

## Council Communication

3/4/2020

My name is Sean Green. I own a general contracting business called Aforma and serve as vice chair of the Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods. Over three years ago, Commissioner Eudaly's Chief of Staff, Marshall Runkel, urged me to get involved with the Development Review Advisory Committee, also known as DRAC.

At this table a year ago during my appointment, I was asked by Commissioner Fritz how well I could serve neighborhood interests given the fact that I'm also a contractor. My response was that I've been involved in service to my community for most of my life, much longer than I've been a contractor. Further, the fact that I have first-hand experience with the permitting, inspections, and the general construction process gives me an advantage when discussing a particular topic. The fact that I have a Masters of Public Administration from the Hatfield School of Government doesn't hurt either.

I have taken my volunteer service to the extreme, serving on numerous committees including as chair of the Process Improvement and Technology Committee, and as members of the Budget Advisory Committee, the Financial Advisory Committee, the Demolition Subcommittee, and last month I volunteered to serve on the newly-formed Public Works Committee. It has been a great pleasure getting to know better the amazing people who work at BDS.

While it has never been perfect, one of the most inspiring aspects of Portland is our history of working together to try and better our City. I am here in that spirit. The most successful organizations in the world make a commitment to continual improvement and center all of their work around respect for people. The defensive, knee-jerk reactionary response that is prevalent in our world, including in many aspects of our city government, is doing our City a great disservice.

The fastest way to lose the immense value that is being added through civic engagement, and the even greater potential value that could be added through civic engagement, is by people getting the feeling that their voice doesn't matter and that the effort they put in to making a positive difference will be for nothing.

Many civic issues are what some might call Wick Problems or problems that do not have a clear and easy solution and are often underpinned on incommensurate values.

These are the times when we most need a diverse and thoughtful community to come together.

A number of my recent efforts to make our City better have been emotionally taxing and resulted in an official city response—or a lack of a response—that is hurtful. The way in which each of you, your staff, and various city bureaus interact with each other and the community matters. Each of you sets the standards for our City and people follow your lead, more than you may realize.

I love my City. I respect and honor the commitment each of you have made to serve our community, an often thankless task, that I can only imagine is emotionally taxing. I am here to support each of you and the work you do to make our City better.

Thank you.

**From:** [Sean Green](#)  
**To:** [Moore-Love, Karla](#)  
**Subject:** Council Communication  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 7, 2020 4:35:06 PM

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**Sean Green**

3617 NE 16th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97212

971-998-7376  
[green@aforma.co](mailto:green@aforma.co)

**Requested date:** first available

**Issue:** Speak to Council regarding my experience as a member of the Development Review Advisory Committee (DRAC), chair of DRAC's Process Improvement and Technology Committee, member of DRAC's Demolition Subcommittee, and as a member of the BDS Budget Advisory Committee.

Thanks,  
Sean

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SEAN GREEN  
Founder & COO, [Aforma](#)  
Vice Chair, [NECN](#) (Co-Chair, LUTC)  
Member, [DRAC](#) (Chair, PITC)

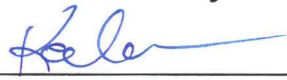
c 971.998.7376 | IG: [@AFORMACO](#)

Request of Sean Green to address Council regarding his experience as a member of the Development Review Advisory Committee and the Bureau of Development Services Budget Advisory Committee (Communication)

MAR 04 2020

PLACED ON FILE

Filed FEB 25 2020  
**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By   
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Vacant		
3. Hardesty		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		