



# Architectural Review Board Retreat Agenda: September 9, 2021

Virtual Meeting  
10:00 AM

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**\*\*\*BY VIRTUAL TELECONFERENCE ONLY\*\*\***

<https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 965 6189 1491

Phone number: 1 669 900 6833

Pursuant to the provisions of California Governor's Executive Order N-29-20, issued on March 17, 2020, to prevent the spread of Covid-19, this meeting will be held by virtual teleconference only, with no physical location. The meeting will be broadcast live on Cable TV and through Channel 26 of the Midpen Media Center at [bit.ly/MidPenwatchnow](http://bit.ly/MidPenwatchnow).

Members of the public may comment by sending an email to [arb@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:arb@cityofpaloalto.org) or by attending the Zoom virtual meeting to give live comments. Instructions for the Zoom meeting can be found on the last page of this agenda. Visit [bit.ly/PAPendingprojects](http://bit.ly/PAPendingprojects) to view project plans and details.

## Call to Order / Roll Call

## Oral Communications

The public may speak to any item not on the agenda. Three (3) minutes per speaker.<sup>1,2</sup>

## Agenda Changes, Additions, and Deletions

The Chair or Board majority may modify the agenda order to improve meeting management.

## Study Session

Public Comment is Permitted. Three (3) minutes per speaker.<sup>1,3</sup>

1. Discussion Session (1 hour): How does the ARB define high quality development?

(Note: We may not get to all of these questions in one hour)

- What is the architectural character of Palo Alto? Can we define it / bottle it?
- How do we feel about the character? Is it stodgy, or comforting, or quaint?
- How do we want it to evolve? Do we want it to be more edgy? Transformative?
- What is worth retaining in terms of architectural character, and worth letting go of, as we move forward?

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1. Spokespersons that are representing a group of five or more people who are identified as present at the meeting at the time of the spokesperson's presentation will be allowed up to fifteen (15) minutes at the discretion of the Chair, provided that the non-speaking members agree not to speak individually.
  2. The Chair may limit Oral Communications to 30 minutes for all combined speakers.
  3. The Chair may reduce the allowed time to speak to two minutes or less to accommodate a larger number of speakers.

- What are some architectural masterpieces in the city of Palo Alto? Conversely, what are some embarrassing structures that deprive the community of its character?
  - \*Optional\* What parameters in a design standards/guidelines document inspire creativity? What parameters deplete a project of creativity?
  - \*Optional\* What kind of culture are we promoting when we promote certain architectural moves?
2. 2020 Architectural Review Awards - Presentation of Eligible Projects Completed From 2014 and Prior to July 2021 (1.5 hours)
- Review list of past projects – list provided as staff report attachment
  - Decide how to divide up the research
  - For second discussion, what awards would the ARB like to give out?
  - For second discussion, why we feel this project deserves an award, as it relates to some of the thoughts discussed in Item 1
3. Objective Standards Project Update and Discussion (30 mins)
- Jodie to give update on timeline
  - Osma and David give a quick overview of the graphics, and final items
  - Reflecting query: How has the Objective Standards captured our understanding of Palo Alto's architectural character, and how we want it to evolve?

## **Board Member Questions, Comments or Announcements**

## **Adjournment**

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# Palo Alto Architectural Review Board

Boardmember Biographies, Present and Archived Agendas and Reports are available online: <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/boards/architectural/default.asp>. The ARB Boardmembers are:

Chair Osma Thompson  
Vice Chair Grace Lee  
Boardmember Peter Baltay  
Boardmember David Hirsch  
Boardmember Alex Lew

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View online: <http://midpenmedia.org/category/government/city-of-palo-alto/> or on Channel 26.

Public comment is encouraged. Email the ARB at: [arb@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:arb@CityofPaloAlto.org).

Material related to an item on this agenda submitted to the ARB after distribution of the agenda packet is available for public inspection at [bit.ly/paloaltoARB](http://bit.ly/paloaltoARB).

## Americans with Disability Act (ADA)

It is the policy of the City of Palo Alto to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to all. Persons with disabilities who require materials in an appropriate alternative format or who require auxiliary aids to access City meetings, programs, or services may contact the City's ADA Coordinator at (650) 329-2550 (voice) or by emailing [ada@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:ada@cityofpaloalto.org). Requests for assistance or accommodations must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, program, or service.

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## Public Comment Instructions

Members of the Public may provide public comments to teleconference meetings via email, teleconference, or by phone.

1. **Written public comments** may be submitted by email to [arb@CityofPaloAlto.org](mailto:arb@CityofPaloAlto.org)
2. **Spoken public comments using a computer** will be accepted through the teleconference meeting. To address the Board, click on the link below for the appropriate meeting to access a Zoom-based meeting. Please read the following instructions carefully.
  - A. You may download the Zoom client or connect to the meeting in-browser. If using your browser, make sure you are using a current, up-to-date browser: Chrome 30+, Firefox 27+, Microsoft Edge 12+, Safari 7+. Certain functionality may be disabled in older browsers including Internet Explorer.
  - B. You will be asked to enter an email address and name. We request that you identify yourself by name as this will be visible online and will be used to notify you that it is your turn to speak.
  - C. When you wish to speak on an agenda item, click on “raise hand”. The moderator will activate and unmute attendees in turn. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak. The Zoom application will prompt you to unmute your microphone when it is your turn to speak.
  - D. When called, please limit your remarks to the time limit allotted.
  - E. A timer will be shown on the computer to help keep track of your comments.
3. **Spoken public comments using a smart phone** will be accepted through the teleconference meeting. To address the Council, download the Zoom application onto your phone from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and enter the Meeting ID below. Please follow instructions B-E above.
4. **Spoken public comments using a phone** use the telephone number listed below. When you wish to speak on an agenda item hit \*9 on your phone so we know that you wish to speak. You will be asked to provide your first and last name before addressing the Board. You will be advised how long you have to speak. When called please limit your remarks to the agenda item and time limit allotted.

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**(you may need to exclude the initial “1” depending on your phone service)**

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