



CDC Meeting Date:	April 23, 2025	
Name of Agenda Item:	Amendment to LMC 17 and 19 re Design Standards and the DRB	
Section of Agenda:	Discussion	
Next Steps Proposed by Staff:		Legal Review:
<input type="checkbox"/> Staff revisions	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to CDC	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Committees	<input type="checkbox"/> Recommended
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schedule for full Council	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Required
Attachments:		
Review Guide, Annotated and illustrated redline of LMC 17 and 19.		
Summary Statement:		
<p>State Legislation, HB 1293, has required that cities revise design review processes to eliminate standards which could be subjectively applied. The primary goal in this requirement is to reduce the review and approval time for proposed projects. It also serves to implement a more consistent standard. The City of Lynden must comply with the State's directives by the close of 2025.</p> <p>Historically the City of Lynden has maintained a Design Review Board (DRB). City code has required that the volunteer members of the DRB include some individuals who have design, construction, or building experience. This group has reviewed sign applications, commercial and multi-family projects as it relates to city design standards and adopted guidelines.</p> <p>The proposed amendment to the city code includes changes which impact a significant number of sections as the adopted design guidelines, previously a separate document, have been converted into code requirements now incorporated into the municipal code as standards. The amendment also proposed to dissolve the Design Review Board and instead an administrative process will be conducted by the staff of the Technical Review Committee. This dissolution relieves the burden of maintaining a Design Review Board and is expected to expedite the design review process.</p> <p>The Planning Commission reviewed the proposed changes to the code at two meetings held in February and March of this year. Their edits have been incorporated into the proposed draft. The proposed code is currently under review of the Department of Commerce. The final draft is slated to go before the Council on June 2nd.</p> <p>The proposed changes have been annotated and illustrated to assist in review. Additionally, an outline summarizing the edits has been attached as a review guide.</p>		
Recommended Action:		
Review and discuss.		