What are Boards and Commissions?

Mission:

- Boards and Commissions serve a vital role in County government by gathering and analyzing public input and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.
- They are comprised of local residents who address a specific area of interest with the expertise and lived experience they possess.
- Most have advisory capacity, and a select few make legally binding decisions.
- Boards and Commissions do not make policy decisions, manage or direct programs, commit County resources, or take an official position that has not been approved by the Board of Supervisors.
Requirements for Service

• Living in San Mateo County is the sole requirement for service on most County Boards and Commissions.
• Certain Boards and Commissions may have additional requirements.
• County employees are permitted to serve provided there is no conflict of interest.
Responsibilities

• Attending and preparing for meetings regularly
• Learning the function of the Board or Commission on which you serve
• Working collaboratively with board and staff liaisons
• Familiarizing yourself and ensuring compliance with regulatory statutes
• Maintaining the highest ethical standards

• Respecting the voice and spirit of your Board or Commission peers and the community you serve
• Being an active member of a collaborative effort to serve the community good
• Advancing the goals of the Board or Commission
• Bringing an equity lens into the makeup, priorities, and recommendations of the Board or Commission
List of County Boards and Commissions

Advisory Boards and Commissions:
• Agricultural Advisory Committee
• Arts Commission
• Behavioral Health Commission
• Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
• Child Abuse Prevention Council
• Child Care Partnership Council
• Commission on Aging
• Commission on Disabilities
• Commission on the Status of Women
• Community Corrections Partnership Council
• Domestic Violence Council
• Emergency Medical Care Committee
• Farmworker Advisory Commission
• Health Care for the Homeless/ Farm Workers Health Program
• Housing and Community Development Committee
• Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council
• Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission
• Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Commission
• Measure K Oversight Committee
• Midcoast Community Council
• North Fair Oaks Community Council
• Parks and Recreation Commission
• Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council
• Public Authority Advisory Committee
• Veterans Commission
• Youth Commission

Decision-Making Boards and Commissions:
• Assessment Appeals Board
• Bayside Design Review Committee
• Board of Building Permit Appeals
• Business License Board
• Civil Service Commission
• Coastside Design Review Committee
• Deferred Compensation Committee
• First 5 Commission
• Planning Commission
• San Mateo Medical Center Board of Directors
• Treasury Oversight Committee
How to join a Board or Commission?

1. Check for vacancies.

smcggov.org/bnc/vacancies
Vacancies

Get Involved!
The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors is accepting applications for appointment to the following Boards, Commissions and Committees:

Click on the desired Board, Commission, or Committee press release for specific information.

Online Application for Boards Commissions and Committees

**COVID 19 Meeting Location Notice**
PLEASE NOTE: In light of COVID-19, most County Boards and Commissions meetings are being conducted virtually through video conferencing. For more information, please see below and please contact the person listed below corresponding with each Board, Commission, or Committee's contact section.

On March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-20-20 suspending certain provisions of the Religious Freedom Act in order to allow for local legislative bodies to conduct their meetings telephonically or by other electronic means. On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21 extending the suspension of those provisions to September 30, 2021. Thus, pursuant to Executive Order N-20-20 and N-08-21, local and statewide health orders, and the CDC's social distancing guidelines which discourage large public gatherings, public meeting locations may no longer open to the public for meetings of Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

- Behavioral Health Commission - View information →
- Apply by mail →

Online Application for Boards Commissions and Committees

Vacancy Notices:

- North Coast Gales Community Council - Youth member vacancy — Application Deadline: October 14, 2023
- DAC - Arts Commission — District A Vacancy — Application Deadline: October 21, 2022
- DAC - Assessment Appeals Board — Application Deadline: Ongoing
- DAC - Design Review Committee - Open seats — Application Deadline: Ongoing
How to join a Board or Commission?

1. Check for vacancies.
2. Apply online or complete a paper application.
Vacancies

Get Involved!
The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors is accepting applications for appointment to the following Boards, Commissions and Committees:

Click on the desired Board, Commission, or Committee press release for specific information.

Online Application for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

**COVID 19 Meeting Location Notice**

PLEASE NOTE: In light of COVID-19, most County Boards and Commissions meetings are being conducted virtually through videoconferencing. For more information, please see below and please contact the person listed below corresponding with each Board, Commission, or Committee's contact section.

On March 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order N-20-20 suspending certain provisions of the Religious Freedom Act in order to allow for local legislative bodies to conduct their meetings telephonically or by other electronic means. On June 11, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-08-21 extending the suspension of those provisions to September 30, 2021. Thus, pursuant to Executive Order N-20-20 and N-08-21, local and statewide health orders, and the CDC’s social distancing guidelines, which discourage large public gatherings, public meeting locations may no longer open to the public for meetings of Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

• Behavioral Health Commission → View Information

Vacancy Notices:

- North Coast Gale Community Council - Youth member vacancy — Application Deadline: October 14, 2023
- DCA - Arts Commission — District 4 Vacancy — Application Deadline: October 21, 2022
- CPA - Assessment Appeals Board — Application Deadline: Ongoing
- FCT - Design Review Committee: Baylands (Alternate Architect, Decorative, Palomar Park) — Application Deadline: Ongoing
- FCT - Design Review Committee: Oceasdale — Application Deadline: Ongoing

Online Application for Boards, Commissions, and Committees
Dear Prospective San Mateo County Board and Commission Applicant:

Welcome and thank you for your interest in serving on one of our County Boards and Commissions. San Mateo County Boards and Commissions are groups of residents who address a specific area of interest with their expertise and experience. Boards and Commissions serve a vital role in County government, and their mission is to advise the Board of Supervisors in their decision-making process through direct community participation. These groups vary widely, and more information on each can be found at: https://www.smgov.org/bnc.

Requirements for Service
Living in San Mateo County is the sole requirement for service on most County Boards and Commissions, but specific Boards and Commissions have additional requirements. County employees are permitted to serve, provided no conflict of interest exists. More information on requirements for service can be found at https://www.smgov.org/bnc.

Vacancy Notifications
Vacancies on our Boards and Commissions happen year-round. For information on current vacancies, please visit https://www.smgov.org/bnc/vacancies. You can also subscribe to receive vacancy notifications at this site.

Boards and Commissions Resources
Information on the responsibilities of service and standing rules of our Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees is available at https://www.smgov.org/bnc/resources.

Need Help? Staff are available to help answer your questions and can be reached at (650) 363-4123.

We greatly appreciate your interest in serving and look forward to receiving your application!

County Executive’s Office
Application for Boards, Commissions and Committees

First

Last

Pronoun (e.g., she/her, he/him, they/them)

Address

City/Town

ZIP/Postal Code

Phone Number

Email Address

Are you a resident of San Mateo County?

☐ Yes

☐ No

In what supervisorial district do you reside?

☐ 1

☐ 2
Application for Boards, Commissions and Committees

Date of Submission

Name of Board, Commission, or Committee

Some County Boards, Commissions, or Committees require special qualifications or have categorical seats.
Categorical seats are defined as those designated for specified groups of people. For example, the Design Review Committee contains seats designated for architects, and the Agricultural Advisory Committee has seats designated for farmers. Please review the vacancy notice for the Board, Commission, or Committee you are applying for more information: https://www.smgov.org/bnc/vacancies.

Are you applying for a seat that requires special qualifications or a categorical seat on a Board, Commission, or Committee?

☐ Yes
☐ No
If you are unsure, leave this question blank.

Have you attended a meeting of the Board, Commission, or Committee for which you are applying?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you currently serve on a San Mateo County Board, Commission, or Committee?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Are you available to regularly attend the meetings of the Board, Commission, or Committee for which you are applying?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Meeting information can be found at https://www.smgov.org/bnc or at the Board, Commission, or Committee’s website.

How many hours per month can you commit to this Board, Commission, or Committee?

☐ 1-5 hours
☐ 5-10 hours
☐ 10 or more hours

Why are you interested in being appointed to this Board, Commission, or Committee?
How to join a Board or Commission?

1. Check for vacancies.
2. Apply online or complete a paper application.
3. Interview.
4. Appointment.
5. Oath.

Disclaimer: This is the process for most County Boards and Commissions. Some Boards and Commissions have different procedures.
Panel Discussion

• Harini Krishnan, Arts Commission
• Karen Coppock, Commission on Aging
• Chris Rasmussen, Behavioral Health Commission
• Kassandra Talbot, Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council