



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: September 25, 2012

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: City Administrator's Office

SUBJECT: Request From Councilmembers Hotchkiss And Rowse Regarding Recent Architectural Board Of Review Conduct

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council consider a request from Councilmembers Hotchkiss and Rowse to review recent Architectural Board of Review actions concerning Chick-fil-A restaurant and decide appropriate action.

DISCUSSION:

Attached is a memorandum from Councilmembers Hotchkiss and Rowse requesting that Council review the conduct of certain members of the Architectural Board of Review and consider appropriate actions, if any.

ATTACHMENT: Memorandum from Councilmembers Hotchkiss and Rowse

PREPARED BY: Jennifer Jennings, Administrator's Office Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Jim Armstrong, City Administrator

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office



City of Santa Barbara
City Administrator's Office

Memorandum

DATE: August 20, 2012

TO: Jim Armstrong, City Administrator

FROM: Councilmember Frank Hotchkiss
Councilmember Randy Rowse

SUBJECT: Consideration of Recent Architectural Board of Review Conduct

Pursuant to Council Resolution 05-073 regarding the Conduct of City Council Meetings, we request that an item be placed on the Santa Barbara City Council Agenda regarding recent Architectural Board of Review (ABR) actions concerning Chick-fil-A restaurant.

- At recent meetings, the members of the ABR first gave unanimous approval for a restaurant project at 3707 State Street, then refused to move the project forward when minor, staff-supported changes were requested. At least two board members have said publicly that their refusal to approve the changes were based not on the merits of the project, but on the politics of the applicant.
- The City Council will review these actions and decide appropriate action, including but not limited to:
 1. No action;
 2. Removal of any – or all – ABR members;
 3. In the event of the removal of any or all ABR members, consider the temporary or accelerated permanent appointment of replacement ABR members to allow the board to continue serving the city;
 4. Consider forming a five-person blue-ribbon Advisory Committee to create a Code of Conduct and improved Guidelines for the Architectural Board of Review.

Article VIII, Section 802 of the City Charter states in part:

"The members of each of the board or commissions hereinafter named in this Article shall be appointed by the City Council from the qualified electors of the City, shall remain qualified electors during their term of office, and shall not hold any full time paid

office or employment in the City government. They shall be subject to removal by motion of the City Council adopted by the affirmative votes of a majority of the total membership thereof.”

Concerning the duties of the ABR, Section 814 of this article states in part:

“The Board shall have the power and duty to:

- (a) Review and approve, conditionally approve or disapprove all applications for a building permit for the erection or exterior alteration of any type, nature or kind of building, structure or sign that may be specified by ordinance as requiring such action within any area, district or zone of the City, except for those applications subject to review by the Historic Landmarks Commission.

We are requesting that this be scheduled for a special Council meeting the evening of Tuesday, September 11, 2012.

cc: Mayor and Council
City Attorney
Community Development Director