



Designer Selection Board Meeting

Wednesday October 21, 2026, AT 8:30 a.m.

David Carlson, Chair

Michael Chavez, Vice Chair

1. Meeting Agenda

A. Meeting Called to Order and Board Introductions

- Quorum: 6 members, 4 of which must be Architects/Engineers (including at least 1 Architect and 1 Engineer)

B. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

C. Informational Interviews

8:35 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Perkins & Will

9:05 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – Spagnolo Group Architecture

9:35 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – HDR Architecture, PC

D. Board Business

- None

2. Adjournment 11:30 a.m. (tentative)

3. Future Meetings (Subject to Change)

Wednesday, November 4, 2026 - Cancelled

Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Presentation: **Beyond the Accessibility Code: Changing Realities as an Impetus for Inclusive Design, Valerie Fletcher, Executive Director for the Institute for Human Centered Design**: Public buildings and civic spaces must meet accessibility requirements, but compliance is only the starting point. As disability, aging, neurodiversity, mobility needs, culture, and patterns of ability continue to change in the United States and globally, public design must do more than remove barriers; it must create environments that work better for more people. The presentation will explain the demographic case for inclusive design, identify baseline concepts and tools that can be incorporated into any project, and share representative examples from around the world that show inclusive design at both the broad planning level and in the details that make places successful. It will also describe how engaging “User/Experts” at the edges of the spectrum can provide real-world data about what works and what fails. (1 HSW/AIA CEU)

DSB List #26-23, DSBA-54, Study and Design for Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing & Land/Site Renovations, Repairs & Upgrades, Springfield Technical Community College, Springfield, ECC: Varies Per Project: Not to exceed authority delegated pursuant to M.G.L. c.7C, §5, for an individual project. Maximum Fee Per Contract (based on the scope of work & services authorized, shall not exceed) \$2,000,000 (House Doctor – 2 Contracts), 10 Applicants

DSB List #26-24, DSBA-71, Study & Design for General Building Renovations, Repairs & Upgrades, Middlesex Community College, Bedford & Lowell, ECC: Varies Per Project: Not to exceed authority delegated pursuant to M.G.L. c.7C, §5, for an individual project. Maximum Fee Per Contract (based on the scope of work & services authorized, shall not exceed) \$2,000,000 (House Doctor – 3 Contracts), Due 10-21-26

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

To Be Determined

Wednesday, December 16, 2026

Election for Chair and Vice-Chair

Note about Public Comment

The Designer Selection Board encourages members of the public to contact DSB staff to ask questions and discuss items of interest. While document requests and most general questions can be answered by staff, there may be times that direct Board input is requested. Because all Board deliberation is conducted at public meetings, interested parties can either request that something be placed on a posted meeting agenda, or simply ask to address the Board at the meeting.

The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law does not require that a public body allow public participation during its meetings but rather provides that "*no person shall address a meeting of a public body without permission of the chair, and all persons shall, at the request of the chair, be silent.*" G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f). The Open Meeting Law therefore gives discretion to the chair of a public body to determine who may speak or otherwise participate at a meeting and for how long. A public meeting is not the best place to dispute a prior selection or for a firm to advertise their capabilities. The focus should typically be about the designer selection process, regulations or policies, or anything that benefits the public or design community at large.

Persons wishing to speak at a scheduled meeting are asked, when possible, to submit their request to the DSB office *before* the day of the meeting. During its regularly scheduled biweekly Board meetings, subject to the discretion of the Board chair, the Board makes available a maximum 15-minute period for persons in the audience to address the Board. Participants are limited to no longer than 2 minutes each. Preference will be given to those who submit requests by 1:00 p.m. on the day preceding the regular Wednesday morning meeting. The Chair may limit the number of speakers due to time constraints and may increase or reduce the time allocated per speaker. While comments are welcomed, a response by the chair and/or Board is at their discretion.