

Argument In Favor Of Measure E

The Architectural Board of Review (ABR) is one of Santa Barbara's three citizen volunteer design review boards. Measure E will reduce the membership of the ABR from 9 to 7, and allow up to three members to be county residents instead of city residents only. These changes will improve the efficiency and cohesiveness of the ABR, and make it easier to recruit talented contributors to one of the city's most important volunteer boards.

The city's Historic Landmarks Commission (HLC), which is responsible for design review of buildings in our historic downtown, has allowed members from outside of the city since its inception in 1960. Measure E would bring the ABR into line with this wise practice.

A current HLC member, architect Donald Sharpe, was at one time chairman of the ABR. Mr. Sharpe now lives just outside of city limits, and under current rules would not be allowed to serve again on the ABR. Measure E will correct this, and allow us to draw on a much wider pool of talented architects, landscape architects, historians, and interested citizens.

These sensible and prudent changes to the membership requirements of one of our most important volunteer review boards are long overdue.

Please vote YES on MEASURE E!

Mayor & Council
City of Santa Barbara

William Mahan
Past Chairman, ABR

Bruce Bartlett
Past Chairman, ABR