



Design District Review Team

Durham City-County Planning Department ■ 101 City Hall Plaza ■ Durham, NC 27701

ANNUAL REPORT

Date: April 16, 2012
To: Members of the Durham City Council
From: Lisa Miller, Chair, Design District Review Team

In compliance with the Section 2.7.3B of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO), the Design District Review Team submits the following Annual Report for the period from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011.

The Design District Review Team (DDRT) is an advisory body that makes recommendations to the approving authority for each project reviewed. In addition to general recommendations for approval or denial, the DDRT also issues recommendations on a variety of requests for variations of standards, both in the Durham Design Manual and the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO).

The DDRT reviews a variety of different development related applications including:

1. Site plans in the Downtown Design (DD) District, for variations not subject to review by the Durham Historic Preservation Commission and in accordance with UDO Section 6.12.3B.4, Variations;
2. Site plans in the Transitional Use Area of the University-College District, for compliance with the Durham Design Guidelines;
3. Architectural designs in the Tuscaloosa-Lakewood Neighborhood Protection Overlay (TLNPO), for compliance with the standards of UDO Section 4.6.5, Tuscaloosa-Lakewood Neighborhood Protection Overlay;
4. Requests for common signage plan variations in the Compact Neighborhood Tier and the Mixed Use District; and
5. Requests for alterations to the newly installed downtown streetscapes for compliance with the Durham Design Guidelines, where not subject to review by the Durham Historic Preservation Commission.

The DDRT reviewed five site plans (including site plan amendments) and two architectural review applications in 2011. Table I shows the breakdown of reviews by plan type and action.

The DDRT is made up of staff from the following City departments: two representatives from the City-County Planning Department, one representative from the Public Works Department, one representative from the City Office of Economic and Workforce Development, one representative from the City General Services Department, and one City representative from Urban Forestry; one representative from the Durham City-

County Appearance Commission, and two citizens with design expertise (one appointed by the City and one by the County). Please see the attached attendance report (Table II) for each represented department and the citizen members.

Free parking is provided for citizen members during the meeting. No additional funding is requested.

Recommendation. To receive the Annual Report.

Staff Contact. Anne Kramer, Planning Department

Attachments.

Table I, Design District Review Team Actions 2011

Table II, Design District Review Team 2011 Attendance Report