

BLIGHT ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BYLAWS

Adoption Date: 2/4/2025 , Resolution No. 2025-54

Article I. Definitions

Section 1.01 There is a Committee created to be known and designated as the Modesto Blight Abatement Advisory Committee

Section 1.02 As used in these Bylaws, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(a) "Member" shall mean a member of the Blight Abatement Advisory Committee.

(b) "Blight Abatement Advisory Committee" and "Committee" shall mean the Blight Abatement Advisory Committee.

Article II. Mission Statement and Objectives

Section 2.01 Mission Statement:

The mission of the Blight Abatement Advisory Committee shall be to promote public engagement concerning blight abatement in the community and to make recommendations to the City regarding program improvements, potential funding opportunities, and support with increasing volunteerism

Section 2.02 Vision Statement

A City that takes pride in its parks and neighborhoods and promotes opportunities for all residents to make Modesto more beautiful.

Section 2.03 Power and Duty

The Committee has the power and duty to:

(a) Act in an advisory capacity to the City Council and the City Manager in all matters pertaining to blight and blight abatement efforts. Blight includes abandoned vehicles, nuisance properties, litter, garbage, tagging, or other debris that is discarded improperly;

- (b) Formulate and recommend programs relating to blight abatement, fundraising efforts, and promoting volunteerism to promote a more beautiful city through blight abatement efforts;
- (c) Promote engagement from nonprofits, neighborhood associations, and other groups to perform community clean ups; and support with engaging private stakeholders to raise funds for programmatic efforts for this committee;
- (d) Receive reports from City staff on ongoing efforts and strategies that have been established by the city to abate blight, and offer recommendations for improvements to these strategies;

Article III. Membership

Section 3.01 The Blight Abatement Advisory Committee shall consist of nine (9) voting members and one (1) non-voting member, comprised of the following:

Seat Designation	Term
Chairperson	One year, voted by simple majority of Committee.
Vice Chairperson	One year, voted by simple majority of Committee.
Citizen (Nine Committee members) - Voting	Four years, appointed by City Council
Council Member – Non-voting	One year, appointed by City Council

Section 3.02 Seven (7) members of the Committee shall be registered electors of the City and two (2), of the nine voting members, shall live outside the City but shall be registered electors of Stanislaus County, and each will have active involvement or interest in beautifying the City of Modesto. In the event that no applications are received for the County positions, a registered elector of the City may be elected to fill the positions for one (1) term. Preference will be provided to residents from across the community, representing the diverse neighborhoods in Modesto. One (1) non-voting member is to be a Council Member of the City and will be appointed by City Council.

Section 3.03 No Member of the Committee shall be an employee of the City, nor of any bargaining unit for employees of the City, nor a person who receives compensation from the City.

Section 3.04 All appointments to the Committee shall be recommended by the City's Appointments Committee and approved by the City Council.

Section 3.05 No Member of the Committee shall be a relative, by blood or marriage within the third degree of the Mayor, a Councilmember, a Charter Officer, or any Department Director or Deputy Department Director.

Section 3.06 All Members must complete a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) by April 1 of each year and when assuming or leaving Committee membership.

Article IV. Terms of Office

Section 4.01 Members may serve no more than two (2) consecutive terms in one period.

Section 4.02 A full term is four (4) years in duration.

Section 4.03 A partial term of at least two (2) years shall be considered a full term for purposes of Section 4.01.

Section 4.04 Full term appointments begin on January 1st and expire on December 31st, four (4) years later.

Section 4.05 No member shall serve more than eight (8) consecutive years.

Section 4.06 The Members of the Committee shall receive no compensation for the performance of their official duties.

Section 4.07 Appointments to fill vacancies on the Committee shall be handled in the same manner as the original appointments. When a vacancy occurs during a term, the appointment to fill such vacancy shall be considered the beginning of a new term.

Section 4.08 Members of the Committee may be removed by a majority vote of the City Council after a recommendation by the Committee Chairperson for the following reasons:

- (a) Misconduct, inefficiency, or willful neglect in the performance of their duties providing the Member is first provided in writing the reasons for such removal and gives the Member the opportunity to be heard before the City Council in their own defense.
- (b) Refusal to resign from the Committee when no longer a resident of the City or when a conflict of interest exists.

Article V. Attendance at Meetings

Section 5.01 It shall be the responsibility of each Member to know the dates and times of all Committee Meetings. If a Members knows he or she will not be able to attend a regularly scheduled meeting, it shall be his or her responsibility to notify the

staff appointed Committee Secretary at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting, in order for the absence to be recorded as an excused absence.

Section 5.02 The minutes of each meeting will list those Members in attendance, those who are excused, and those who are unexcused.

Section 5.03 Attendance at meetings is expected and necessary to carry out the mission of the Committee. Three (3) or more unexcused absences are grounds for the removal from the Committee by the City Council under Section 4.08(a).

Article VI. Officers and Secretary and Their Duties

Section 6.01 Officers shall consist of Chair and Vice-Chair elected by a simple majority vote of Members of the Committee. Officers shall serve a one-year term.

Section 6.02 All officers shall exercise all privileges of membership, including the making of motions, seconding, and debate.

Section 6.03 The Chair shall preside at all meetings, shall appoint all ad hoc committees, and shall ensure that the bylaws, rules, and regulations as adopted by the Committee are properly enforced.

Section 6.04 The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair in his/her duties and in the absence of the Chair shall perform all duties usually performed by the Chair.

Section 6.05 The Committee Secretary shall be a City staff member, appointed by the department head, to serve as Secretary. The Committee Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of all Committee meetings and such other duties as are usually performed by a secretary.

Article VII. Meetings

Section 7.01 Special meetings shall be called by the Chair as necessary.

Section 7.02 Notices of all meetings, including agendas, shall be given to all Members of the Committee, to the City Clerk, to the City Manager, and to the public and all others as provided by law. All such notices shall be at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time of such meeting.

Section 7.03 All meeting agendas will be posted at Tenth Street Plaza.

Section 7.04 All meetings shall comply with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Section 7.05 A quorum is necessary for the Committee to transact any business. A quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of active Committee Members, which is one-half of the active members plus one.

Section 7.06 All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public and shall be held at

a public facility, which is accessible in accordance with the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Section 7.07 Meetings shall be held at least once per quarter, every three (3) months.

Article VIII. Order of Proceedings

Section 8.01 Roberts Rules of Order shall be the guide for the parliamentary procedures for conduct of Committee meetings.

Section 8.02 The order of proceedings of all meetings shall be as follows, subject to majority vote of the Members present:

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Declaration of Conflict of Interest
- (c) Public Comment Period
- (d) Consent Items
- (e) Old Business
- (f) New Business
- (g) Committee Comments and Reports
- (h) Matters Too Late for the Agenda
- (i) Adjournment

Section 8.03 Members of the public shall speak as designated by the Chair and shall state his/her name before making any statement, which shall become part of the public record. The Chair may remove any person who refuses to follow these rules or the decision of the Chair.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 9.01 The Bylaws and any future amendments shall be subject to the final approval of the City Council and shall not and are not intended to go beyond any of the powers and duties given to the Committee by the City Council.