

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Appoint Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie to the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund Committee for the balance of current Committee member Andrea Hamberg's term to expire on November 7, 2021 (Report)

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Presenter names: Maria Sipin, Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund Committee member
Sam Baraso, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

To appoint Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie to the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund Committee (Committee) for the balance of current Committee member Andrea Hamberg's 2-year term, from October 1, 2020 through November 7, 2021.

Pursuant to Portland City Code (PCC) 7.07.050, each City Council member nominated, and the Mayor appointed, the first five Committee members at Council's September 25, 2019 meeting. Also pursuant to code, those five Committee members nominated, and the Mayor appoints, four additional members at Council's November 7, 2019 meeting. The initial five members were appointed to a 4-year term, while the latter four members were appointed to serve a 2-year term.

During the November 2019 appointments, the Committee expressed their concern that there was no Indigenous voice on the Committee. Committee members also expressed interest in deepening their understanding of issues surrounding the Indigenous community to ensure an equitable PCEF program. More recently, however, Committee members acknowledged that for this to happen in a meaningful manner, the Committee needs a member with significant demonstrated expertise in and an understanding of the Indigenous community. An understanding of the unique history and socio-economic disparities that impact Indigenous people, as well as traditional ecological knowledge, are critical in informing the development of an equitable PCEF program.

In order to create space for this perspective, Committee member Andrea Hamberg decided to resign her Committee membership upon appointment of a replacement Committee member.

The Committee (pursuant to PCC 7.07.050) is composed of nine volunteer members who are residents of Portland and have expertise in a range of areas including: residential renewable and energy efficiency, commercial renewable and energy efficiency, workforce development, promoting minority owned and/or women-owned businesses, sustainable local food production, green infrastructure and greenhouse gas sequestration, and financing tools that help make renewable energy and energy efficiency available to a broader spectrum of the public.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

There are no financial or budgetary impacts. All costs are allocated from the Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund as allowable administrative expense. Costs may include: reimbursement for childcare expense, transportation expense, food for meetings, other services including translation/interpretation and ADA accommodation, and a nominal stipend. Note that the Council offices have recognized there remains a need for a citywide policy on stipends for advisory bodies. Once a citywide policy is in effect, the amount of the Committee stipend will be revisited. Committee stipends are included in the FY20-21 budget under External Materials & Services, General Ledger account, 529000 (Miscellaneous Services).

Community impacts and community involvement:

The Committee is responsible for PCEF program development, implementation and evaluation including adopting a workforce and contractor equity plan, soliciting grant applications, evaluating those applications and making funding recommendations to the Council. The PCEF program has an explicit mandate to provide benefit to traditionally marginalized communities including low-income, communities of color, women, people with disabilities and the chronically unemployed. Eligible grant applicants are non-profit organizations; eligible programs are those that achieve greenhouse gas reduction outcomes in a manner that advances racial and social justice outcomes.

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), through the Office of Community and Civic Life (Civic Life), released a solicitation on April 16, 2020, for applications from community members “with knowledge of Native American history, an understanding of the diversity of the local American Indian/Alaska Native community and issues surrounding the Urban Indian experience” to be considered for appointment to the Committee. BPS, Civic Life, and numerous others in relationship with the Indigenous community advertised the Committee membership opportunity widely. The City received four applications that were reviewed by the PCEF Member Recruitment Subcommittee (subcommittee), which was comprised of three members of the Committee: 1) Maria Sipin, 2) Michael Eden Hill, and 3) Megan Horst. The subcommittee met on four separate occasions to discuss desired criteria and review applications and recommended that the Committee nominate Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie for appointment. On August 12, 2020, the Committee nominated Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie to the Committee.

One hundred percent renewable goal:

Forty to sixty percent of PCEF program grant funds will be used to support renewable energy and energy-efficiency programs and projects. These efforts will directly contribute to meeting the City’s renewable goal, both through generation and by decreasing the City’s total energy use. The PCEF program grant funds will also target roughly one quarter of funding to green workforce development programs and projects, ensuring that the City has the workforce needed to support a transition to 100 percent renewable energy.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
 NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount