

**MEASURE E – 2009**

**MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS**

**ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW**

<b>E</b> <b>2009</b>	Shall the City Charter be revised by amending Charter Section 814 to reduce the number of Members on the Architectural Board of Review (the “ABR”) from nine (9) to seven (7) members and to allow the City Council to appoint up to three (3) ABR members from persons registered to vote within Santa Barbara County and not necessarily just within the City of Santa Barbara as currently required?	<b>YES</b>
		<b>NO</b>

**CITY ATTORNEY’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE E – 2009**

This measure would amend City Charter section 814 to decrease the size of the City’s Architectural Board of Review (the “ABR”) from nine (9) board members to seven (7) board members. The measure also would allow, but not require, the Santa Barbara City Council to appoint up to three (3) ABR members who live outside the City so long as the persons appointed to the ABR are voters who are registered within Santa Barbara County. Otherwise, existing Charter section 802 requires all persons appointed to the ABR to be registered voters residing within the City.

This measure would provide that the City Council may adopt an ordinance to establish a method for appropriately transitioning the ABR from nine (9) board members to seven (7) board members.

*The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure E.*

/s/ Stephen P. Wiley  
City Attorney

**FULL TEXT OF MEASURE E - 2009**

**SHOWING CHANGES FROM EXISTING CHARTER LANGUAGE**

DELETIONS IN STRIKE-OUT TEXT  
NEW LANGUAGE IN UNDERLINE

**Section 814. Architectural Board of Review. Powers and Duties.**

There shall be an Architectural Board of Review composed of ~~nine (9)~~ seven (7) members. At least two (2) members of such Board shall be licensed architects, and at least three (3) other members shall possess professional experience in related fields, including but not limited to, landscape architecture, building design, structural engineering or industrial design. Notwithstanding Charter section 802, three members of the Architectural Board of Review need not be qualified electors of the City at the time of their appointment so long as they are qualified electors of Santa Barbara County and remain so qualified during their terms on the Board. Four (4) members shall constitute a quorum, one (1) of which shall be an architect. The Board shall have the power and duty to:

(a) Review and approve, conditionally approve or disapprove all applications for a building permit for the erection or exterior alteration of any type, nature or kind of building, structure or sign that may be specified by ordinance as requiring such action within any area, district or zone of the City, except for those applications subject to review by the Historic Landmarks Commission. Any application for a building permit, except for those applications subject to review by the Historic Landmarks Commission, for the erection or exterior alteration of any such type, nature or kind of building, structure or sign within any such area, district or zone shall be referred to said Board before issuance, together with plans, elevations and site plans therefor. Any applicant may appeal in writing to the City Council from any action or decision of the Architectural Board of Review, whereupon the City Council may approve, conditionally approve or disapprove such application and the decision of the City Council shall be final. No such building permit shall be issued except in accordance with the approval of the Architectural Board of Review, or on appeal of the City Council. The City Council shall, by ordinance consistent with this Charter, implement the provisions of this section, including those ordinance provisions deemed necessary to properly transition the Board from nine (9) members to seven (7) members.

**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!

/s/ Mayor & Council  
City of Santa Barbara

/s/ William Mahan  
Past Chairman, ABR

/s/ Bruce Bartlett  
Past Chairman, ABR

**ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E**

(None Filed)