalition Sebastopol Community Church Ives Pool Board

Design Review Board Complete Streets Committee

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

I have a feel for the character of the town core area. Like front window stopping a foot or two above the sidewalk, wet back entries at the center of the building, the tall boxiness. I have built five buildings in Sebastopol and talked owners in to design changes that made them look better. I have designed and built three houses that looked right for their place. (Not all)

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

San Jose State University: BS in Industrial Technology, Standard Secondary Teaching Credential,

Junior College Teaching Credential, Masters in Education.

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application and materials provided with the application?

I believe this for Sebastopol

The San Luis Design Review Guidelines starts with this statement, "If you do not work to protect the towns character, soon the town will look like everywhere else, and like nowhere."

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

Up dating the Sign Ordinance to allow larger signage, particularly in the town core.

Projecting signs on Main St

Art and sculpture with sign

For our four road entry ways encourage more unique, interesting and appropriate signs.

Define design criteria for what it is we want to see in our "unique" town.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

You listen and weigh the publics comments. Some times we get very good comments, but not often.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

In my tenure on the DRB I have seen little of this. Occasionally someone will immediately contradict your opinion, I do not think is good form. Respect and good manners are important in the process of good decision making.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

Discuss the matter respectfully.

I certify that I have thoroughly read and understand all material in this application.

Applicant's Signature :



Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT):

LYNN DEEDLER

Date:

Nov. 25, 2024

City Boards, Commissions, and Committees

The City Council appoints members to various boards, committees, and commissions as listed below:

- Planning Commission
- Design Review Board
- Public Arts Committee
- Other Miscellaneous Boards/Committees/Commission as Approved by the City Council

The bodies are comprised of community members who volunteer for service and are appointed by the City Council. All committee members serve at the pleasure of the City Council. The primary responsibility of the committees is to implement adopted City policy, and advise and make recommendations to the City Council. The adoption of policies, the issuance of proclamations, and the approval of agreements and other official acts of the City are the responsibility of the City Council. The City Manager designates as official staff liaison to each committee.

Application Process

When a vacancy on a board, committee or commission occurs, the City Clerk prepares a press release that is distributed to local media, including the Sonoma West County Times and News. The vacancy is also announced at City Hall and on the City of Sebastopol's web site <http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/>

Applications for vacancies are obtained from the City Clerk's office and completed applications are submitted to the City Clerk's office. Three to four weeks after the vacancy announcement, the completed applications are forwarded to the City Council in a regular agenda packet for public review. The City Council interviews all applicants at a meeting open to the public. The official appointment of Commission, Board or Committee members is made at a City Council meeting.

Terms of Office

Board, commission, and committee members generally serve two, three, or four-year overlapping terms. There is no monetary compensation or benefits for board, commission, or committee members. The City Council may reappoint incumbent members or fill vacancies with new appointees. Some bodies limit the number of consecutive terms an individual may serve.

Members are expected to serve their full terms of office; however, when a member must resign, due to personal or professional circumstances, he/she should send a letter to the City Council stating the effective date of the resignation. A member shall be removed from office upon three affirmative votes of the City Council, based on one of the following grounds:

- At the pleasure of the City Council, without cause:
- If he/she is absent from three consecutive meetings, unless permission by a majority vote of the board, committee or commission had been granted as reflected in the official minutes of the body.
- Or by operation of the City Code if:
- If he/she is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
- If he/she ceases to be a qualified board, commission or committee member per the City of Sebastopol Municipal Code.

General Responsibilities of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

City boards, commissions, and committees shall have the following general powers, duties and responsibilities in addition to those set forth in the Sebastopol Municipal Code and various Resolutions:

- To establish rules and regulations governing the election of their officers, the holding of meetings and the conduct of business for these meetings.
- To use all appropriate techniques in crystallizing and testing public sentiment on major public issues in their respective fields.
- To hold official hearings as required by law or requested by the City Council.

- To advise and recommend on City policies and procedures pertinent to their respective activities and functions.
- To support and adhere to all City policies promulgated by the City Council and to establish needed interim policies in the absence of the same.
- To provide information and promote good public relations between the City and the general public.
- To perform such other related functions as may be assigned to them by the City Council.

Desirable Characteristics in Applicants for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

While membership on City boards, committees and commissions requires no specific qualifications, with the exception of some seats on the Design Review Board and the Public Arts Committee, there are desirable characteristics for which the Council will be looking as they review applications:

- Familiarity with Community
The Council would require appointees to be familiar with the physical, social, and economic make-up of the City.
Applicants should have demonstrated an active interest and involvement in the community.

Familiarity with Major Issues

While it will be assumed that applicants are familiar with the specific issues that are being addressed by the board, committee or commission for which they are applying, it is also expected that applicants be aware of issues which will impact all sectors of City programs and services.

Knowledge of the Board, Commission or Committee

During the application process, applicants should become familiar with the responsibilities and role in the City's policy-making structure of the board, committee or commission for which they are applying.

Commitment to Serve

When appointed, members are expected to serve their term of office. While personal or professional circumstances might prompt an unexpected resignation, applicants who are aware of any reasons why they may not be able to complete a full term or attend regularly scheduled meetings, should indicate this on the application. While time commitments will vary depending upon schedules and workload, members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings. In addition to attending scheduled meetings, members may be expected to participate in study sessions or serve on subcommittees.

Relationship with the Community

As a member of a City board, committee or commission, your actions will reflect on the City of Sebastopol and you are required to relate to the community with impartiality and courtesy.

Commitment to City Policy:

The City Council has adopted ordinances and policies following an appropriate public process. As an appointed board, committee or commission member, your duty is to abide by such policies rather than implement personal preferences.

Tips for Applying for a City Board, Commission, or Committee

Type or neatly print your application. Due to the quantity of applications the Council must review, a neat application is appreciated.

Answer all questions on the application. Council reviews your application to gain an understanding of your background and experience, and what skills and talents you believe you could bring to a particular board, committee or commission. Don't forget to sign and date your application.

Attend one or two meetings of the board, committee or commission for which you are applying. Find out what the current issues are, and what issues may be coming in the future. Review the minutes of past meetings, available on the City web site or at City Hall depending on the appointment being applied for.

Talk to a current member. Current members can share with you their experience, they can give you an estimate of the time commitment involved, and they can discuss with you what they see as current and future issues for the City.

If you have questions about the function and role of members, talk with the City staff liaison to the board, committee or commission you are applying for. The City Clerk can provide contact information for City staff members who are assigned to work with the boards, committees and commissions. It is important to note that City staff members cannot and do not recommend or lobby for any applicant.

Find out City Council's priorities and interests. Attend City Council meetings and review meeting minutes. Council meeting videos are archived on the City's website <http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/> and are available for purchase on DVD from the City Clerk's Office.

Review the Code of Ethics for Appointed and Elected Officials (the Brown Act), available by request from the City Clerk's Office and understand that if you are appointed to a board, committee or commission, you will be required to abide by it.

Prepare for the interview. Although we do not know what specific questions Council will ask, we suggest that you clarify for yourself why you are applying for a specific board, committee or commission, understand its role and function, and be familiar with the current issues it is examining.

Treat the interview with City Council as a business or job interview. Understand that the City Council is not only considering what experience, skills and talents you bring, they are interested in how you will represent the City.

APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Contact Information

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk,
MMC Mary Gourley
7120 Bodega Avenue
P.O. Box 1776
Sebastopol, CA
95473
Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov

phone: 707-823-1153
fax: 707-823-1135

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:30 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch) Closed every Friday

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol's Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form and either print and mail it to the address above, or email your completed application to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information visible to the public; however, your information may be made public upon request by (a) member(s) of the public.

The Board shall consist of five members and the City Council shall select, if possible, the following:

- A. Two persons, at least one of whom shall be a licensed architect and at least one of whom shall be a licensed landscape architect.
- B. One person who may be any of the following: architect, landscape architect, building designer, building contractor, landscape contractor.
- C. Two persons not in subsection A or B of this section.
- D. One alternate who may be in subsection A of this section or who possesses a particular expertise in the area of design, land use patterns, urban development or other related fields to serve at any meeting or on any matter in the absence of a Board member, or in the event a member has a conflict of interest.
- E. In the event suitable candidates satisfactory to the City Council in the above categories are not available to serve, the City Council may then select any person or persons in their discretion. All terms of office shall terminate December 31st of the last year of the term of appointment.

Which category is being applied for? (Check all that apply)

- A
- B
- C
- D

Name: MARSHALL BALFE

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Home Phone Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: _____

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this address to be visible to the

public?

Yes

No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes

No

If so, for how long? 7 YEARS

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes

No

If so, for how long? _____

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

CURRENT MEMBER - 4 YEARS

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes

No

If so, when? 4 YEARS AGO, _____

Present Employer: SELF _____

Job Title:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

NOVATO DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION -
4 YEARS, RE-APPOINTED BUT MOVED HERE,

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

ELKS CLUB - NOVATO - 11 YEARS,

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

YES, CHAIRMAN OF DESIGN REVIEW COMM.
THIRD YEAR.

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

54 YEARS OF WORK EXPERIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE
AND CONSTRUCTION,

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

MARCH, - UC BERKELEY - 1972

B. ARCH. - OKLA. STATE UNIV. - 1970

B.A. - OKLA. STATE UNIV. - 1969 (ART & ARCH. HIST.)

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE CONTRIBUTING EXPERIENCE TO COMMUNITY.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

How did you hear about this opening? JOHN JAY-FLANNER

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application and materials provided with the application?

SPENT TIME TEACHING AND AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ARCHITECTURE DEPT. AT HEALD ENGINEERING COLLEGE - S.F.

I HAVE ALSO BEEN LICENSED IN OREGON AND ARIZONA.

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

I HAVE WORKED ON A WIDE VARIETY OF PROJECT TYPES - LARGE AND SMALL.

THE FIRST HALF OF MY CAREER, I WORKED FOR ARCHITECTS, CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

APPROPRIATE AND GOOD DESIGN.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

EVALUATE THEM CAREFULLY, AND LOOK TO THE GREATER GOOD. AND, ARE THEY PRACTICAL AND/OR REAL SOLUTIONS.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

I AM A VERY REASONABLE AND FLEXIBLE PERSON, AND I DON'T THINK THIS WOULD REALLY HAPPEN. I HAVE SUCCESSFULL AS AN EMPLOYER, AND A LEADER IN THE MILITARY.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

IF A SUBMITTAL FOLLOWS ALL THE CITY RULES, THEN THE BOARD SHOULD STRIVE HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT THE DESIGN IS AS GOOD AS IT CAN BE.

I certify that I have thoroughly read and understand all material in this application.

Applicant's Signature : Marshall Balfe

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): MARSHALL BALFE

Date: 11-26-2024

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- Or by operation of the City Code if:
- If he/she is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
- If he/she ceases to be a qualified board, commission or committee member per the City of Sebastopol Municipal Code.

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Relationship with the Community

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Attend one or two meetings of the board, committee or commission for which you are applying. Find out what the current issues are, and what issues may be coming in the future. Review the minutes of past meetings, available on the City web site or at City Hall depending on the appointment being applied for.

Talk to a current member. Current members can share with you their experience, they can give you an estimate of the time commitment involved, and they can discuss with you what they see as current and future issues for the City.

If you have questions about the function and role of members, talk with the City staff liaison to the board, committee or commission you are applying for. The City Clerk can provide contact information for City staff members who are assigned to work with the boards, committees and commissions. It is important to note that City staff members cannot and do not recommend or lobby for any applicant.

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APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Contact Information

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
7120 Bodega Avenue
P.O. Box 1776
Sebastopol, CA 95473
Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

phone: 707-823-1153
fax: 707-823-1135


Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:30 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch)
Closed every Friday

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol’s Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form and either print and mail it to the address above, or email your completed application to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information visible to the public; however, your information may be made public upon request by (a) member(s) of the public.

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? Design Review Board

Name: Christian D. Macke

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:


Home Phone Number: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number: **(707) 242-1939**

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: **CDMacke@gmail.com** If

appointed, do you want this address to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? **1 Year**

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? _____

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

No, but I plan to attend the 1/23/2024 Meeting.

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? _____

Present Employer: [REDACTED]

Job Title: **Principal / Owner**

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

No.

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

International Living Futures Institute (ILFI) - San Francisco Chapter - Steering Committee Member (2017-2021)
Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) - Subject Matter Expert (SME) for California Supplemental Exam (2020-2021)
Urban Land Institute (ULI) - Agrihoods: Cultivating Best Practices Report - Contributing Member (2017)
San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) - Oakland Chapter Member (2015-2020)
Building Institute of America (BIA) - Northern California Chapter - New Gen Member (2014-2016)
Transition Laguna Beach - Board of Directors, Director of Programs (2010-2015)
- Garden Installation Program Director
- Harvest Celebration Event Planner
- Neighborhood Business and Organization Coordinator
- Neighborhood Congregational Church Sustainability Master Plan, Installation Project Manager
- Farmer's Market Booth Co-Director
- Glennwood House - Sustainability Master Plan, Installation & Education Grant Manager
- CSP Children's Crisis Residential Program / Laguna Beach Youth Shelter Garden Grant Manager
Urban Land Institute (ULI) Orange County - Young Leaders Member / Project Director (2010-2014)
United States Green Building Council (USGBC) OC - Emerging Builders Member & Green Schools Task Force (2012-2013)
Toastmasters International - Toastmaster (2012)

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

As a licensed Landscape Architect practicing in California for over 17 years, I have been involved in numerous projects, both Public and Private, which have sought reviews from various governmental agencies. These "first-hand" experiences have provided me with an in-depth knowledge of the various issues that arise through the public review process. Additionally, having served on the Board of Directors of a highly respected and influential non-profit organization in my previous town of similar size and demographics as Sebastopol, I understand the need for an objective perspective that is understanding of various points of view and the ability to work together on a committee that is accountable to a large body of stakeholders.

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture, Minor in Spanish Language (2002-2008)

Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Mexico
Independent Studies in Spanish Language (2004)

Permaculture Institute of Southern California, Laguna Beach, CA
Permaculture Design Certificate (2014)

Merritt College, Oakland, CA
Introduction to Real Estate 1, 2 (2018-2019)

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

- Bay Friendly Qualified Professional - Rescape California (2015)**
- Steward of Creation Award for Environment, Orange County Interfaith Coalition (2014)**
- Laguna Beach Community Foundation Grant Award Recipient for TLB+Glennwood House (2013)**
- Second Place, Nansha New Eco-City International Competition (2013)**
- First Place, LACCD SouthWest Campus Renovation (2012)**
- Young Leader Scholarship Award Recipient - Fall Meeting (2011)**
- LEED Accredited Professional - Building Design & Construction (2010)**
- Eagle Scout Award (2000)**

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

As a practicing Landscape Architect, I am passionate about design and the harmonious integration of developments within their community context. I have been a resident of Sebastopol for almost 2 years having purchased a home here in early 2022. My son will soon be attending Sebastopol Public Schools (we are in the Gravenstein School District which feeds to Analy High School). I say this because my wife and I have every intention on making Sebastopol our home for the rest of our lives and feel strongly that a great community is comprised of good people taking action.

I do not have any specific objectives nor any agenda other than to ensure that any proposed developments in the City are reflective of the values of the community and adhere to established guidelines.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

- Yes **No (I do not have projects within City limits, nor is my firm pursuing any projects within Sebastopol.)**

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

- Yes No

How did you hear about this opening?

City Council Newsletter and conversation with Cary Bush, current DRB Member

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application and materials provided with the application?

My "pre-career" jobs consisted of Public Pool Lifeguard and Youth Soccer Referee, both occupations which rely on careful attention to their attendees and adherence to established norms and regulations.

Additionally, as an Eagle Scout, Board of Director of a registered non-profit and member of various professional committees, I have undertaken voluntary leadership positions which have benefited my community and the organizations to which I belonged.

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

I have no existing financial or otherwise contentious interests in the City aside from being a homeowner and parent of a child attending public school in town.

As a Landscape Architect, I feel my attention to issues "outside the building envelope" are extremely important to balance the Design Review Board by ensuring community-scale context is understood and acknowledged with proposed developments. Additionally, my passion for design typically translates to my desire to understand the finer points and details of a project that can so often be overlooked, yet can have an over-sized impact on the public perception and overall community cohesion of a project.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

None that I am aware of currently nor that exist outside of the established City of Sebastopol Design Review Guidelines, which is quite comprehensive.

Additionally, with the recent passage of SB35, promoting a fast-track process for affordable housing projects, it is important to that the Board continue to make proper reviews and considerations of each project on their own merits based on the presented plans and information.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

Public hearings are critical to the democratic process. Due diligence in a timely manner in informing the public about issues that will be up for review is also paramount to ensure the public has enough time and information to be informed enough to make educated comments. Community comments would be considered and integrated into any findings on a case-by-case basis pending the legality and general nature of the comments.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

Very good question! I would seek to find an understanding with the other member by meeting one-on-one to understand their perspective(s). I feel that once the various personalities and interests are understood, it is easier to navigate the potential pitfalls and hurdles that may arise. Listening is very important as is people knowing they have been heard. Oftentimes disagreements can be as simple as communication misunderstandings or the feeling that one has not been heard, which can be avoided or assuaged by acknowledging their comments / perspectives.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

Another very good question! I would defer to the established City of Sebastopol Design Review Guidelines to ensure the project is indeed adhering to the standards and I would seek guidance from the more senior members of the Board, City Staff or Planning Commission if I find difficulty in supporting a project. At the end of the day, its not about me - its about the Community of Sebastopol and it's future generations.

I certify that I have thoroughly read and understand all material in this application.

Applicant's Signature : CHRISTIAN D. MACKE

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): Christian D. Macke

Date: November 3, 2024