HORTON D R INC /DE/ Form DEF 14A December 10, 2015 Table of Contents

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a)

of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

(Amendment No.

Filed by the Registrant x

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant "

Check the appropriate box:

- " Preliminary Proxy Statement
- " Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- x Definitive Proxy Statement
- " Definitive Additional Materials
- " Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

D.R. Horton, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

 $(Name\ of\ Person(s)\ Filing\ Proxy\ Statement,\ if\ other\ than\ the\ Registrant)$

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

x No fee required.

Fee co	mputed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(1)(1) and 0-11.	
(1)	Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:	
(2)	Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:	
(3)	Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):	
(4)	Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:	
(5)	Total fee paid:	
Fee pa	id previously with preliminary materials.	
Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fe was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the form or schedule and the date of its filing.		
(1)	Amount Previously Paid:	
(2)	Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:	
(3)	Filing Party:	

(4) Date Filed:

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held On

Thursday, January 21, 2016

Dear Fellow Stockholder of D.R. Horton:

You are invited to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of D.R. Horton, *America s Builder*. Our 2016 Annual Meeting will be held at our corporate offices located at: D.R. Horton Tower, 301 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., central time, for the following purposes:

To elect the five directors named in our proxy statement;

To seek an advisory vote on the approval of executive compensation;

To ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm; and

To conduct other business properly brought before the meeting.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on Monday, November 30, 2015, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the 2016 Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

While we would like to have each of you attend the meeting and vote your shares in person, we realize this may not be possible. However, whether or not you plan to attend the meeting, your vote is very important. For convenience of our stockholders, proxies may be given either by telephone, electronically through the Internet, or by mail.

A form of proxy on which to indicate your vote by mail and an envelope, postage prepaid, in which to return your proxy are enclosed. WE URGE YOU TO COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR PROXY BY ONE OF THESE METHODS SO THAT YOUR SHARES WILL BE REPRESENTED. If you decide later to attend the 2016 Annual Meeting, you may revoke your proxy at that time and vote your shares in person. If you desire any additional information concerning the 2016 Annual Meeting, we would be glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

DONALD R. HORTON Chairman of the Board

Fort Worth, Texas

December 10, 2015

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D.R. Horton Tower

301 Commerce Street

Fort Worth, Texas 76102

www.drhorton.com

PROXY STATEMENT

for the

2016 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held On January 21, 2016

GENERAL

Time, Place and Purposes of Meeting

Our 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders will be held on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., central time, at our corporate offices located at D.R. Horton Tower, 301 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, Texas. The purposes of the 2016 Annual Meeting are set forth in the Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders to which this Proxy Statement is attached. D.R. Horton, Inc. is referred to as *D.R. Horton*, the *Company*, *we*, and *our* in this Proxy Statement.

Solicitation of Proxies

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of D.R. Horton. D.R. Horton expects that this Proxy Statement and the accompanying form of proxy will first be released to our stockholders of record on or about December 10, 2015. The cost of this solicitation will be paid by D.R. Horton. The solicitation of proxies will be made primarily by use of the mail. In addition, directors, officers and regular employees of D.R. Horton may make solicitations without special compensation by telephone, facsimile, e-mail or personal interview. They may request banks, brokers, fiduciaries and other persons holding stock in their names, or in the names of their nominees, to forward proxies and proxy materials to their principals and obtain authorization for the execution and return of such proxies to management. D.R. Horton will reimburse such banks, brokers and fiduciaries for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for this service.

Revocation and Voting of Proxies

Stockholders may vote by marking, signing and dating each proxy card received and returning it in the prepaid envelope, by telephone or electronically through the Internet by following the instructions included on the enclosed proxy card or by casting votes in person at the meeting. The telephone and Internet voting procedures are designed to authenticate votes cast by use of a personal identification number. The procedures, which are designed to comply with Delaware law, allow stockholders to appoint a proxy to vote their shares and to confirm that their instructions have been properly recorded. Stockholders who hold shares in street name through a broker or other nominee may be able to vote by telephone or electronically through the Internet in accordance with the voting instructions provided by that institution.

Any proxy given may be revoked by a stockholder at any time before it is exercised by filing with D.R. Horton a notice in writing revoking it, by duly executing and returning a proxy bearing a later date or by voting by telephone or Internet. Proxies also may be revoked by any stockholder present at the 2016 Annual Meeting who expresses a desire to vote his or her shares in person. If you require directions to our meeting, please contact Investor Relations at (817) 390-8200. Subject to such revocation and except as otherwise stated herein or in the form of proxy, all proxies duly executed and received prior to, or at the time of, the 2016 Annual Meeting will be voted in accordance with the specifications of the proxies. If no specification is made, proxies will be voted as

follows: (i) FOR each of the nominees for election of directors (see Proposal One on page 5), (ii) FOR the adoption of the advisory resolution on executive compensation (see Proposal Two on page 54), (iii) FOR ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm (see Proposal Three on page 57), and at the discretion of the proxy holders on all other matters properly brought before the 2016 Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Outstanding Shares and Voting Rights

November 30, 2015 has been set as the record date for the purpose of determining stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the 2016 Annual Meeting. There were 369,570,908 shares of D.R. Horton s common stock, \$.01 par value, issued and outstanding on the record date. On any matter submitted to a stockholder vote, each holder of common stock will be entitled to one vote, in person or by proxy, for each issued and outstanding share of common stock registered in his or her name on the books of D.R. Horton as of the record date. A list of such stockholders will be available for examination by any stockholder at the offices of D.R. Horton set forth above for at least ten days before the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Quorum Requirement

The D.R. Horton Bylaws provide that if the holders of a majority of the issued and outstanding shares of common stock entitled to vote are present in person or represented by proxy, there will be a quorum. The aggregate number of votes entitled to be cast by all stockholders present in person or represented by proxy at the 2016 Annual Meeting, whether those stockholders vote for, against or abstain from voting on any matter, will be counted for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists. Broker non-votes, which are described below under *Vote Required*, will be considered present for purposes of determining whether a quorum exists.

Vote Required

NOTICE: Brokers and banks are not permitted to vote on certain non-routine proposals without instructions from the beneficial owner, as discussed in more detail below. Proposal One and Proposal Two are non-routine proposals. Therefore, if your shares are held through a broker, bank or other nominee, your shares will not be voted on Proposal One or Proposal Two unless you provide voting instructions to your broker or bank as described herein.

If your shares are held in a brokerage account or by a bank or other nominee, you are considered the *beneficial owner* of shares held in *street name*. If a broker or bank holds your shares, you may have received this Proxy Statement directly from them, together with instructions as to how to direct the broker or bank to vote your shares. If you intend to have your vote counted, it is important that you return your voting instructions to your broker or bank. Under the rules of the New York Stock Exchange (*NYSE*), a broker or bank has the authority to vote on certain *routine* proposals without voting instructions from the beneficial owner. A *broker non-vote* occurs when the broker or bank is unable to vote on a *non-routine* proposal because it does not have discretionary authority and the beneficial owner has not provided voting instructions. Brokers or banks may not vote on Proposal One or Proposal Two at the 2016 Annual Meeting without voting instructions from the beneficial owner because those proposals are *non-routine* proposals. Brokers and banks may vote on Proposal Three at the 2016 Annual Meeting without voting instructions from the beneficial owner because this proposal is *routine*.

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The following table reflects the vote required for each proposal and the effect of broker non-votes and abstentions on the vote, assuming a quorum is present at the meeting:

Proposal

(1) Election of Directors

Vote Required

 The number of shares voted for a director must exceed the number of shares voted against that director

NYSE Routine and Non-Routine Matters: Effect of Broker Non-Votes and Abstentions

 Non-Routine: Brokers and banks do not have discretionary authority to vote on this proposal in the event voting instructions are not received from street-name holder

- (2) Advisory vote on the approval of executive compensation
- (2) An affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our common stock which has voting power present in person or represented by proxy and is entitled to vote
- (2) Non-Routine: Brokers and banks do not have discretionary authority to vote on this proposal in the event voting instructions are not received from street-name holder

Broker non-votes have no effect Abstentions have no effect

- (3) Ratification of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm
- (3) An affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our common stock which has voting power present in person or represented by proxy and is entitled to vote
- (3) Routine: Brokers and banks have discretionary authority to vote on this proposal in the event voting instructions are not received from street-name holder

Broker non-votes have no effect Abstentions have the same effect as a

vote against the proposal

Broker non-votes have no effect Abstentions have the same effect as a vote against the proposal

Stockholders Sharing the Same Address

The broker, bank or other nominee of any stockholder who is a beneficial owner, but not the record holder, of the Company s common stock may deliver only one copy of this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report to multiple stockholders sharing an address, unless the broker, bank or nominee has received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders.

In addition, with respect to record holders, in some cases, only one copy of this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report will be delivered to multiple stockholders sharing an address, unless the Company has received contrary instructions from one or more of the stockholders. Upon written or oral request, the Company will deliver free of charge a separate copy of this Proxy Statement and our Annual Report to a stockholder at a shared address to which a single copy was delivered. You can notify your broker, bank or other nominee (if you are not the record holder) or the Company (if you are the record holder) that you wish to receive a separate copy of our proxy statements and annual reports in the future, or alternatively, that you wish to receive a single copy of the materials instead of multiple copies. The Company s contact information for these purposes is: D.R. Horton, Inc., Attention: Thomas B. Montano, Vice President, Corporate and Securities Counsel, 301 Commerce Street, Suite 500, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, telephone number: (817) 390-8200, or e-mail: tbmontano@drhorton.com.

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Future Stockholder Communications through the Internet

Stockholders may elect to receive future notices of meetings, proxy materials and annual reports electronically through the Internet. The consent of stockholders who have previously consented to electronic delivery will remain in effect until withdrawn. To consent to electronic delivery:

stockholders whose shares are registered in their own name, and not in street name through a broker or other nominee, may simply log in to www.proxyvote.com, the Internet site maintained by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. and follow the step-by-step instructions; and

stockholders whose shares are registered in street name through a broker or other nominee must first vote their shares using the Internet at: www.proxyvote.com, the Internet site maintained by Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., and immediately after voting, fill out the consent form that appears on-screen at the end of the Internet voting procedure.

The consent to receive stockholder communications through the Internet may be withdrawn at any time to resume receiving stockholder communications in printed form.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR

THE STOCKHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD JANUARY 21, 2016

The Notice, Proxy Statement and Annual Report on Form 10-K are available at

https://materials.proxyvote.com/23331A

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PROPOSAL ONE

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors currently consists of five members who were elected at the 2015 Annual Meeting and will serve until the 2016 Annual Meeting and until their successors have been elected and qualified.

The Nominating and Governance Committee recommended to the Board of Directors our five current directors as director nominees, each of whom is listed below under the heading *Nominees for Director*. After review and consideration by the Board of Directors, the Board nominated Donald R. Horton, Barbara K. Allen, Brad S. Anderson, Michael R. Buchanan and Michael W. Hewatt, as recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee, for election as directors of D.R. Horton at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

Unless otherwise specified in the accompanying proxy, the shares voted by proxy will be voted for each of the persons named below as nominees for election as directors. Nominees who are elected as directors will be elected for one-year terms and will serve until the next annual meeting of stockholders and their successors have been elected and qualified. We do not know of any reason why any of the nominees would be unable to serve. However, if any of the nominees is unable to serve or for good cause will not serve as a director at the time of the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Board may designate a substitute nominee or reduce the size of the Board. If the Board designates a substitute nominee, the persons named as proxies may vote FOR that substitute nominee.

The D.R. Horton Bylaws require that to be elected, a director nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast with respect to such nominee in uncontested elections (the number of shares voted for a director nominee must exceed the number of votes cast against that nominee). In a contested election, where the number of nominees exceeds the number of directors to be elected (which is not the case at the 2016 Annual Meeting), the directors will be elected by a plurality of the shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the election of directors. Under the Corporate Governance Principles of the Company, any director who is not elected is required to tender his or her resignation to the Chairman of the Board within a reasonable time following certification of the vote. The Nominating and Governance Committee, which is composed of only independent directors, will consider the resignation offer and make a recommendation to the Board as to whether to accept or reject the resignation offer, or whether other action should be taken. The Board will act on the Nominating and Governance Committee s recommendation within 90 days following certification of the election results. Thereafter, the Board will promptly publicly disclose in a report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) its decision regarding the director s resignation offer (including the reason(s) for rejecting the resignation offer, if applicable).

The Board of Directors Unanimously Recommends that Stockholders Vote FOR

Each of the Following Director Nominees.

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Nominees for Director

The following is a summary of certain information regarding the nominees for election as directors.

DONALD R. HORTON, age 65, director since 1991. Mr. Horton has been executive Chairman of the Board of D.R. Horton since it was formed in July 1991, and he was President and CEO from July 1991 until November 1998. He has been involved in the real estate and homebuilding industries since 1972, and he was the founder, sole or principal stockholder, director and president of each of D.R. Horton s predecessor companies since their respective organization, which date from 1978 to 1990.

<u>Key Director Qualifications</u>. Mr. Horton s 37 years of extensive experience in the homebuilding industry provides valuable leadership to the Board and to the Company. Mr. Horton brings to the Board his experience as founder of the Company, Chairman of the Board and former CEO and President of the Company and its predecessor companies. Mr. Horton is also the largest individual stockholder of the Company. As founder of the Company, Mr. Horton has a unique understanding of all phases of the homebuilding business. Mr. Horton s leadership and strategic vision provides the Board and the Company with distinct advantages in the homebuilding industry.

BARBARA K. ALLEN, age 69, director since 2014. Ms. Allen has significant experience researching, analyzing and making investment decisions related to housing-related companies. Ms. Allen retired from Avondale Partners in July 2006 where she was a Partner and Housing, Construction and Retailing Analyst. From February 1997 until December 2004, she was the Home Construction, Building Materials, Home Furnishing and DIY (Do It Yourself) Retailing Analyst for Natexis Bleichroeder, Inc. Ms. Allen was a Vice President, Equity Research for Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette from January 1993 until January 1996. She served in other roles at Oppenheimer & Company, Kidder, Peabody, Inc., and Prudential Securities prior to January 1993. Ms. Allen has been a member of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees since 2014.

<u>Key Director Qualifications</u>. Ms. Allen s extensive experience working as an analyst and consultant with housing-related companies provides valuable knowledge to the Board with regard to strategic decisions, including investment, operating and financing matters.

BRAD S. ANDERSON, age 54, director since 1998. Mr. Anderson has been an Executive Vice President of CBRE Group, Inc., formerly CB Richard Ellis, Inc., an international real estate brokerage company, since 2009, and he has held various positions in Phoenix, Arizona with its predecessor, CB Commercial Real Estate Group, Inc., since January 1987. He served as Interim Chairman of the Board of Continental Homes Holding Corp. from October 1997 through April 1998, when it merged into D.R. Horton, and he became a director of D.R. Horton at that time. Mr. Anderson has been a member of both the Audit and Compensation Committees since 1998, and he has been a member of the Nominating and Governance Committee since November 2003.

Key Director Qualifications. Mr. Anderson s extensive experience working with an international real estate brokerage company allows him to bring beneficial insight and perspective to the Board, as a number of factors that affect the real estate brokerage industry also affect the homebuilding industry. Mr. Anderson also brings to the Board his valuable experience of formerly serving on another public homebuilding company s board and serving on the Company s Board and its Committees since 1998.

MICHAEL R. BUCHANAN, age 68, director since 2003. Mr. Buchanan has significant commercial banking experience with several banking institutions serving the real estate and homebuilding sectors. He retired from commercial banking in March 2002. From March 2002 to March 2003, Mr. Buchanan was engaged as a senior advisor to Banc of America Securities. From 1998 to March 2002, Mr. Buchanan was a Managing Director of Bank of America, an executive officer position in which he was head of its national real estate banking group. From 1990 to 1998, Mr. Buchanan was an Executive Vice President of NationsBank, which later merged with Bank of America. Mr. Buchanan is also a member of the Board of Directors, and member of the capital committee and the audit committee of Piedmont Office Realty Trust, Inc., a real estate investment trust publicly-traded on the NYSE. Mr. Buchanan was appointed to our Board s Audit Committee in July 2003, Nominating and Governance Committee in November 2003 and Compensation Committee in January 2004.

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<u>Key Director Qualifications</u>. Mr. Buchanan is a highly experienced commercial banker who served the real estate and homebuilding sectors. His experience in these areas allows him to provide the Board with both a broad-based and a granular perspective on the homebuilding industry. Mr. Buchanan also brings his experience of serving on the board of a real estate investment trust, thereby providing the Board with additional perspective on the real estate industry and serving on a board of directors.

MICHAEL W. HEWATT, age 66, director since 2005. Mr. Hewatt is a certified public accountant performing auditing and tax services as a sole practitioner. He has worked for Hewatt & Associates or its predecessor firms since 1980. From 1971 to 1979, Mr. Hewatt worked in the tax and audit areas at Coopers & Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP) and was an audit manager for five years during that period. Mr. Hewatt is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, former member of the board of directors of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants Fort Worth Chapter. Mr. Hewatt has been a director of D.R. Horton since 2005 and has been a member of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees since that time.

<u>Key Director Qualifications</u>. Mr. Hewatt has extensive experience working as a certified public accountant for a national and local firm. This experience enables Mr. Hewatt to provide valuable perspective on accounting, auditing and tax matters to the Board and its Committees.

Other Executive Officers

DAVID V. AULD, *age* 59, is President and Chief Executive Officer of D.R. Horton, positions he has held since October 2014. Mr. Auld was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from November 2013 until October 2014. Mr. Auld was Region President overseeing the Company s homebuilding operations in Florida, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama from 2005 to 2013. From 1988 to 2005, Mr. Auld served as the Division President of the Company and its predecessor s Orlando Division. Prior to 1988, Mr. Auld worked for Texas American Bank and General Dynamics. Mr. Auld graduated from Texas Tech University in 1978 with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting.

MICHAEL J. MURRAY, age 49, is Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of D.R. Horton, positions he has held since October 2014. Mr. Murray served as Senior Vice President of Business Development from 2012 until October 2014. From 2004 to 2012, Mr. Murray served as the Company s Vice President and Controller, after joining the Company in 2002 as the Director of Internal Audit. He began his career at Price Waterhouse LLP (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) and then worked at several other companies in finance and accounting roles prior to joining the Company. Mr. Murray graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1988 with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting.

BILL W. WHEAT, age 49, is Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of D.R. Horton, positions he has held since 2003. Mr. Wheat was the Company s Senior Vice President and Controller from 2000 until 2003, after joining the Company in 1998 as an Accounting Manager. Mr. Wheat also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Company from October 2003 to January 2011. Mr. Wheat began his career with Price Waterhouse LLP (now PricewaterhouseCoopers), and then worked at The Bombay Company in several financial and accounting roles prior to joining the Company. Mr. Wheat graduated from Baylor University in 1988 with a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and finance.

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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND BOARD MATTERS

Corporate Governance Standards

Our Board of Directors has adopted a number of standards to comply with requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (the Sarbanes-Oxley Act), and the final rules of the NYSE and SEC relating to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the Dodd-Frank Act) and other corporate governance matters. Our Board has adopted the D.R. Horton Corporate Governance Principles, which contain a number of corporate governance initiatives designed to comply with the NYSE listing standards (the NYSE Rules), and the rules and regulations of the SEC (the SEC Rules) relating to corporate governance. The significant corporate governance initiatives adopted by the Board of Directors are discussed below. The Corporate Governance Principles can be found under the Investor Relations and Corporate Governance links on our website at www.drhorton.com.

Qualifications and Characteristics for Directors

The Nominating and Governance Committee utilizes a variety of methods for identifying nominees for director, including considering potential director candidates who come to the committee s attention through current officers, directors, professional search firms, stockholders or other persons. Once a potential nominee has been identified, the Nominating and Governance Committee evaluates whether the nominee has appropriate qualifications and characteristics to become a director in light of the current make-up of the Board of Directors. We do not have a formal or informal diversity policy regarding the selection or qualification of directors. We believe that appropriate director qualifications and characteristics include having directors with diverse backgrounds, education, experiences, expertise and perspectives. These qualifications and characteristics are discussed below.

Key Qualifications and Experiences. As a leading national homebuilding company, we believe certain qualifications and experiences are important to the overall make-up of our Board. We do not require that each director possess each of the qualifications listed below, but rather we look to whether our Board as a whole possesses these qualifications.

<u>Real Estate Experience</u>. We seek to have directors with expertise or key experience in the real estate industry, which includes experience in homebuilding, land development, real estate brokerage and sales, commercial development and leasing, financing and banking in the real estate industry, or experience in analyzing or consulting in these key areas. These key qualifications enable our Board to understand key operational aspects related to our business of running a national homebuilding company.

<u>Business, Management, Accounting and Finance Experience</u>. We seek to have directors with expertise or key experience in business, management, accounting, finance or similar positions. We believe these key qualifications are important to the Board as it oversees risks in the Company s key functional areas of homebuilding operations, financing and liquidity, financial reporting, internal control and regulatory compliance, and compensation.

<u>Strategic Vision and Leadership</u>. We seek to have directors with expertise or key experiences in positions that require strategic vision, leadership and decision making. We believe directors acquire these key qualifications through experience as executives, managers, entrepreneurs, business owners, directors, consultants, analysts or advisors. We believe these key qualifications are important to the Board, as directors with these attributes provide sound business judgment, leadership and strategic vision to the Board and the Company.

The key qualifications possessed by our nominees are discussed under each nominee s name and profile beginning on page 6.

Key Characteristics. In addition to the key qualifications and experiences discussed above, we also believe each member of the Board of Directors should have the following minimum characteristics:

high personal and professional ethical standards, integrity and values;

commitment to representing the long-term interests of the stockholders;

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practical wisdom, mature judgment and collegiality;

objectivity and inquisitiveness; and

willingness to offer his or her resignation in the event of any significant change in personal circumstances that could affect the discharge of his or her responsibilities as a director, including a change in his or her principal job responsibilities.

Ordinarily, directors who serve as chief executive officers or in equivalent positions for other companies should not serve on more than one other board of a public company in addition to the D.R. Horton Board, and other directors should not serve on more than two other boards of public companies in addition to the D.R. Horton Board. Because of the value the Board places on having directors who are knowledgeable about the Company and its operations, neither the Board nor the Nominating and Governance Committee believes that an arbitrary term limit on director service is appropriate.

Retirement Age Policy

On January 25, 2007, our Board adopted a retirement policy for directors. Under the policy, directors may not stand for re-election after they have reached the age of 75. Directors serving on the Board on January 25, 2007, which include all current directors other than Barbara K. Allen, are exempt from this policy.

Majority Vote Standard and Resignation Policy

The Company s Bylaws provide that in an uncontested election of directors, a director nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast to be elected. Any current director who is not re-elected is required to tender his or her resignation to the Chairman of the Board within a reasonable time following certification of the vote. Details regarding the majority vote standard and resignation policy are discussed under *Proposal One Election of Directors* on page 5.

Procedures for Nominating or Recommending for Nomination Candidates for Director

Our Bylaws provide that any stockholder may make nominations for the election of directors if notice of such nominations is delivered to, or mailed and received at, the principal executive offices of D.R. Horton not later than the close of business on the 90th calendar day or earlier than the close of business on the 120th calendar day prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year s annual meeting. However, in the event that the date of the annual meeting is changed by more than 30 calendar days from the anniversary date of the preceding year s meeting, for notice by the stockholder to be timely, it must be so delivered not earlier than the close of business on the 120th calendar day prior to such meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 90th calendar day prior to such meeting or the 10th calendar day following the day on which public disclosure of the date of such meeting is made. Such public disclosure is defined to mean a press release reported by the Dow Jones News Service, Associated Press or a comparable national news service or a document publicly filed by the Company with the SEC pursuant to Sections 13, 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). In addition, the notice must include information specified in our Bylaws, including information concerning the nominee, the stockholder and the beneficial owner, as the case may be. Because no such nominations have been made in accordance with our Bylaws, only the nominations of the Board of Directors may be voted upon at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

In addition, the Nominating and Governance Committee has adopted a policy permitting stockholders to recommend candidates for director for consideration by the committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider candidates recommended by stockholders on the same basis as candidates identified through other means. Stockholders wishing to recommend candidates for election must give notice to the Nominating and Governance Committee by following the same deadlines for notice to submit a nomination outlined in our Bylaws and described above. Each notice must set forth the same information required by our Bylaws to submit a nomination. All recommended candidates shall, at a minimum, possess the characteristics for directors discussed above. The Nominating and Governance Committee may request additional information to assist in the evaluation of the candidacy of such person.

Director Independence

Our Board of Directors is composed of a majority of independent directors in accordance with the NYSE Rules. Our Board made the independence determination of its members based on the *Independence Standards* discussed below.

Our Board has adopted a set of *Independence Standards*, consistent with the NYSE Rules, to aid it in determining whether a member of the Board is independent under the NYSE Rules. In accordance with these Independence Standards, a director must not have a direct or indirect material relationship with the Company or its management, other than as a director. The Independence Standards specify the criteria by which the independence of our directors will be determined, including strict guidelines for directors and their immediate family members with respect to past employment or affiliation with the Company, its management or its independent auditor.

The Independence Standards are contained in the Corporate Governance Principles set forth on our website, <u>www.drhorton.com</u>, under the Investor Relations and Corporate Governance links. These include the following:

A director who is an employee or whose immediate family member is an executive officer of D.R. Horton is not independent until three years after the end of such employment relationship.

A director who receives, or whose immediate family member receives, more than \$120,000 per year in direct compensation from D.R. Horton, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service), is not independent until three years after he or she ceases to receive more than \$120,000 per year in compensation. Compensation received by an immediate family member for service as a non-executive employee or non-member of senior management of D.R. Horton will not be considered in determining independence under this test.

A director is not independent if (i) the director or an immediate family member is a current partner of D.R. Horton s external audit firm, (ii) the director is a current employee of such firm, (iii) the director s immediate family member is a current employee of such firm and personally works on D.R. Horton s audit, or (iv) the director or an immediate family member was within the last three years (but is no longer) a partner or employee of such firm and personally worked on D.R. Horton s audit within that time.

A director who is employed, or whose immediate family member is employed, as an executive officer of another company where any of D.R. Horton s present executives serves on that company s compensation committee is not independent until three years after the end of such service or employment relationship.

A director who is an executive officer or an employee, or whose immediate family member is an executive officer of a company that makes payments to, or receives payments from, D.R. Horton for property or services in an amount which, in any single fiscal year, exceeds the greater of \$1 million, or 2% of such other company s consolidated gross revenues, is not independent until three years after falling below such threshold.

If a director serves as an executive officer, director or trustee of a charitable or educational organization, and D.R. Horton s contributions to the organization are less than \$500,000, then the relationship will not be considered to be a material relationship that would impair a director s independence.

For purposes of these Independence Standards, an *immediate family member* includes a director s spouse, parents, children, siblings, mother and father-in-law, sons and daughters-in-law, brothers and sisters-in-law, and anyone (other than domestic employees) who shares the director s home.

Audit Committee Independence, Financial Literacy and Audit Committee Financial Expert

In addition to being independent based on the Independence Standards, the NYSE Rules require that each member of an audit committee satisfy additional independence and financial literacy requirements, and at least one of these members must satisfy the additional requirement of having accounting or related financial

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management expertise. This additional requirement can be satisfied by the Board determining that at least one Audit Committee member is an *audit committee financial expert* within the meaning of the SEC Rules. Accordingly, the Corporate Governance Principles contain a set of standards that relate to audit committee independence, financial literacy and audit committee accounting and financial management expertise. Generally, the additional independence standard provides that (i) a member of the Audit Committee, or his or her immediate family members, are prohibited from receiving any direct or indirect compensation or fee from the Company, its subsidiaries or its affiliates, and (ii) he or she may not be an affiliated person of the Company or any of its subsidiaries. Generally, the financial literacy standard provides that the Board, in its business judgment, shall determine if each member is financially literate, taking into account factors such as the member seducation, experience and ability to read and understand financial statements of public companies. Also, audit committee financial experts must have five additional attributes, which are (i) an understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements, (ii) the ability to assess the general application of such principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves, (iii) experience preparing, auditing, analyzing or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company se financial statements, or experience actively supervising one or more persons engaged in such activities, (iv) an understanding of internal control over financial reporting and (v) an understanding of audit committee functions. All together, attributes (i) through (v) are referred to as the Financial Expert Attributes. The audit committee financial expert standards

Compensation Committee Independence

In addition to being independent based on the Independence Standards, the NYSE Rules require that each member of a compensation committee satisfy additional independence requirements. The NYSE Rules require that the Board consider all factors specifically relevant to determining whether a director has a relationship to the Company that is material to that director s ability to be independent from management in connection with the duties of a compensation committee member, including, but not limited to (i) the source of compensation of such director, including any consulting, advisory or other compensatory fee paid by the Company to such director; and (ii) whether such director is affiliated with the Company, a subsidiary of the Company or an affiliate of a subsidiary of the Company.

Board Determinations

Based on the independence, financial literacy and financial expert standards discussed above, the Board has determined that Barbara K. Allen, Brad S. Anderson, Michael R. Buchanan, and Michael W. Hewatt, are (i) independent, for purposes of serving as independent members of the Board of Directors and the Nominating and Governance Committees, (ii) independent, for purposes of serving as independent members on the Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee, and (iii) financially literate, for purposes of serving on the Audit Committee. The Board has also determined, as set forth below, that Mr. Hewatt and Mr. Buchanan each have the Financial Expert Attributes described above.

Mr. Hewatt. Mr. Hewatt acquired the Financial Expert Attributes primarily through his 44 years of experience working as a certified public accountant for Coopers & Lybrand LLP and Hewatt & Associates, CPAs and its predecessor and successor entities, as applicable. Mr. Hewatt s experience as an auditor provided him active experience in designing and conducting audits and reviewing financial statements, which developed his understanding of generally accepted accounting principles and financial statements as well as his abilities to assess the application of such principles in accounting for estimates, accruals and reserves and to evaluate related internal control structures. Mr. Hewatt s active status as a certified public accountant requires him to stay current on pronouncements and advisory notices issued by accounting, auditing and tax regulatory boards and organizations. Mr. Hewatt has additional experience in providing management advisory, tax advisory and tax preparation services, which has provided him with a strong background in the Internal Revenue Code and in dealing with the Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Hewatt has prepared and issued audit and management advisory reports to the boards of directors of his clients, whereby he has gained an understanding of the functioning of boards of directors and related committees. Mr. Hewatt s clients have included public and private companies, governmental organizations and non-profit organizations.

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Mr. Buchanan. Mr. Buchanan acquired the Financial Expert Attributes primarily through his experience as a commercial banker in the real estate and homebuilding sectors, including serving as head of Bank of America's national real estate group. Mr. Buchanan's responsibilities as a banker required him to analyze and evaluate financial statements in order to make credit and lending decisions. In this regard, he developed significant expertise in understanding the integrity of the financial information used to prepare financial statements and how such information should be used to analyze and evaluate a company s financial condition and its ability to meet the company s debt obligations. As head of the national real estate group at Bank of America, Mr. Buchanan also actively supervised others in conducting financial statement and financial condition analysis and evaluation.

As provided by the safe harbor contained in the SEC Rules, our audit committee financial experts will not be deemed *experts* for any purpose as a result of being so designated. Such designation does not impose on such persons any duties, obligations or liabilities that are greater than the duties, obligations and liabilities imposed on such persons as members of the Audit Committee or the Board of Directors in the absence of such designation, and such designation does not affect the duties, obligations or liabilities of any other member of the Audit Committee or the Board of Directors.

The Board also determined that Mr. Horton, a director nominee, is not independent because he is an executive officer.

Code of Ethical Conduct for the CEO, CFO and Senior Financial Officers

In accordance with SEC Rules, the Audit Committee and the Board have adopted the *Code of Ethical Conduct for the CEO, CFO and Senior Financial Officers*. The Board believes that these individuals must set an exemplary standard of conduct for D.R. Horton, particularly in the areas of accounting, internal accounting control, auditing and finance. The ethics code sets forth ethical standards the designated officers must adhere to and other aspects of accounting, auditing and financial compliance. The full text of the *Code of Ethical Conduct for the CEO, CFO and Senior Financial Officers* has been posted to the Company s website under the Investor Relations and Corporate Governance links. Information relating to any amendment to or waiver of a provision of the *Code of Ethical Conduct for the CEO, CFO and Senior Financial Officers* will be disclosed on the website within four business days of such amendment or waiver.

Corporate Code of Business Conduct and Ethics

The Board of Directors has adopted a *Corporate Code of Business Conduct and Ethics* for employees and directors of D.R. Horton in accordance with the NYSE Rules. The Board adopted the *Corporate Code of Business Conduct and Ethics* to provide guidance to the Board and management in areas of ethical business conduct and risk and to provide guidance to employees and directors by helping them recognize and deal with ethical issues including, but not limited to, (i) conflicts of interest, (ii) corporate opportunities, (iii) confidentiality, (iv) fair dealing, (v) protection of corporate assets, (vi) compliance with rules and regulations, including insider trading of securities, and (vii) confidential reporting of unethical behavior and hotline telephone numbers. The *Corporate Code of Business Conduct and Ethics* can be found on our website, www.drhorton.com, under the Investor Relations and Corporate Governance links.

Complaint Procedures For Accounting, Internal Control, Auditing and Financial Matters

In accordance with SEC Rules, the Audit Committee has established procedures for (i) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints regarding accounting, internal control, auditing or financial matters (collectively, *Accounting Matters*) and (ii) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable Accounting Matters. The Audit Committee oversees treatment of complaints and concerns in this area. The full text of the *Complaint Procedures For Accounting, Internal Control, Auditing and Financial Matters* has been posted to the Company s website under the Investor Relations link.

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Executive Sessions of the Board of Directors

In accordance with the NYSE Rules, the non-management members of the Board of Directors have held and will continue to hold regularly scheduled executive sessions of the non-management directors, each of whom is independent. Michael R. Buchanan, Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee, presides at these executive sessions. During fiscal 2015, the non-management directors met three times in executive session, without members of management present.

Communications with the Board of Directors and Stockholder Engagement

Stockholders and other interested parties can communicate with any member of our Board by sending the communication to the Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee, who also serves as the Presiding Director. Currently, Mr. Buchanan serves as our Presiding Director. Send communications to: Presiding Director c/o Thomas B. Montano, Vice President - Corporate Counsel and Corporate Compliance Officer, D.R. Horton, Inc., 301 Commerce Street, Suite 500, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. Our Corporate Counsel will review the communications and determine if such commun