

Design Review Board

Annual Report and Workplan for 2025

Report on 2024 Activities

During 2024, the DRB held seventeen meetings (a threefold increase from the previous year). The work focused on review of development projects as required by Bainbridge Island Municipal Code. The Design Review Board reviewed and made recommendations on the following projects:

- 257 Wood Ave Cottage Dev
- HRB-Ericksen
- Clark Construction Office
- Pippinger 4-lot Short Subdivision
- Deercliff Community
- Nishi Gardens Short Plat
- Perilstein Kallgren Preliminary Short Plat
- PBV South Subdivision

Several of these development projects help address climate and housing priorities identified by City Council.

Additionally, on January 13, 2023, the City Council directed the city manager to work with the Design Review Board to develop proposed amendments to the municipal code and administrative procedures to comply with new state rules regarding design review. This mandatory change to design review entailed a chapter-by-chapter effort on the part of the entire Board to analyze existing standards in the Design for Bainbridge manual and identify possible amendments to ensure objectivity. The DRB also worked on reducing the design review meeting process from three meetings to one.

2025 Workplan Priorities

The DRB will focus on implementing the new processes that were developed over the course of 2024 at the direction of City Council. Specifically:

- The DRB will work on updating procedures regarding revised meeting documentation, including template conditions to ensure design consistency throughout building process.
- The DRB will support the adoption process as the package of amendments is anticipated to be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council during Q1/Q2 2025.
- The DRB will review development projects as outlined in code as the projects are submitted.