

URBAN DESIGN INDIANAPOLIS
Policies and Procedures Sub-Committee

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Committee Members:

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Regional Center Plan Context for the Sub Committee:

The Regional Center Plan was adopted as a part of the Comprehensive Plan by the Metropolitan Development Commission on March 3, 2004. The Plan contains goals, objectives, and projects and programs to guide Downtown development for the next 20 years. One of the Key Priorities of the Regional Center Plan was to "Evaluate the design review process for the Regional Center." The plan advocates good urban design to assure a vibrant and appealing downtown. The plan reinforces efforts to engage the public in the evaluation of the design review process and polices to promote quality design and diversity, improve accessibility and raise environmental awareness.

Purpose of Committee:

Analyze and recommend changes to the policies and procedures of urban design and zoning review in the Regional Center.

Description of Committee:

This committee will work with the Department of Metropolitan Development to review and analyze the policies and procedures of urban design and zoning review in the Regional Center. Resources for this effort will be:

- Regional Center Approval Process Assessment, Schmidt Assoc., 2003.
- Urban Design Oversight Committee-Design Review Comparative Study, Scott Day and Nick Kalogerisis, National Main Street Center, 2003. This "best practices study" researched 14 communities and reported on each areas

review process. The character of the study areas varied considerably, including historic areas, downtowns and corridors. The content of this report and the one above addresses the review mechanisms and the types of review utilized. Both reports attest to the use of and need for Design Guidelines. Twelve of the fourteen communities have Design Guidelines as the basis for design review.

- Regional Center Approval Process Chart, Division of Planning, 2005.
- Certificate of Appropriateness Process Chart, Division of Planning and Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, 2005.

In addition, the sub committee will take into account any recommendations for changes to policies or procedures made by the other sub committees. The sub committee will use this information to recommend any necessary new or amended changes to the current policy and procedure framework of the City of Indianapolis.

Next Steps:

Schedule Sub Committee Meetings-

Meeting 1-Review the following:

- Regional Center Approval Process Assessment, Schmidt Assoc., 2003.
- Urban Design Oversight Committee-Design Review Comparative Study, Scott Day and Nick Kalogeresis, National Main Street Center, 2003.
- Regional Center Approval Process Chart, Division of Planning, 2005.
- Certificate of Appropriateness Process Chart, Division of Planning and Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission, 2005.
(August)

Meeting 2-Review the recommendations of the other sub committees that deal with changes to policies and procedures of urban design review. (November)

Meeting 3-Prepare combined recommendations. (January)