

NEW WESTMINSTER DESIGN PANEL

Terms of Reference

Mandate:

The role of the New Westminster Design Panel (NWDP) is to review and comment on the design aspect of development projects in New Westminster. The NWDP may also be asked to comment on policy or regulatory matters related to building form, design and construction by the Development Services Department. The comments of the NWDP are used to advise staff and New Westminster City Council. The NWDP shall review and comment on the following, as well as other items noted in the Architectural Institute of British Columbia's Bulletin 65 and the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects' BCSLA Advisory Design Panel Guidelines:

1) Neighbourhood Context 2) Site context / site planning 3) Building form and massing 3) Architectural style and details 5) Landscaping 6) Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) 7) Effect on the streetscape 8) Sustainability. The NWDP shall comment on development projects as they relate to guidelines in the New Westminster Official Community Plan and/or specific development plan areas.

Members:

The Committee shall consist of 9 voting members as follows:

- Four members of the AIBC, consisting of members with a variety of areas of specialization, including areas such as sustainability, heritage, urban design and accessibility.
- One member of the development industry.
- Two members of the BCSLA.
- Two members of the community.

Staff Advisors

- Representatives from the Development Services, Engineering, Parks and Recreation and Police Departments. The Development Services Department shall provide a brief written outline of the project and introduction at each meeting. The staff comments shall note any variances being proposed and relevant development guidelines from the New Westminster Official Community Plan and / or any specific development plan area to be considered. Staff will also note any issues to be reviewed by the committee.

Term:

The first term of the NWDP will be from July 1, 2008 to January 31, 2011. Thereafter, members will be appointed (in accordance with the procedures of their pertinent professional organization) by Council for a two year period from February of the first year to January of the second year.

Chair:

At the beginning of each year, members of the Committee shall select one of the voting members to act as Chair for the year. The Chair will act as the official representative of the Panel. The meetings will be facilitated by a staff member.

Attendance:

Members shall advise the Recording Secretary of their intent to attend or to be absent from a meeting. Any member who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Committee, or in excess of one-third of all meetings over any six month period, without leave of absence from the Committee, or a reason satisfactory to the Committee, may by resolution of the Committee, cease to be a member of the Committee. The City Council shall have the power to remove any member of the Committee from office at any time and appoint a new member at any time.

Quorum:

A quorum shall consist of five voting members.

Rules of Procedure:

Committee procedures shall be governed by:

1. The Council Procedure Bylaw; and
2. The Rules of Conduct: Standing Committees and Advisory Bodies, provided, and as revised from time to time by the Legislative Services Department.