

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE MARIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
CONTINUING THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT CIVIC CENTER CONSERVANCY AND
CLARIFYING AND RESTATING ITS STATUS, PURPOSE, AND MEMBERSHIP**

WHEREAS, the Marin County Civic Center (“Civic Center”) is the only government complex designed by Frank Lloyd Wright (“Wright”) that was constructed and is designated as a National and State Historic Landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Marin County Board of Supervisors (“Board of Supervisors”) has a continuing responsibility to preserve, protect, and steward the Civic Center’s architectural integrity and historic significance; and

WHEREAS, the Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center Conservancy (“Conservancy”) was established to advise the Board of Supervisors regarding preservation, restoration, and educational efforts related to the Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, the Conservancy is scheduled to sunset on August 15, 2026, unless the Board of Supervisors takes action to continue the Conservancy prior to this date; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors desires to continue the Conservancy, and in conjunction with doing so, clarify its entity status, governance structure, membership requirements, and review processes and standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Marin County Board of Supervisors hereby determines and declares as follows:

Section 1. Restatement of Purpose and Duties

The Conservancy shall serve solely in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors and County Executive. Its duties shall include and be limited to the following:

1. Advising on preservation and protection of the architectural integrity of the Civic Center;
2. Reviewing and providing recommendations concerning proposed alterations, restorations, repairs, or modifications affecting historically significant features to the Civic Center;
3. Advising on stewardship of original furnishings, design elements, archival materials, and landscape features of the Civic Center;
4. Supporting public education and awareness regarding the Civic Center and the work of Frank Lloyd Wright; and
5. Providing recommendations regarding strategies to support preservation and restoration efforts for the Civic Center.

All final decision-making authority shall remain with the Board of Supervisors or authorized County official(s).

Section 2. Scope of Review

A. Foundational Preservation Standard: Character-Defining Features.

Preservation review of the Conservancy shall be grounded in its original purpose: to preserve and protect the historical and architectural integrity of the Civic Center, the only government complex designed by Frank Lloyd Wright that was constructed and designated a National and State Historic Landmark. For purposes of this Resolution, “character-defining features” shall mean those materials, forms, spatial relationships, design elements, finishes, craftsmanship, landscape features, furnishings, and other physical attributes that contribute to the Civic Center’s historic significance, architectural integrity, and landmark designation, as recognized under applicable federal and state historic preservation standards.

B. Geographic Scope Subject to Advisory Review.

The areas expressly delineated in the National and State Historic Landmark designations (Civic Center building and Lagoon) as described in Exhibit A are the only subject matters within the compulsory review jurisdiction of the Conservancy. Proposals regarding buildings and landscapes on the greater Civic Center campus, which are not part of the National and State Historic Landmark designation, are not required to be reviewed by the Conservancy, but the Board of Supervisors or other County departments may seek input from the Conservancy regarding such projects, at their sole discretion.

C. Matters Subject to Advisory Review.

To the extent reasonably practicable, proposed projects shall be referred to the Conservancy for advisory review and recommendation prior to final County action when such projects would materially affect identified character-defining features, including but not limited to:

1. Exterior architectural elements, including form, massing, rooflines, arcades, skylights, fenestration, decorative concrete elements, color schemes, and other original design components;
2. Significant interior public spaces and spatial configurations, including atria, corridors, public chambers, built-in furnishings, lighting elements, finishes, and other original Wright-designed features;
3. Original or historically significant materials, fixtures, artwork, integrated furnishings, or architectural details attributable to Frank Lloyd Wright or integral to the landmark designation;
4. Landscape features, site planning elements, vistas, approach sequences, and other aspects of the setting that contribute to the Civic Center’s historic character; and
5. Conservation treatments, restoration methodologies, or preservation guidelines that establish standards for protecting character-defining features.

D. Threshold for Referral.

Routine maintenance, in-kind repairs, code compliance upgrades, accessibility improvements, life-safety work, integration/alteration of technology, or operational

modifications that do not materially alter, obscure, remove, or compromise character-defining features shall not require Conservancy review unless specifically referred by the Board of Supervisors or the County Executive.

E. Consistency with Preservation Standards.

In formulating its recommendations, the Conservancy shall consider applicable preservation principles, including the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and the preservation guidelines adopted by the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy.

F. Advisory Nature and Emergency Actions.

The Conservancy's review and recommendations shall be advisory only. Nothing herein shall limit the authority of the Board of Supervisors or authorized County officials to approve, modify, or reject any project. In cases of emergency repairs necessary to protect public health, safety, or property, the County may proceed without prior advisory review; however, the Conservancy shall be notified as soon as practicable and may provide advisory input following such action.

Section 3. Clarification of Status of Entity

The Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center Conservancy ("Conservancy") is confirmed to be a discretionary advisory committee of the County of Marin established for the purpose set forth in Section 1 herein.

Notwithstanding any provision in the history of the Conservancy's formation to the contrary, this Resolution confirms that the Conservancy is not intended to fulfill the following purposes or functions:

1. Be organized or operated as a nonprofit corporation;
2. Serve a fundraising function or be expected to engage in fundraising for the Civic Center's preservation;
3. Maintain separate corporate status independent of the County;
4. Possess independent tax-exempt status; and
5. Enter into contracts, incur liabilities, hold property, or maintain bank accounts independent of the County unless expressly authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

The Conservancy shall operate in accordance with all applicable County of Marin policies governing discretionary advisory committees.

Section 4. Membership

A. Number of Members.

The Conservancy shall consist of up to nine (9) members in addition to one member of the Board of Supervisors designated as the Board liaison.

B. Appointment Authority.

1. Five (5) members shall be appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one representing each district.
2. The remaining members, up to the maximum authorized membership of nine (9), shall be nominated by the Conservancy and affirmed by the Board of Supervisors.

C. Qualifications.

Members shall possess demonstrated expertise, experience, or strong interest in one or more of the following areas:

- Architecture or historic preservation
- Frank Lloyd Wright's work or legacy
- Landscape architecture or planning
- Architectural history, art, or design
- Construction, restoration, or facilities management
- Marin County history
- Public engagement, philanthropy, or cultural stewardship

The Board of Supervisors and the Conservancy shall strive to maintain a balanced and diverse membership reflecting the Civic Center's cultural and community significance.

D. Conflict of Interest and Eligibility Restrictions.

To preserve the integrity and independence of the Conservancy:

1. No person shall be eligible for appointment or continued service as a member of the Conservancy if that person is currently serving as a paid consultant or contractor to the County of Marin with respect to the Civic Center.
2. No person shall be eligible for appointment or continued service if that person has an existing contractual relationship with the County relating to the Civic Center.
3. Members shall disclose any intention to seek or enter into a consulting or contracting relationship with the County concerning the Civic Center. Any member who becomes a consultant or contractor to the County with respect to the Civic Center shall automatically forfeit their membership.
4. Members shall comply with all applicable state and local conflict-of-interest laws, including filing requirements and recusal obligations.

Section 5. Board Liaison

The Board of Supervisors shall designate one Supervisor to serve as the Board liaison to the Conservancy.

Section 6. Terms of Membership

1. Members shall serve a four (4) year term.
2. Members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority and may be removed by such appointing authority or by the Board of Supervisors.

3. Vacancies shall be filled by the original appointing authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 7. Officers

The Conservancy shall annually elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from among its members.

Section 8. Meetings

A. Regular Meetings.

The Conservancy shall hold regular meetings at least six (6) times per calendar year, occurring on a bi-monthly basis at dates and times established by the Conservancy and shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable County of Marin policies governing discretionary advisory committees.

B. Special Meetings for Time-Sensitive Matters.

If a matter requiring advisory review by the Conservancy arises between regularly scheduled meetings, and delay until the next regular meeting would reasonably jeopardize the timely progress or completion of a proposed Civic Center project, restoration, alteration, or related action, a special meeting may be called. A special meeting may be called by the Chair of the Conservancy or the County Staff Liaison, in consultation with the Chair. Special meetings may be held by videoconference and shall be held in compliance with all applicable County of Marin policies governing discretionary advisory boards. The purpose of any special meeting shall be limited to providing advisory input on the time-sensitive matter identified in the meeting notice. All final decision-making authority shall remain with the Board of Supervisors or authorized County official(s).

C. Meeting Agendas

An agenda for the meeting shall be prepared by the Staff Liaison and shall comply with applicable notice and other Brown Act requirements. The agenda shall be approved by the Chair in consultation with the Staff Liaison.

Section 9. Staff Liaison

Administrative and professional support shall be provided in the form of a County Staff Liaison overseen by the Department of Cultural Services.

Section 10. Bylaws

The Conservancy shall adopt Bylaws governing its operations consistent with the provisions of this Resolution and conforming to the Marin County Standard Bylaws Template for advisory committees.

Section 11. Supersession

This Resolution supersedes any prior resolutions or provisions inconsistent with the clarifications set forth herein regarding the entity status, governance structure, membership requirements, and review processes and standards of the Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center Conservancy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Marin County Board of Supervisors held on the fourteenth day of July, 2026, by the following vote:

- AYES:
- NOES:
- ABSENT:
- ABSTAIN:

DRAFT

EXHIBIT A

Geographic Scope Subject to Advisory Review

The areas expressly delineated in the National and State Historic Landmark designations (Civic Center building and Lagoon), as shown herein, are the only subject matters within the compulsory review jurisdiction of the Conservancy.

