

Design Review Comparison Table						
Jurisdiction	Performs Design Review	Applicable Project Types	Who Performs	Design Guidelines	Notes	
County of Napa	Yes	Industrial park projects, hillside development (viewshed), wineries	Planning Commission	Industrial Park Specific Plan	Planning Staff evaluate/negotiate with applicants prior to formal decision	
City of American Canyon	Yes	Most development proposals with exceptions for smaller residential projects	Planning Director and Planning Commission depending on project scale and scope	Within zoning and separate design guidelines	Planning Staff evaluate/negotiate with applicants prior to formal decision	
City of Napa	Yes	All projects except incidental structures	Director, Planning Commission, City Council depending on project scale and scope	Residential, Commercial, Industrial	Planning Staff evaluate/negotiate with applicants prior to formal decision	
Town of Yountville	Yes	All projects except incidental structures	Zoning and Design Review Board makes recommendation to Town Council	Incorporated into Zoning	Planning Staff evaluate/negotiate with applicants prior to formal decisions	
City of St. Helena	Yes	All development proposals with exceptions for smaller projects	Planning Commission	Within zoning and separate design guidelines	Planning Staff will advise, but applicants are solely responsible for demonstrating projects meet criteria	
City of Calistoga	Yes	Most development proposal with exception for minor changes to existing projects	Planning Commission	Within zoning and separate design guidelines	Planning Staff evaluate/negotiate with applicants prior to formal decisions	
County of Sonoma	Yes	Most development proposal with exception for minor changes to existing projects	Design Review Committee with lesser projects referred to Planning Director	Incorporated into Zoning	Planning Director appoints three-member DR Committee that includes an private architect, private landscape architect and a department staff member	
County of Marin	Yes	All development with several exceptions for minor residential	Planning Director with input from Design Review Committees from certain Planning Areas, referral to Planning Commission for larger projects	Within zoning and separate planning area design guidelines	Staff project planner evaluates/negotiates with applicants prior to formal decision	
County of Solano	Only Architectural Standards Review	All development	Zoning Administrator or Planning Commission depending on scale and scope of project	Basic architectural minimum standards incorporated into Zoning	Process is essentially just compliance with set of minimum zoning standards and is not a subjective design review evaluation	
County of Lake	No, although a "design review" permit is required for some projects	New Commercial, Industrial, Multi-family	n/a	Basic architectural minimum standards incorporated into Zoning	Staff of reviewing department (Planning, Public Works, Fire, etc.) comprise a "design review committee" that conducts standard project review, but does not perform subjective design review evaluation	

County of Yolo	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	There are several planning areas that have advisory committees that evaluate projects proposed within the planning areas
County of Contra Costa	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	no	Design Review occurs only within one specific plan area
County of Mendocino	Only within Mendocino Historic District	All Projects within historic district	5 member Historic Review Board made up of private citizens appointed by Board of Supervisors	historic district guidelines	Applies only to the town of Mendocino which is administered by the County	
City of Vallejo	Part of other zoning entitlements	All Development	Director, Planning Commission, City Council	In some specific plan areas	No formal design review function occurs but building and site designs are evaluated as part of the overall development review process	
City of Sonoma	Yes	Most development proposals with exceptions for smaller residential projects	Director, Planning Commission	City divided into 13 planning areas with guidelines for each area	City uses comprehensive development code where subjective architectural review is woven into overall development review process	
City of Petaluma	Yes	Most development proposals with exceptions for smaller residential projects	Zoning Administrator, Architectural Review Committee, Planning Commission, or City Council depending on scale and scope of project	Primarily include within Zoning with exception of planning areas	Site Plan and Architectural Review Committee review more major projects in certain planning areas. Historic and Cultural Preservation Committee also reviews in historic districts.	
City of Walnut Creek	Yes	All Development	Zoning Administrator, Design Review Committee, Planning Commission, City Council depending on size and scope of the project	Comprehensive Design Guidelines, and area-specific design requirements for certain planning areas	Design Review Committee reviews essentially all projects. Committee comprised of 3 private architects or landscape architects and 2 private citizens. Staff evaluates and negotiates with applicants before projects are brought to Design Review Committee	
City of Fairfield	Yes	All development with several exceptions for minor residential	Director, Planning Commission, City Council	Within zoning and separate planning area design guidelines	City uses comprehensive development code where subjective architectural review is woven into overall development review process, Economic Development staff assist applicants through the process	
City of Martinez	Yes	All development with several exceptions for minor residential	Director, Design Review Committee, Planning Commission, City Council depending on size and scope of the project	Design requirements included within various sections of municipal code	Design Review Committee made up of 2 architects, 2 landscape architects, 1 public citizen. Director or Committee perform design review generally before project moves forward to ultimate decision maker	