

July 23, 2013

Dear Olympia City Councilmembers,

As chair of the Olympia Heritage Commission, I am writing to give my support to the idea of opening the Heritage Commission liaison position on the Design Review Board to the general community. It has been difficult to find a member of the Heritage Commission who is willing to volunteer to serve on the Design Review Board, which has scheduled an additional two meetings per month.

I further support changing the requirements such that the Heritage Commission liaison position is open to the community, but with preference given to candidates with experience in historic preservation, including members of the Heritage Commission.

When a project occurs that requires the review of both the Heritage Commission and the Design Review Board, members of the two commissions will continue to meet together in a joint meeting to review the project. These large projects that involve designated historic buildings and/or districts are important to both commissions and the joint review makes the process faster and easier for the applicant.

Sincerely,

Holly Davies

Chair, Heritage Commission