# Proposed Revision of Architectural Control Rules • 2020 Sep. 28

Underlined items are to be added. Struckthru items are to be deleted. Exception: Footnotes, formerly parenthesized cross-references, aren't marked as above. Explanation of changes highlighted in pink.

# OAKBRIDGE COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION, INC. **Architectural Control Rules**

Effective Date: February 3, 1986 • Amended and Restated: [month day, year]

# Section A: Policy Statement

A1. The Architectural Review Board (ARB) is required by the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions (DCR) to regulate the external design, appearance, use, location, and maintenance of the properties and homes houses in such a manner so as to preserve and enhance values and to maintain a harmonious relationship among the homes within the neighborhood.1

A2. The Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions DCR provides that no improvements, alterations, repairs, change of paint colors, excavations, changes in grade, or other work which in any way alters the exterior of any home house or property shall be made or done without the prior approval of the Architectural Review Board ARB. The Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions DCR also provides that no building, fence, wall, residence, or other structure (including but not limited to additions, outbuildings, and minor objects) shall be erected, maintained, improved, altered, made, or done without the prior approval of the Architectural Review Board ARB.2 Items explicitly identified in these rules as "permitted" are considered to be pre-approved by the ARB.

A3. The Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions DCR further provides that the owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board ARB plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location of any proposed improvements, alterations, or changes.3

A4. The Architectural Review Board ARB is required to interpret the covenants DCR and to adopt general rules to implement the purposes set forth in the DCR Section 6.2, including but not limited to rules to regulate animals, antennas, signs, storage and use of recreational vehicles, storage and use of machinery, use of outdoor drying lines, trash containers, planting, maintenance, and removal of vegetation on the properties.4

A5. In adopting these rules, the Architectural Review Board ARB seeks to strike a balance between individual freedom and upholding the eovenant restrictions of the DCR in order to maintain the quality of the neighborhood.

<sup>2</sup> See DCR §6.3

Proposed Revision of Architectural Control Rules • 2020 Sep. 28 • Page 1

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<sup>1</sup> See DCR §6.2

<sup>3</sup> From DCR §6.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> From DCR §7.1(b)

A6. These rules also contain for the sake of clarity and convenience the restrictions imposed by the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions. Architectural Control Rules (ACR) are and must remain subsidiary to the DCR and Supplementary DCR (SDCR). Some ACR provisions 46 have been taken from those documents, as noted in the footnotes, and a change to one of 47 them must be accompanied by a change to the other. [from Notes for Future Revisors] 48

A7. Homeowners who have questions about whether a proposed change to their property is 50 covered under these rules should contact the ARB for quidance. The ARB is specifically 51 empowered to authorize reasonable exceptions to the ACR, including items normally 52 prohibited, and to rule on items not specifically addressed in the ACR, provided it can show 53 good cause and acts in accordance with adopted quidelines and procedures. [moved here from D4.3] 55

A8. In addition to these rules, homeowners must also comply with all applicable laws and regulations, specifically including zoning codes. To minimize time and cost, obtaining ARB approval prior to seeking a city building permit is recommended.

### **A9. Definitions.** Within this document:

- A9.1. A "structure" is any load-bearing or space-enclosing object more or less permanently located on the ground. The term does not include:
- (a) minor objects, such as fences, trellises, lampposts, flagpoles, mailboxes, basketball stanchions, and playsets.
  - (b) surfaces, such as sidewalks, driveways, and patios.
- (c) mobile or portable items, such as flowerpots, lawnmowers, wheelbarrows, wading pools, umbrellas, benches, and lawn chairs.
  - (d) natural features, such as grass, flowers, bushes, trees, and rocks.
- A9.2. A "house" is the regular living-space portion of a structure intended as a single-family dwelling.7
- A9.3. An "addition" is any structure which is attached to or incorporated into a house but not intended as primary living space, such as attached garages, sunrooms, porches, decks, and greenhouses. [some portions adapted from {B}1.2]
- A9.4. An "outbuilding" is any structure on the property not attached to or incorporated into a house, such as sheds, detached garages, hot tubs, housing for pets or livestock, and gazebos. [some portions adapted from {C}19]
- A9.5. "Construction" is the process whereby an existing structure or surface is enlarged, 83 expanded, altered, or replaced or a new structure or surface is created or emplaced. "Installation" is the process whereby a minor object is created or emplaced.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See DCR §7.1(c)

<sup>6</sup> The terms defined here may have different meanings in other sources (dictionaries and encyclopedias; laws, rules, and codes; usages by architects, engineers, and businesses; common parlance; etc.). Each term should be interpreted in the relevant context.

SDCR §3.1 requires that all Oakbridge houses be single-family dwellings.

A9.6. "Permitted" means that the item is allowed, within whatever constraints are specified, without the need to contact the ARB for approval.

A9.7. "Front yard" is the portion of the yard facing the street of its address; "back yard" is the portion of the yard on the opposite side of the house; "side yards" are all remaining portions of the yard.

# **Section B: General Rules**

B1. Compatibility

Colors and designs of any changes shall be compatible with the existing property and surroundings.

### **B2. Construction**

1.1 No additions, improvements or alterations construction shall be made commenced without prior written approval of the Architectural Review Board ARB. The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board ARB design plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location of the proposed addition, improvement, or alteration construction. The external design, appearance, use, and location of the addition, improvement, or alteration construction shall enhance values and maintain a harmonious relationship among the structures and the natural vegetation and topography within the neighborhood..8

1.2 An addition is any construction which is attached to or within six inches of a building, including but not limited to regular living space, garages, screened porches, sunrooms, decks, patios, and greenhouses. [moved to A9.3]

### **B3. Outbuildings**

 B3.1. Outbuildings are prohibited except: [adapted from {C}19]

(a) Outside hot tubs may be in back yards only, may not be rated for more than 8 people, and must have a child-proof protective cover in place when not in use. [adapted from [C]13]

(b) A utility or storage shed of no more than one hundred (100) square feet in area and eight (8) feet in height is permitted in back yards only. It must be at least ten (10) feet from any lot line and may house inanimate objects only.

(c) Solar collectors are permitted.9

B3.2. Any outbuilding must be at least 6 feet from any lot line.

# **B4. Space and Sizing of Structures**

1.3 <u>B4.1</u>. No first-floor areas of single-family houses, including <del>garages, and porches, and</del> additions <del>thereto</del>, shall occupy more than thirty-five percent (35%) of the lot area the house is sited on.<sup>40</sup>

<sup>8</sup> See DCR §§6.3 and 6.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Wisconsin Statute 236.292(2) prohibits restrictions on solar collectors.

From SDCR §3.4; see also Oakbridge Specific Implementation Plan §2

132 1.4 B4.2. No house, including any additions, improvements, or alterations, shall be closer than three (3) feet to a side lot line or fifteen (15) feet to a rear lot line. On streets on which public sidewalks are installed the minimum setback including any additions, improvements, or alterations of such structures shall be twenty (20) feet unless a lesser setback is approved by the traffic engineer or the traffic official designated by the City of Madison.<sup>10</sup>

138 1.5 <u>B4.3.</u> No houses, including any additions, improvements, or alterations, shall be closer than ten (10) feet to each other. 10

141 1.6 B4.4. No building house shall exceed the height of the lesser of two and one-half (2½)
142 stories or thirty five (35) thirty (30) feet above the adjoining street pavement grade.

1.7 Any addition, alteration, or improvement should be compatible with the design of the house. [covered under B2]

1.8 Photographs of similar completed projects will aid in the Architectural Review Board's consideration. [moved to D1.4]

**B5. Maintenance** [move text here from {C}17]

B6. Vehicle Storage [move text here from {C}20]

154 **B7. Landscaping** [move text here from {C}14]

# **Section C: Specific Rules**

#### 2. C1. Antennas and Satellite Dish Antennas

No exterior antennas, including satellite Exterior dish antennas, exceeding one (1) meter in their longest dimension are prohibited; those of 1 meter or less are permitted. 12

#### 3. C2. Awnings

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171 172 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board design plans and specifications showing ARB must approve the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location of the any proposed awning(s). However, awnings, as a general rule, are not felt to enhance the aesthetic qualities of a community and are therefore discouraged.

#### 4. C3. Basketball Hoops

Basketball hoops are permitted provided that the backboard and the net are well-maintained, and that the mounting poles are painted to match the house trim area of intended use is entirely on the homeowner's property.

#### 5. C4. Bird Feeders and Bird Baths etc.

Bird feeders, and bird baths, and bird houses are permitted.

<sup>11</sup> From Oakbridge Specific Implementation Plan §3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> FCC rule (47 CFR §1.4000) prohibits restrictions that impair the installation, maintenance, or use of antennas used to receive video programming. The rule applies to video antennas including direct-to-home satellite dishes that are less than one meter in diameter, TV antennas, and wireless cable antennas.

## 6. Corners

 Cornerboards must be provided on all corners. [covered by expanded C9]

### 7. <u>C5.</u> Decks

7.1 All rules pertaining to additions, improvements or alterations to homes must be followed
(1.1 through 1.8) 7.2 Deck Wooden deck trim must be painted or stained within one year of
construction to match house trim, unless the deck is a treated wood which does not require
painting or staining and is compatible with the house.

### 8. C6. Dog Kennels

Dog kennels and pet runs are not permitted prohibited.

### 9. C7. Doors (Exterior and Garage)

9.1 All exterior and garage doors must be paneled. 9.2 Storm and screen doors must coordinate with door color or house trim color.

### 10. C8. Driveways and Driveway Expansion

10.1 All driveways must be paved or hard surfaced. 10.2 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board design plans showing the location of the proposed expansion. The material of the proposed Any expansion must be contiguous to the existing driveway and match the existing material, except that pavers are permitted provided they expand the driveway width by no more than 20 inches.

### 11. C9. Exterior

11.1 Pastel colors are required on the exterior of the homes houses and must be the same color for the entire house, except for trim, shutters, and window casings, which may be in a complimentary color. 11.2 The exterior siding must be either 4 inch or 5 inch. Corner trim must be provided on all outside walls and windows. [incorporating provisions from {C}6 and {C}28]

#### 12. C10. Fences

12.1 No perimeter fences Fences are allowed prohibited, except for invisible (electric inground) fences. 12.2 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board design plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials and location of the proposed privacy fence. The length Back-yard privacy screens should be short as possible, as low as practicable but in no case higher than six (6) feet, and as close to the house as possible.

#### 13. Hot Tubs

The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board design plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, dimensions and location of the proposed hot tub.

### 14. B7. Landscaping [move text to B7]

14.1 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board landscaping plans. B7.1. The part of any plants which overhang the public sidewalk must be trimmed to a height of at least eight (8) feet off the ground.

14.2 Front yard and side yards must be sodded. Back yards must be either seeded or sodded. B7.2. The majority of each yard must be grass, neatly trimmed, except pursuant to a landscaping plan approved by the ARB.

14.3 <u>B7.3.</u> Vegetable gardens are permitted only prohibited in front yards; those in side yards and back yards are permitted. Flower gardens are permitted anywhere on the property provided nothing from the garden obstructs or spills onto the public sidewalk.

14.4 Plans for extensive changes to existing landscaping must be submitted. B7.4. Hanging or potted plants are permitted anywhere on the property. [ivy prohibition formerly here]

 B7.5. Each owner shall keep his or her lot and landscaping clean, well maintained, and free of debris. This includes, but is not limited to, the seeding, watering, and mowing of all lawns; the pruning and cutting of all trees and shrubbery; and other appropriate care of the grounds. [adapted from {C}17]

## 15. C11. Laundry Poles

Laundry poles are permitted provided that they are removable, well maintained and the laundry is removed daily.

#### C12. Little Libraries

<u>Little libraries are permitted provided they are not on the terrace and have an enclosed space not exceeding two (2) cubic feet.</u>

16. C13. Mailboxes

All mailboxes must be standard black rural mailboxes approved by the US Postal Service and mounted on black iron sturdy poles or posts, which may not be embedded in cement or concrete. Each mailbox or post shall display the house number using numbers no less than two (2) inches high by one (1) inch wide, in a contrasting color, on both traffic-facing sides.

17. <u>B5. Maintenance of Property</u> [move house-related text to new B5; landscaping covered under new B7.5]

Each owner shall keep his or her lot and house and other structures, minor objects, and surfaces in good order and repair, clean, well maintained, and free of debris. This includes, but is not limited to, the seeding, watering and mowing of all lawns, the pruning and cutting of all trees and shrubbery and the painting or other appropriate external care of the home all structures.<sup>13</sup>

18. New Houses [all covered under B2 and corresponding provisions of Sections B and C]

18.1 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board design plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location of the proposed new house. The external design, appearance, and location of the new house shall preserve and enhance values and maintain a harmonious relationship among the structures and the natural vegetation and topography. (Article III, Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions)

<sup>13</sup> See DCR §7.2

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18.2 No first-floor areas of single family houses, including garages and porches and additions
    thereto, shall occupy more than thirty-five percent (35%) of the lot area the house is sited on.
    (Article III, Section 3.4 of the Supplementary Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions)
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    18.3 No house, including any additions, improvements, or alterations, shall be closer than
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    three (3) feet to a side lot line or fifteen (15) feet to a rear lot line. On streets on which public
    sidewalks are installed the minimum setback including any additions, improvements, or
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    alterations shall be twenty (20) feet unless a lesser setback is approved by the traffic engineer
    or the traffic official designated by the City of Madison. (Article III, Section 3.4 of the
    Supplementary Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions)
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    18.4 No houses, including additions, improvements, or alterations, shall be closer than ten
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    (10) feet to each other. (Article III, Section 3.4 of the Supplementary Declaration of Covenants
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    and Restrictions)
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    18.5 No building shall exceed the height of the lesser of two and one-half (2½) stories or
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    thirty-five (35) feet above the adjoining street pavement grade. (Article III, Section 3.4 of the
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    Supplementary Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions)
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    18.6 Pastel colors are required on the exterior of the homes.
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    18.7 The exterior siding must be either 4 inch or 5 inch.
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    18.8 All exterior and garage doors must be paneled.
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    18.9 Storm and screen doors must coordinate with door color or house trim.
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    18.10 Cornerboards must be provided on all corners.
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    18.11 All windows must have cornerboards.
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    18.12 The roof pitch must be a minimum of 6/12 pitch.
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    18.13 The color of the roof shingles must be dark gray.
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    18.14 The chimney must be finished off to match the exterior of the house.
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    18.15 The owner shall submit to the Architectural Review Board landscaping plans. Front yard
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    and side yards must be sodded. Back yards must be either seeded or sodded. Vegetable
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    gardens are permitted only in back yards.
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# 19. Outbuildings (Accessory Buildings)

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No outbuildings are permitted. An outbuilding is any structure not attached to the residence, with or without a foundation, including but not limited to storage buildings, detached garages, housing for pets, free standing energy collection units, wind generators, and satellite dish antennas. [restriction moved to new B3; definition moved to A9.4]

20. Parking or B6. Vehicle Storage on Areas Other Than Driveway [move text to new B6]

Parking or storage of any vehicle, including but not limited to boats, cars, and recreational vehicles, on areas other than the driveway is not permitted prohibited, except that not more than one (1) motorcycle may be parked on a paved area adjacent to a driveway. Parked vehicles may not obstruct the public sidewalk.

323 21. C14. Patios and Porches

All rules pertaining to Additions, Improvements or Alterations to Homes must be followed. (1.1 through 1.8) Patios, screened porches, and sunrooms are prohibited except in side yards and back yards.

22. C15. Pools

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No pools Pools are permitted prohibited except small children's wading pools, which may not remain filled for more than 72 consecutive hours.

23. Roof (Pitch and Color of Shingles) C16. Roofing

23.1 C16.1. The roof pitch of the house must be a minimum of 6/12 pitch.

23.2 C16.2. The color of the roof shingles of the house must be a dark gray or other muted color. [This language would allow metal and slate roofs but doesn't address tile, wood, or glass roofs.]

C16.3. The roof of any addition or outbuilding must be a muted color or glass.

24. C17. Sandboxes

343 Sandboxes are permitted provided they are well-maintained in back yards.

25. Screened Porches

346 All Rules pertaining to Additions. Improvements or Alterations to Homes must be followed. 347 (1.1 through 1.8)

26. Solar Collectors

Solar collectors are not permitted.

27. <u>C18.</u> Swing Sets

Swing sets are permitted <del>provided that they are of good quality and well maintained</del> in back yards.

28. Windows

All windows must have cornerboards. [covered by expanded C9]

OAKBRIDGE COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION, INC.

Architectural Review Board Procedures

Effective Date: February 3, 1986

The Architectural Review Board is required by the By-Laws to adopt procedures to carry out these responsibilities. (Article X, Section 10.3 of the By-Laws)

#### 1. Architectural Review Board Size

The Board of Directors shall appoint the Architectural Review Board of five (5) members. At least three (3) of the Architectural Review Board members shall be chosen from the community and at least one member shall be selected from the Board of Directors. The director shall be the chairperson of the Architectural Review Board. A quorum shall consist of three Architectural Review Board members. (Article VI, Section 6.1 of the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions and Article X, Section 10.1 of the By-Laws) [covered in the Bylaws and DCR1

## **Section D: Procedures**

376 D1. Designation 377

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In this section, "chairperson" also includes any ARB member designated by the ARB chairperson to perform chairperson duties in her or his absence.

### **D2. Application**

- D2.1. An owner shall submit to the ARB plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, 384 shape, height, materials, and location of any proposed construction, installation, or 385 landscaping changes to her or his property, unless it is explicitly permitted under these rules. 386
- D2.2. The preferred method of applying to the ARB is electronic submission. However, a 388 paper application may be mailed to the ARB chairperson or hand-delivered in person to any 389 ARB member. 390
  - D2.3. Applications must contain either a completed copy of the application form most recently approved and publicized by the ARB or the equivalent information and one (1) copy each of the plot plan, the landscaping plans, blueprints for additions and outbuildings, and plans for minor objects. The blueprints or plans should include dimensions and materials. Samples of the materials should be submitted if possible. [adapted from {D}2.2]
  - D2.4. Photographs or renderings of similar completed projects may be submitted to aid in the ARB's decision. [consolidating {B}1.8 and {D}2.3]

## 2. D3. Receipt of Applications

- 2.1 Applications can be received by any Architectural Review Board member. The member receiving the application reviews the application for completeness.
- 2.2 Applications should contain the application form, which is attached to this Resolution, and 406 three copies of the following: 407

House Additions	Decks/Porches/Patios	Decorative/Privacy Fences
Plot Plan	Plot Plan	Plot Plane
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<del>Blueprints ——</del>	Blueprints or Plans	Plans
Landscaping Plans	Landscaping Plans	Landscaping Plans

The blueprints or plans should show the dimensions and the materials. Samples of the materials should be submitted if possible. [covered by D2.3]

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2.3 Photographs of similar completed projects may be submitted to aid in the Architectural Review Board's decision. [covered by D2.4]

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419 If the application is complete, the Architectural Review Board member registers it with the 420 chairperson.

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D3.1. Within one week of receiving an application, the chairperson shall notify the applicant that her or his application has been successfully received, review it for completeness, and, if it is incomplete, notify the applicant of its deficiencies.

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<u>D3.2.</u> The 30-day review period begins at the time a complete an application is received.

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## 3. D4. Review of Applications

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3.1. The Architectural Review Board ARB shall review the each application to determine if it complies with the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions DCR and the Architectural Control Rules ACR. 3.2. The opinion of the immediate neighbors may be sought by the Architectural Review Board concerning any application. 3.3. Action on an application requires the a majority of the members vote of the Architectural Review Board ARB.

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# 4. <u>D5.</u> Timing

The applicant must be given a response within 30 days after receipt of the completed application, or <u>else</u> the application is automatically approved. The construction Construction on an approved project must begin within one (1) year of acceptance. After one year approval and be completed within three (3) years of submission or else a new application must be filed. Is

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## 5. D6. Notification of Architectural Review Board ARB Decisions

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5.1. D6.1. Notices to the applicant shall be in written or electronic form.

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<u>D6.2.</u> If an application is approved, it shall be marked "approved" and signed by a majority of the members of the Architectural Review Board and and returned to the ARB shall so notify the applicant.

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5.2. D6.3. If an application is not approved, the Architectural Review Board ARB shall give the
 applicant prompt notice of the decision and the reasons for rejection. The Architectural
 Review Board shall make an effort to explain to the applicant how the application could be
 made acceptable.

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# 6. D7. Appeal of an Adverse ARB Decision of the Architectural Review Board

<sup>14</sup> From DCR §6.4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See DCR §6.4

The applicant may appeal an adverse decision of the Architectural Review Board ARB to the
Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, which may by a two-thirds (3/2) vote of the
directors reverse or modify the decision of the Architectural Review Board ARB. 15

# 7. D8. Records

7.1 The chairperson shall maintain a log book with retain for three (3) years from the date the each application was received a copy of the application and all accompanying documents, all relevant notes made by the ARB, the a record of any action taken, and the date the applicant was notified of the decision. The chairperson shall also keep a file on each application. The file shall contain the application form, one copy of all documents submitted and all relevant notes made by the Architectural Review Board.

7.2 The chairperson shall maintain a minute book which shall contain the minutes of all meetings of the Architectural Review Board.

#### 8. Amendment of Architectural Control Rules

The Architectural Control Rules may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Architectural Review Board following a public hearing for which proper notice has been provided and pursuant to an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors. (Article VII, Section 7.1(b) of the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions) Notice of the public hearing shall be provided in writing to each member at the address last appearing on the books of the Association or at the address supplied by the member for the purpose of notice. Notice may be contained in the Association newsletter, which is delivered to the residence of each member, delivered personally or delivered by mail. Notice shall specify the place, day and time of the meeting and the purpose of the meeting. (Article II, Section 2.7 of the By-Laws) [covered in the Bylaws]