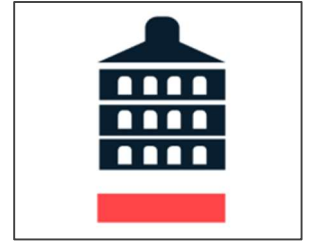




The Back Bay Architectural Commission

The [Back Bay Architectural Commission \(BBAC\)](#) is a board of the City of Boston composed of [nine members and five alternates](#) who serve as volunteers. They are appointed by the Mayor for five-year terms from the nominees of several constituent groups – NABB, the Back Bay Association, the Greater Boston Real Estate Board, the Boston Society of Architects, and the Mayor’s Office.



The Commission was established by an act of the State Legislature in 1966. In 1979 the district was expanded to include Newbury Street and the north side of Boylston Street, and in 1981, the Commission was given review over the alleys and views not visible from a public way. Its jurisdiction extends from Arlington Street to Charlesgate East and from Back Street to the midline of Boylston Street.

The Commission operates from within the [Boston Environment Department](#). It meets monthly for a public hearing on the second Wednesday of the month to review whatever applications have been filed before the posted deadline, which is 15 business days before the hearing. Details about the [application process and fee schedule](#) can be found on the [BBAC section](#) on the website of the City of Boston.

Applications that conform to the Commission’s guidelines are generally handled by the staff and ratified at the next hearing; the more complex ones are reviewed at the hearing, where the public can attend and participate.

Applications can be [filed online](#).