



**Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland**

March 10, 2021

As Mayor and Commissioner of Finance & Administration, I request Council confirmation of the following appointments to the Planning and Sustainability Commission:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
Valeria McWilliams	March 11, 2021 – May 31, 2025	Akasha Lawrence-Spence
Johnell Bell	June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2025	
Gabe Sheoships	June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2025	
Erica Thompson	June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2025	

The Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC) is composed of 11 volunteer members with expertise in a range of areas. There is currently one open position on the Commission, with three more openings as of June 1, 2021.

Valeria McWilliams emigrated from Peru to the US when she was 15 years old. Her family's lived experience of navigating the US as an English as a second language learner and how the built environment was not inclusive for her family let her to pursue a Master in City Planning from MIT where she worked on urban development client-based projects around the world. Her contribution and commitment to advancing racial equity for the Latinx community in Massachusetts ended up receiving recognition by Boston's Mayor's Office in 2013. Valeria was the City of Milwaukie's first Housing and Economic Development Coordinator before her current position as a regional housing analyst at Metro. She currently sits on the Community Involvement Committee and has helped on the BPS Budget Advisory Committee as well.

Johnell Bell has served as the Director of Diversity and Transit Equity at TriMet. He has a strong history of creating more equitable outcomes for communities of color and notes our built environment must reflect our values of inclusion and diversity, with public process being accessible and inclusive. Johnell is a co-founder of a non-profit with a mission to increase educational attainment for Black community members, and he's served the City previously on the Auditor's Committee on Benchmark Analysis and Mayor Potter's taskforce that created the Human Relations Commission.

Gabe Sheoships is a scientist, educator, and community leader, working as the Education Director for Friends of Tryon Creek, an organization focused on inspiring and nurturing relationships with the natural world. Gabe has a Master in Fisheries Science from Oregon State University and brings experience building and leading coalitions that ground in racial equity framework, communicating through various spaces to find commonality and consensus on broad issues.

Erica Thompson is an architect, and her perspective is shaped by a broad range of career and volunteer experiences that go beyond architecture – with common threads of these experiences being a commitment to environmental stewardship and a strong belief in building more equitable and just communities. Erica has a Master of Architecture from the University of Oregon and is dedicated to fostering a collaborative process based on listening and engagement, which is exactly what the PSC aims to do.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

APPOINTMENT REPORT

Title

Appoint members to Planning and Sustainability Commission for terms to expire May 31, 2025 (Report)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Mayor Wheeler	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>March 2, 2021</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL	<div style="text-align: right;"> Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> Digitally signed by Megan Lehman Date: 2021.03.02 09:11:14 -08'00' Deputy </div> ACTION TAKEN: March 10, 2021 Confirmed
Mayor—Finance & Administration - Wheeler	
Position 1/Utilities - Rubio	
Position 2/Works - Ryan	
Position 3/Affairs - Hardesty	
Position 4/Safety - Mapps	
BUREAU APPROVAL	
Bureau: Office of the Mayor	
Prepared by: Julie Ocken Date Prepared: <u>2/23/2021</u>	
Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances	
City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan	
Council Meeting Date <u>March 10, 2021</u>	

AGENDA
TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Start time: <u>9:45 a.m.</u> Total amount of time needed: <u>30 min</u> (for presentation, testimony and discussion)
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/>
REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Rubio	1. Rubio	✓	
2. Ryan	2. Ryan	✓	
3. Hardesty	3. Hardesty	✓	
4. Mapps	4. Mapps	✓	
Wheeler	Wheeler	✓	