

**THE ROLE OF CITY  
ADVISORY GROUPS**

The City of Santa Barbara has 31 Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees to advise the City Council on a wide variety of subjects.

In keeping with the City's philosophy of citizen involvement, the City Council appoints persons to City Advisory Groups to assist in formulating City policy. Santa Barbara is proud of the quality of service performed by volunteers.



**Equal Employment Opportunity** encourages applications from all qualified candidates without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (including transgenderism), political affiliation or beliefs, sex, age (over 40), disability status, medical condition, marital status or pregnancy.

**Diversity and Inclusion** is important to the City because a successful workplace must not only be comprised of people from different backgrounds and perspectives but also capitalize on their talents and perspectives. Adopting practices that value and include diversity at all levels of the organization is an essential step to developing strategies that meet the needs of a diverse community.



**City of Santa Barbara—City Clerk's Office**  
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- Access Advisory Committee
- Airport Commission
- Architectural Board of Review
- Arts Advisory Committee
- Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals
- Central Coast Commission for Senior Citizens
- Civil Service Commission
- Community Development and Human Services
- Community Events and Festivals Committee
- Creeks Advisory Committee
- Downtown Parking Committee
- Fire and Police Commission
- Fire and Police Pension Commission
- Harbor Commission
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Housing Authority Commission
- Library Board
- Living Wage Advisory Committee
- Measure P Committee
- Metropolitan Transit District Board
- Mosquito and Vector Management District Board
- Neighborhood Advisory Council
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Rental Housing Mediation Task Force
- Santa Barbara Youth Council
- Sign Committee
- Single Family Design Board
- Sister Cities Board
- Transportation and Circulation Committee
- Water Commission

**City of Santa Barbara**



**Boards  
&  
Commissions**



*Community Participation  
in Local Government*



## Recruitments

An annual recruitment is conducted to fill numerous positions whose terms expire at the end of each calendar year. Additional recruitments may occur during the year, for example, to fill positions on a newly created board, commission, or committee or to provide sufficient members on a board, commission, or committee for a quorum.

As a part of the recruitment process, the City Clerk's Office notifies each incumbent as well as interested persons about the term expirations and vacancies, the deadline for receipt of applications, and the dates for the interviews and appointments.

## Eligibility

Qualifications for membership vary depending on the City Advisory Group. In most cases, appointees must be residents and qualified electors of the City. A qualified elector is a United States citizen, 18 years of age or older, and living within the city limits of Santa Barbara. An appointee may not hold any full-time paid office or employment in City government. Membership qualifications are listed in the vacancy notice available in the City Clerk's Office, at the Library, and on the City's website at [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov). Additional information related to the City Advisory Groups is also available on the City's website.

## Application Process

Persons interested in serving on a City Advisory Group, including incumbents who wish to be considered for reappointment, must file a separate application for each group with the City Clerk's Office. The application consists of three pages. Only one additional page of information may be submitted. Applications may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office or from the City's website at [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov).

Applications may be completed for vacancies that currently exist or for consideration when future scheduled or unscheduled vacancies occur. An application remains on file in the City Clerk's Office for a period of one year from the date of receipt unless the applicant requests that it be withdrawn.

Applications may be submitted by hand to the City Clerk's office, mail, fax, or via e-mail.

## Interviews

Applicants are required to appear for an interview before the City Council. The City Council interviews each applicant during a Council meeting open to the public. Each applicant is requested to prepare a two to three minute verbal presentation that responds to a set of general and specific questions that are provided to the applicant by the City Clerk's Office in advance. An overall time limit of five minutes for the interview is allotted if the person is applying for more than one group.

The City Clerk's Office will notify applicants of the date(s) and time(s) for the interviews.

## Conflict of Interest & Statements of Economic Interests

The Political Reform Act of 1974 (Government Code Sections 81000, et seq.), which was approved by the voters of the State of California, is intended to prevent conflicts of interest by requiring public officials to disclose certain personal financial interests, which could foreseeably cause conflicts. In addition, a public official may be required to disqualify himself/herself from making, participating in, or attempting to influence any government decision which will affect any of his/her financial interests, not just those that are required to be disclosed.

The Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Office is available at their toll free telephone number (866-275-3772) to explain what a conflict of interest is and when the law requires disqualification, and the information is available at the FPPC website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov). The City Clerk's Office and the City's website at [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov) also provide conflict of interest information.

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