

MINNESOTA STATUTES OVERVIEW

CAPITOL AREA ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING BOARD

I. Statutory Authority

Minnesota Statutes 2007, Chapter 15B.

II. Purposes:

- A. To preserve and enhance the dignity, beauty, and architectural integrity of the Capitol, the buildings immediately adjacent to it, the Capitol grounds, and the Capitol Area.
- B. To protect, enhance, and increase the open spaces within the Capitol Area when determined necessary and desirable.
- C. To develop proper approaches to the Capitol Area for pedestrian movement, the highway system, and mass transit system so that the Area achieves its maximum importance and accessibility.
- D. To establish a flexible framework for growth of the Capitol area buildings that will be in keeping with the spirit of the original design.

III. Major Activities

A. Land Use Planning:

Prepare, prescribe, and from time to time amend a comprehensive plan for the Capitol Area which shall show existing land uses and recommend future uses including: areas for public taking and use; zoning for private land and criteria for development of public land, including building areas and open spaces; monuments and other memorials; vehicular and pedestrian circulation; utilities systems; vehicular storage; elements of landscape architecture. (Reference: *Comprehensive Plan for the Minnesota State Capitol Area* and *Specific Actions for Implementation of the Comprehensive Plan*, February 1998.)

B. Zoning:

Regulate, by means of zoning regulations adopted pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, the kind, character, height, and location of buildings and other structures constructed or used, the size of yards and open spaces, the percentage of lots that may be occupied, the uses of land, buildings, and other structures within the area, and establish rules and regulations for the erection of advertising devices within the boundaries of the Capitol Area. (Reference: *Rules Governing Zoning and Design for the Minnesota State Capitol Area*, January 2000.)

C. Design Review:

Include in its zoning rules design review procedures and standards with respect to any proposed construction activities in the Capitol Area significantly affecting the dignity, beauty and architectural integrity of the area.

State agencies and other public bodies considering Capitol Area projects much consult with the Board before developing plans. Funds for the Board's design review and planning services must be provided by the public agencies if the Board determines its services are necessary; the Commissioner of Finance shall set aside funds for the Board's consulting services from the appropriation when a state agency plans and constructs any capital improvement in the Capitol Area.

D. Architectural Competitions:

Secure by design competition, plans for any new public building. The Board shall determine the need for competitions for projects estimated to cost less than \$1,000,000.

E. Approve Public Construction:

Approve, as to conformity with the Comprehensive Plan and requirements for competition, all plans for building or altering public buildings, streets, parking lots, monuments, or other construction on any public lands within the area and approve, in writing, plans for substantial alterations or improvements to public lands or building in the area.

F. Recommend Capital Improvements:

Recommend to the Governor and Legislature a program of capital improvements and site development.

For capital budget proposals in the Capitol Area, the Commissioner of Administration must consult with the Board regarding building sites and design standards. The Board shall provide to the Governor and Legislature a statement as to the request's impact on the Capitol Area and its compatibility with the Comprehensive Plan for the Capitol Area.

The Board also shall provide testimony to the Legislature on proposals for memorials in the Capitol Area as to their compatibility with the standards, policies, and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan. (Reference: *Policy for Works of Art in the Minnesota State Capitol*, December 1998).

G. Capitol Building Standards:

Prepare, prescribe, and from time to time revise standards and policies governing the repair, alteration, furnishing, appearance, and cleanliness of the Capitol Building. (Joint responsibility with the Commissioner of Administration.)

H. Urban Design:

Develop and maintain an urban design framework so as to assure the St. Paul is a preeminent capital city, and that its capitol area is an integral part of the city.

IV. Organization

A. Membership:

The Board is composed of ten members appointed as follows: four by the Governor, three by the Mayor of St. Paul, a state Representative appointed by the Speaker of the House, and a state Senator appointed by the President of the Senate.

The tenth member is its chair, the Lt. Governor of Minnesota.

B. Staff:

The Board selects an Executive Secretary to serve the Board.

The Board, however, may employ such other officers and employees as it may deem necessary, all of whom shall be in the classified service of the State Civil Service. The Board has an employee complement of five, set by Legislature.

The Attorney General is the legal advisor to the Board.

The City of St. Paul shall also advise the Board.

C. Architectural Advisors:

The Board shall maintain an Advisory Committee of three persons, each of whom is either an architect or a planner. These persons shall be selected and appointed as follows: one by the Minnesota Arts Board, one by the Board, and one by the Minnesota Society of the American Institute of Architects.

Such committee shall advise the Board on all architectural and planning matters. (Reference: *CAAPB Advisory Committee Policy Statement*, October 1996.)

D. Consultants:

The Board may contract for professional and other similar service on such terms as it may deem desirable.

V. Funding

General fund appropriation. In addition, funds for planning and review of Capitol Area projects proposed by other public agencies are required to be provided by those agencies.