



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

April 14, 2021

As Mayor and Commissioner of Finance & Administration, I request Council confirmation of the following appointment to the Urban Forestry Commission:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Replacing</u>
Adrienne Feldstein	5/1/2021 – 4/30/2025	Vacant
Leah Plack	5/1/2021 – 4/30/2025	Vacant

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Wheeler  
Mayor

## **Adrienne Feldstein**

### *Bio:*

Adrienne is a public and environmental health physician with over 35 years of experience in community settings. She is board certified in both general preventive medicine and environmental and occupational health. She retired as the medical director for Population Health and Quality Systems for Kaiser Permanente Northwest, where she was responsible for health promotion, disease prevention and disease management for over half a million people. She also concurrently conducted quality of care improvement research and produced over 70 scholarly publications. She spent her career working to improve the quality of life of the citizens of Oregon and Washington. She has a BA in chemistry from Barnard College, an MS from the Columbia School of Public Health, NY, and an MD degree from George Washington University, DC. She has a long history of working with and supporting community organizations, including Virginia Garcia Memorial Health, Old Town Clinic, Sisters of the Road and Planned Parenthood of the Columbia Willamette.

As an avid outdoors person, she has been a walker, swimmer, biker, backpacker and gardener in Portland and the surrounding area since 1981. In addition to continuing part time medicine, she has worked as a swim instructor with Portland Parks and Recreation. She has biked or walked nearly every street in Portland and is passionate about our parks and urban tree canopy. Her lifelong work with diverse communities has given her a passion for civic engagement, made her an advocate for broad participation in government, and in making sure we all have an equal shot at the highest quality of life

### *Interest Statement:*

I would be honored and happy to serve on the Urban Forestry Commission. As a public and environmental health physician, I have dedicated my life and career to improving environmental health and safety and improving the quality of life for Oregonians. I have taught swimming for Portland Parks and Recreation and I am a passionate user and advocate for our Parks and Tree canopy. I believe that our urban forest and our parks are critical to our future that must address climate change. I stand ready and willing to do whatever I can to preserve and enhance our tree cover and resolve the inequities we now have in it.

## **Leah Plack**

### *Bio:*

Leah Plack is a career educator specializing in science education and teacher professional development. Leah began her career in 2007 in San Francisco as a kindergarten teacher, and later became a Teacher on Special Assignment in the San Francisco Unified School District STEM department, focusing on science curriculum and instruction. Upon relocating to Portland, Leah earned her Master of Science in Teaching at Portland State University where her research project focused on analyzing a teacher workshop through the lenses of content understanding and English language

development. She currently teaches physical education in Portland Public Schools and works with the Portland Metro STEM Partnership and STEM Beyond Schools as a science education consultant. Leah is passionate about the importance of science education for all students and teachers as a means for community empowerment, as well as facilitating connections (and reconnections) for people of all ages to the natural world.

*Interest Statement:*

I have always been fascinated by trees and the myriad ways they improve the quality of life for the people in Portland. Like many of us, I have experienced the deep sense of connection with the elder trees in my neighborhood and watched with sadness as some of these trees were removed to make way for housing. It made me wonder what this loss of mature trees would mean for Portland's future, knowing that a tree of that size would never be able to grow in that space again. While developing a teacher workshop, I began to learn more about the urban heat island effect and the role that trees play to mitigate hotter summers. Through my research, which led me to Dr. Vivek Shandas' work at Portland State University, I discovered that despite our reputation as a green city, Portlanders do not have equitable access to tree cover, meaning some communities will experience hotter and hotter summers as the climate warms, while communities with more trees will be more resilient to climate change. This understanding of the intrinsic value of urban trees led me to become more interested in how our city manages trees, who has access to mature trees in Portland and why, and how to balance the need for denser, more affordable housing with the green spaces that are necessary to our local ecosystems and our own health and wellness. I hope that my background in science education and working with diverse communities can be useful to the Urban Forestry Commission and to our city as we plan for the resilient future Portland that we all hope to live in.

**240**  
Agenda No.  
**APPOINTMENT REPORT**  
Title

Appoint Adrienne Feldstein and Leah Plack to the Urban Forestry Commission for a term to expire April 30, 2025 (Report)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>INTRODUCED BY</b> Commissioner/Auditor: <b>Mayor Wheeler &amp; Commissioner Rubio</b></p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>April 6, 2021</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <u>Megan Lehman</u> Deputy</p> <p><b>ACTION TAKEN:</b> April 14, 2021 Confirmed</p>
<p>Mayor—Finance &amp; Administration - Wheeler</p>	
<p>Position 1/Utilities - Rubio</p>	
<p>Position 2/Works - Ryan</p>	
<p>Position 3/Affairs - Hardesty</p>	
<p>Position 4/Safety - Mapps</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUREAU APPROVAL</b></p>	
<p>Bureau: Office of the Mayor</p>	
<p>Prepared by: Brian Landoe Date Prepared: 3/2/2021</p>	
<p>Impact Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p><b>City Auditor Office Approval:</b> required for Code Ordinances</p>	
<p><b>City Attorney Approval:</b> required for contract, code. easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date April 14, 2021</p>	

<b>AGENDA</b>
<p><b>TIME CERTAIN</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Start time: _____</p> <p>Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>
<p><b>CONSENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>REGULAR</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: <u>5</u> (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

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	✓	