

Appointment of the Architectural Review Oversight Subcommittee of Planning Commission

As part of the Annual Meeting of the Planning Commission, one of the responsibilities of the Planning Commission is to appoint the Architectural Review Oversight Subcommittee. The following excerpt from the *Zoning Ordinance* is provided.

Appendix B: Zoning Ordinance, Article 10 Section 2. Site development plan approval.

2.28 Consideration shall be given to the physical orientation and architectural characteristics of proposed buildings, the relationship of proposed buildings to existing buildings and to other proposed buildings, and their contributions to the overall image of the immediate vicinity by considering the building and architectural design guidelines as set forth in article 5, section 19. Design characteristics of proposed buildings and building additions shall not detract or devalue existing buildings in the immediate vicinity.

- (A) If the planning commission determines that the proposed physical orientation and architectural characteristics of the proposed buildings do not meet the intent and objectives of this section, then the planning commission shall refer the proposal to the architectural review oversight subcommittee for review and comment.
- (B) The subcommittee shall meet and review the proposal with the applicant, and return its comments to the planning commission by the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- (C) The architectural review oversight subcommittee shall be appointed by the commission at its annual meeting, and membership shall consist of two planning commission members, and two design professionals with experience in construction, and the mayor or the mayor's designee. Two alternate design professionals with experience in construction shall also be appointed.

At the July 20, 2026 Meeting of the Planning Commission began discussion of the composition of the Architectural Review Oversight Subcommittee of the Planning Commission. The following members are currently appointed (from July 2025), but final action was deferred pending completion of member appointments/reappointments.

- Kathleen Welsh, Planning Commission member
- Kenneth Roach, Planning Commission member
- Mayor or Mayor's designee

The Planning Commission at their July 20, 2026 Meeting also began consideration the appointment of two Design Professional members to the Subcommittee. The Planning Commission requested that Planning Staff contact the two current members (listed below) and report their availability to serve back to the Planning Commission. No other Design Professionals as Alternates were offered.

- Dr. R.J. Chandler, Faculty member of Architecture program at DelTech Community College, Design Professional
- Ms. Sarah Keifer, Director of Planning Services for Kent County, Design Professional

The Planning Commission as part of their Annual Meeting must act to appoint the membership of the Architectural Review Oversight Subcommittee. The Planning Commission began these activities at their July 20, 2026 Meeting but deferred final action.