

11. Sec. 3.13 - Landmark Preservation Commission

Charter Review Committee

Amendment Summary

Section 3.13

Brief Summary of Amendment

- Modifies membership of the Landmarks Preservation Commission to require members be appointed from each of the five council districts and requires certain expertise or experience of appointed members other than those appointed by Council district.
- Adds an exception to the requirement the members be residents of the City of Tacoma to allow the Council to provide otherwise by ordinance.

Committee Vote

Yes: Katie Baird, Nicholas Carr, Maricres Castro, Patrick Fischer, Bryan Flint, Jason Gauthier, Andre Jimenez, Melissa Malott, Latasha Palmer, Andrea Reay, Rebecca Stith, Steve Wamback, Diamatrix Winston, Lok Yin Wu

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Amendment

Section 3.13 – There shall be a Landmarks Preservation Commission, composed of members with such powers and duties as are provided by ordinance. The members shall be residents of the City of Tacoma, except as otherwise provided by ordinance, and be appointed and confirmed by the City Council.

One member shall be appointed from each of the five (5) council districts and the remaining members shall consist of individuals with current or prior professional experience in historic preservation or cultural resources, with a priority for those with architectural or design expertise or experience.

A majority of the voting members of such Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Commission shall be authorized to adopt rules for the transaction of business not inconsistent with this Charter or ordinances of the City of Tacoma.

Amendment Positions

Rationale for Amendment:

The Landmarks Preservation Commission has been in ordinance for 20 years and enshrined in the Charter for a decade. When added to the Charter in 2014, membership was limited to residents of the city of Tacoma. This has created a difficult situation in recruitment of professional expertise. Additionally, the Commission is over-represented by more affluent areas of the city. This modest change does two things: 1) allows for more flexibility in recruitment of professional expertise by modifying the resident requirement to allow for considerations based on potentially expansive ordinance language, and 2) diversifies the Commission by requiring Council District representation in the overall membership. It does not prohibitively change the overall mission or function of the Commission.

Dissenting Position(s):

None