

## *Notice of Proposed Amendment to Baker West Neighborhood Association Bylaws*

In accordance with the Bylaws, notice is hereby given by the Board of Directors that the following Bylaw amendment will be considered at the NEXT membership meeting having an Organization Quorum.

**Amendment #2008-006:** Modify definition of standard quorum and eliminate use of organization quorum.

**Proposal:** Eliminate Organizational Quorum. Remove the condition of excluding Board of Directors from the count when calculating a standard quorum. Replace “Standard Quorum” and “Organizational Quorum” with “quorum”.

### ARTICLE 3. – DEFINITIONS

~~d. **Organization Quorum.** A quorum of the organization, defined as a majority of the Voting Membership, is required in order to hold specific critical meetings.~~

~~e. **Standard Quorum.** Unless otherwise required in these Bylaws, a meeting quorum consisting of Voting Members in Good Standing from 10 separate Residential Addresses, **excluding from this count any Board of Directors members present,** suffices to conduct most business.~~

As there are more than 6 instances of the term “Standard Quorum and Organizational Quorum” being used, we won’t list all of the text changes. The substitution is straight forward using Find/Replace.

### **Rationale for Change**

The founding members originally thought that the general meetings would be the primary interest of our neighbors and attendance at these meetings would be the best indicator of a successful neighborhood association. After one year of leading the association and talking to many neighbors it is clear that this is not true. Building relationships through participation in events, communication via yahoo groups, and solidarity around specific concerns (sidewalk along Bucknall, noise and crime along the berm at El Paseo Shopping Center, etc) are the best indicators of a successful neighborhood association. Currently our bylaws require residents from 10 separate residential addresses excluding anyone from the leadership team (officers and committee chair) in order to hold a business meeting. The attendance at our general meetings has declined over the past year and we are finding it difficult to meet this definition of a quorum. Yet, we have some basic and essential items to discuss and vote on like officers and budgets. After discussing this dilemma with many residents, it is clear that their reasons for not attending general meetings fall into one of three categories 1) previous standing commitments 2) child care requirements and 3) not interested in the business aspects of the meeting and trust the people in leadership to make sound decisions. In order to allow for the association to function, we think that having residents from 10 separate residential addresses is more than sufficient to allow for discussing and making any decisions. Since our bylaws already require advanced notice of agendas and major decisions, like making amendments, we are confident

**Parliamentary information:** Primary and secondary amendments to these proposed bylaw amendments are in order only if they are *germane* to the proposed bylaw amendments and are *within the scope of the change proposed in the notice*. “Amendments” which do not seek to directly change the text of the proposed amendments within the limitations of germaneness and scope, but instead propose to amend other parts of the affected section amount to new bylaw amendments will be out of order. Notice of such new proposed bylaw amendments may be given when there are no other pending motions

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that residents will be able plan their schedule to allow them to attend a meeting where they feel it is essential that they voice their opinions and vote on a certain matter.

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