



City of Santa Barbara Advisory Groups Information on Current Vacancies Fall 2026

Pursuant to Section 54974 of the California Government Code, notice is hereby given that there are vacancies on the City of Santa Barbara's City Council Advisory Groups. A recruitment to fill unscheduled vacancies and scheduled vacancies is in progress. The attached Exhibit is a list of the vacancies and pertinent information.

Additional information concerning the function of these Advisory Groups, meeting times and locations may be obtained by accessing the City's website at:

www.santabarbaraca.gov/government/boards-commissions

Applications may be submitted as follows:

1. In person:

Paper applications are available in the City Clerk's Office, located at City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street, first floor, between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Please refer to the [City's calendar](#) for regular days of operation.

2. Online:

Submit your application for appointment consideration at any time online using the following link:
<https://netfile.com/bac/public/#/csb>

The deadline for submitting applications for the current advisory group recruitment cycle is Monday, October 19, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Interviews:

1. All applicants that are approved must interview with City Council during a regular City Council meeting to remain eligible for appointments. Interviews have been scheduled to take place at the November 10th regular meeting. Applicants will be notified via email and asked to make an appointment for their interview with City Council.
2. All Santa Barbara Youth Council (SBYC) applicants that are approved must be interviewed by the current members of the SBYC in addition to City Council, to remain eligible for appointments. Applicants will be notified via email on the dates the current SBYC will be holding interviews, as well as being asked to make an appointment for their interview with City Council.

The City Council is expected to make appointments to fill the vacancies on Tuesday, December 1st during the regular City Council meeting.

Access Advisory Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members and professionals from one of the following categories:

- Disability Community;
- Architectural, Engineering, or Building Communities; or
- Members at-large from the community.

Incumbents:

1. Nick Koonce, At-Large Community member
First appointed on 12/6/2016

Airport Commission

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the city. Up to 2 new members may be residents of the county of Santa Barbara.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Topaz Grabman, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 12/6/2022
2. Dennis Houghton, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 12/11/2018
3. Bruce Miller, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Architectural Board of Review

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the County of Santa Barbara and possess professional experience in one of the following categories:

- Landscape architecture;
- Building design;
- Structural engineering;
- Industrial design; or
- Other related fields.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Will Sofrin, Professional Qualifications – City
First appointed on 8/29/2023

Arts Advisory Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 2 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2027

Qualifications & Categories: Members should reside in the South Coast area of Santa Barbara County, bounded by the Gaviota tunnel on the north and the Santa Barbara County line on the south. Members should be people with acknowledged accomplishments in the arts and persons who demonstrate an interest in, and commitment to, cultural and arts activities.

Incumbents: None.

Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: June 30, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members should be residents of the City or adjoining unincorporated areas of Santa Barbara County and shall demonstrate knowledge and expertise in specialty areas governed by the construction and fire codes of the city. New member must be someone with a physical disability.

Incumbents: None.

Citizens' Oversight Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 7 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Five of the seven members must be qualified electors* of the city; the two remaining members may be electors not living in the city. Of the seven members, one member must be a representative of the business community, and one must be a representative of the hospitality community.

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Incumbents:

1. Amber Caldwell, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 11/19/2024
2. Steve Epstein, Business Community – City
First appointed on 6/26/2018
3. Jarrett Gorin, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 6/18/2019
4. Eric Grossman, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 6/28/2022
5. Barbara Silver, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 6/27/2023
6. Poornima Wagh, Qualified Elector – City
First appointed on 6/9/2026

Civil Service Commission

Total Membership: 5 members

Current Vacancies: 2 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the city, and may not hold any full-time paid office or employment in city government and for one year after ceasing to be a member, shall not be eligible for any salaried office or employment with the city.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Michael Dean
First appointed on 12/2/2025
2. Henry Freund
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Community Development and Human Services Committee

Total Membership: 13 members

Current Vacancies: 7 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2027 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the county and remain so during their term. Members should have familiarity with the history and geography of the city, and an understanding of community development, human services or housing needs. The current vacancies are comprised of one representative for each of the following categories:

- Latino Community;
- Business Community/Economic Development;
- Senior Community;
- Youth Oriented Services Organization;
- Homeless-related Service organizations; and
- One representative from each of the following low- and moderate-income neighborhoods:
 - Eastside; and
 - Oak Park.

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Incumbents:

1. Angelica Diaz, Oak Park Neighborhood
First appointed on 6/27/2023
2. Lyiam Galo, Homeless-related Services Organization
First appointed on 6/27/2023
3. Jennifer Lemberger, Business Community
First appointed on 6/10/2025
4. Robert Permut, Senior Community
First appointed on 6/27/2023
5. Jaime Ross, Eastside Community
First appointed on 6/9/2026

Community Events and Festivals Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be from one of the following categories:

- Representatives from the public at large; or
- Representative of the Cultural Arts.

Incumbents:

1. Lynda Dees, Public at Large
First appointed on 12/6/2022
2. Benjamin Goedert, Cultural Arts
First appointed on 12/2/2025
3. Sarah McLelland, Public at Large
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Creeks Advisory Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 4 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2027 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: One new member may be a non-city resident, and remaining members must be city residents. One new member must be a representative of the Hotel/Lodging Industry. Remaining members must be from one of the following categories:

- Someone with experience in environmental/land use issues.
- Someone with experience in ocean use, business, environmental issues, and/or provide community at-large representation.

Incumbents:

1. Anne Burdette, Environmental/Land Use Issues – City
First appointed on 6/27/2023
2. Lori Gaskin, Environmental/Land Use Issues – City
First appointed on 12/11/2018
3. Penny Owens, Environmental/Land Use Issues – City
First appointed on 12/9/2014

Fire and Police Commission

Total Membership: 5 members
Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies
Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the city. Members cannot be an individual or attorney who represents a person or entity with a pending claim or lawsuit against the Fire or Police Department, or any of their officers or employees. If an individual ends up representing a person or entity against either of the Departments during their term, the individual is required to resign from the Commission. Members also cannot be any current or former law enforcement officer or firefighter, or where relevant or comparable any member of the public, who has a sustained finding of serious misconduct made by any law enforcement agency, independent investigator contracted by a public agency, or court.

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Incumbents:

1. Linda Dozer
First appointed on 12/6/2022
2. Alberto Lapuz
First appointed on 2/4/2025
3. Aaron Jones
First appointed on 9/12/2023

Harbor Commission

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 2 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2027 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Up to one member may be a qualified elector* of the county of Santa Barbara; remaining members must be qualified electors* of the city of Santa Barbara.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Suzanne Cohen
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Historic Landmarks Commission

Total Membership: 9 members

Current Vacancies: 5 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2028 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: All members shall have demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the history and architecture of the city. Not less than 5 members must be qualified electors* of the city. At least 2 members must be licensed architects; at least 1 member must be a professional architectural historian; and at least 1 member must be a licensed landscape architect. The remaining members may represent the public at large.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Dennis Doordan, Professional Architectural Historian – City
First appointed on 12/8/2020
2. Cassandra Ensberg, Licensed Architect – City
First appointed on 6/28/2022
3. Charles McClure, Licensed Landscape Architect – Non-City
First appointed on 1/31/2023
4. Robert Ooley, Licensed Architect – City
First appointed on 12/11/2018

Library Board

Total Membership: 5 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the city.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Cecilia Harris
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Mosquito and Vector Management District Board

Total Membership: 1 member

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: January 1, 2029

Qualifications & Categories: Member must be a registered voter of the city of Santa Barbara, or a member of the Santa Barbara City Council.

Incumbents:

1. Teri Jory
First appointed on 3/19/2019

Neighborhood Advisory Council

Total Membership: 13 members

Current Vacancies: 4 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be City residents and need not be qualified electors*.

- Up to 3 new members shall be residents of the following six (6) neighborhoods:
 - Westside, Lower Westside, West Downtown, Eastside, Lower Eastside, and Laguna.
 - No more than three (3) members shall be residents of any one of the specified neighborhoods.
- One new member must be a member at large and may reside in any area of the City.
- Of the thirteen members, the City Council may, but is not required to, appoint up to three (3) youth of age sixteen (16) years or older. Priority in youth assignments should be given to youth from the six (6) specified neighborhoods.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Ray Fazendin, Lower Eastside Neighborhood
First appointed on 11/19/2024
2. Sullivan Israel, Eastside Neighborhood
First appointed on 11/19/2024
3. Peter Smith, Westside Neighborhood
First appointed on 11/19/2024

Parks and Recreation Commission

Total Membership: 7 members
Current Vacancies: 2 vacancies
Term Expiration: June 30, 2027 (Youth Intern)
December 31, 2029 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Commissioners must be qualified electors* of the city. Youth Intern shall be a high school student volunteer who resides within the Santa Barbara High School District or attends other high schools within the City limits and is nominated by the principal of the student's high school. The student shall be either in their junior or senior year of high school and shall be and remain a student in good standing as is determined by the high school. A student that graduates shall not serve for more than three (3) months following graduation.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents: None.

Planning Commission

Total Membership: 7 members
Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy
Term Expiration: December 31, 2029 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Commissioners must be qualified electors* of the city.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Lucille Boss
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Rental Housing Mediation Board

Total Membership: 15 members

Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 2028 & December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: New members may be residents of the county of Santa Barbara residing in jurisdictions that contract with the Rental Housing Mediation Program for services. Each new member must be from one of the following categories:

- Landlord Mediator: owns or manages single or multiple residential units.
- Homeowner Mediator: owns and resides in a single-family residence with no ownership of other residential properties.
- Tenant Mediator: rents or leases a dwelling with no ownership of residential properties.

Incumbents:

1. Rigoberto Gutierrez, Tenant Mediator – City
First appointed on 12/11/2018
2. Heather Smith, Homeowner Mediator – City
First appointed on 6/27/2023

Santa Barbara Youth Council

Total Membership: 15 members

Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies

Term Expiration: June 30, 2027 & June 30, 2028

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be between the ages of 13 – 19 years old. New members may be county residents. The Santa Barbara Youth Council is comprised of: nine members representing Santa Barbara Unified School District high schools, of which no more than 3 students can be attending the same high school; two members from local alternative, community, or continuation high schools; two members from local private high school or independent studies; and two members representing the public at large. The Santa Barbara Youth Council may also appoint up to five non-voting junior high school members.

Incumbents: None.

Sign Committee

Total Membership: 3 members
Current Vacancies: 3 vacancies
Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Members who are qualified electors* of the city representing the public at-large, with up to one member being a qualified elector* of the county. Two members may have professional experience in design-related fields (including but not limited to landscape, architecture, building design, structural engineering, or graphic design) but it is not required. The third member may have experience as a business owner or real estate professional, but it is not required.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Jaime Limon, County
First appointed on 6/26/2018
2. Ken Sorgman, City
First appointed on 6/26/2018
3. Jonathan Ziegler, City
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Single Family Design Board

Total Membership: 5 members

Current Vacancies: 2 vacancies

Term Expiration: June 30, 2029

Qualifications & Categories: Appointees must fit into one of the following categories: licensed architect; possess professional qualifications in fields related to architecture, including but not limited to architecture or landscape architecture, building design, structural engineering, industrial design, urban planning, or landscape contracting; or represent the public at large. Members with professional qualifications must be residents of the County of Santa Barbara; members representing the public at large must be residents of the City of Santa Barbara.

Incumbents: None.

Sister Cities Board

Total Membership: 3 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: December 31, 2030

Qualifications & Categories: Member may be a resident of the city or county of Santa Barbara.

Incumbents:

1. Nimita Dhirajlal
First appointed on 6/9/2026

Transportation and Circulation Committee

Total Membership: 7 members

Current Vacancies: 5 vacancies

Term Expiration: December 31, 20130

Qualifications & Categories: Up to two new members may be residents of the city or county of Santa Barbara; the remaining members must be qualified electors* of the city.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents:

1. Larry Bickford, City
First appointed on 12/6/2022
2. Hillary Blackerby, City
First appointed on 6/30/2009
3. Conrad Metzenberg, City
First appointed on 12/6/2022
4. Kathleen Rodriguez, City
First appointed on 6/26/2012
5. Richard Smith, City
First appointed on 12/6/2022

Water Commission

Total Membership: 5 members

Current Vacancies: 1 vacancy

Term Expiration: December 31, 2027

Qualifications & Categories: Members must be qualified electors* of the city.

* Resident of the City/County of Santa Barbara who is a U.S. citizen age 18 or older and registered to vote within the City or County.

Incumbents: None.