

# NEIGHBORHOOD COMPATIBILITY WORKSHEET (FORM D-2)

## Sullivan's Island Design Review Board

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In accordance with the Sullivan's Island Zoning Ordinance, Section 21-111, the DRB shall only grant modifications of the Zoning Ordinance standards if the design is compatible with the surrounding neighborhood. The *Standards for Neighborhood Compatibility* should :

- The pattern of setback, foundation elevations and building heights;
- The massing and orientation of structures;
- Fenestration (windows) and doorway spacing and alignment patterns;
- The placement and use of porches, decks and patios;
- The placement and alignment of driveways;
- The treatment of front and side facades;
- Where appropriate, the types of roofs, the roof pitches, and other aspects of roof design;
- Where appropriate, distinctive architectural styles that characterize a street or neighborhood; and
- Such other factors as the Board may consider relevant to defining the character of the neighborhood.

Additionally, the following check-list will help the applicant and DRB determine if the proposed design is properly integrated into the context and character of the existing neighborhood.

**Principal Building Square Footage (§ 21-27):** When requesting relief for additional Principal Building Square Footage, the DRB will be looking carefully at ways the applicant is offsetting the impact of the requested relief. The applicant might choose one or more of the following techniques, for example:

- Lower the first-floor height closer to grade to offset the additional massing.
- Lower the main roof eave height to offset the additional massing.
- Lower the overall roof height to reduce the additional massing
- Reduce the amount of second floor wall surface
- Place the second-floor square footage within the roofline
- Provide additional setbacks for second story walls to reduce the impact to neighbors
- Assure to the DRB that the design is unique, well articulated and appropriately scaled
- DRB suggests that prior to submittal please review your plans with neighbors and request their approval of square footage changes.

**Principal Building Coverage (§ 21-25):** When requesting relief for Principal Building Coverage, the DRB will be looking at ways the applicant is offsetting the impact of the requested relief. The applicant might choose one or more of the following techniques, for example:

- Lower the first-floor height closer to grade to offset any additional massing.
- Coverage relief typically includes additional lower one-story design elements. Please indicate clearly these one-story elements in the design.
- Reduce the amount of second story wall surface area and second story heated sq. ft.
- Coverage Relief is typically granted for smaller than average lots due to zoning formulas.

- Assure to the DRB that the design is unique, well-articulated and appropriately scaled.

**Front and Side Building Setbacks (§ 21-22):** Building setbacks are intended to create open space (landscaping, sunlight, distance) between buildings and the right-of-way. When requesting relief for Front and Side Setbacks, the DRB will be looking at ways the applicant is offsetting the impact of the requested relief. The applicant might choose one or more of the following techniques, for example:

- Request Side Setback relief as a means of preserving trees, tree canopies or other significant landscape elements.
- Consider designing one story construction in the requested relief zone to preserve sunlight and views.
- Provide well articulated side facades with separated massing elements.
- DRB suggests that prior to submittal please review your plans with neighbors and request their approval of setback changes.

**Second Story Side Façade Setback (§ 21-22):** Second story side façade setback of two feet reduces the overall height and mass of the wall and ensures more sunlight for the adjacent property. Two-foot second floor setbacks are required for any wall in excess of 10'. DRB can double that width to 20'. The DRB does not have the authority to completely eliminate the second story setback.

**Side Façade Articulation (§ 21-29):** The depth and width of a building has a substantial impact on its mass and scale. Removing the requirement for articulations in the side wall can result in a long unbroken side façade, which lacks visual appeal and creates more mass.

- It is unlikely that the DRB will grant 100% relief allowing a 60' long unarticulated wall.
- When requesting any relief less than 100%, assure to the DRB that the design is unique, well articulated and appropriately scaled