



City of Portland

Office for Community Technology

▲ Broadband & Communications Policy

▲ Cable Regulation & Consumer Protection

▲ Utility Franchises, Licenses & Wireless

Commissioner Carmen Rubio
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City Council Agenda Item Staff Supplemental Report

TO: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

FROM: Elisabeth Perez, Director, Office for Community Technology,
Ext: 3-8174

DATE: April 1, 2021

RE: Appoint Vincent (Walle) Brown to the Mt. Hood Cable
Regulatory Commission for term to expire June 30, 2023
(Report)

Requested Placement Date: April 21, 2021, Time Certain 10:00 am, 30 min

- I. RECOMMENDATION. Confirmation of Vincent (Walle) Brown's appointment to the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission for term expiring June 30, 2023.

Walle Brown has worked at several different infrastructure-related regional and local agencies around Portland. The projects that he has completed at TriMet, Metro, the Bureau of Environmental Services, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, and the Hillsboro Water Department have led him to develop a unique and comprehensive understanding of our region's infrastructure. Brown has worked on projects centered on transportation, telecommunications, water, sewer, and parks infrastructure. Through the culmination of projects that he has completed, he has grown to appreciate how intersectional and interrelated infrastructure projects are, as well as the importance of consistent and timely maintenance for sustainability of assets.

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aids/services to persons with disabilities upon request.



Brown completed a Portland State University's Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree, specifically focused on the operational, financial, maintenance, and planning components of infrastructure. Among his coursework, he completed a Public Works course which was taught by the current director of public works in Salem, Oregon and previous city manager of West Lynn, Oregon. Brown believes that utilities (sewer, water. Roads, and wired/radio communications networks) are fundamentally transportation networks of goods, resources, data/ information, and waste.

Regarding his interest in serving on the MHCRC:

"I love infrastructure, plain and simple. I also firmly believe that high-speed internet access is pre-requisite to a successful, competitive, and sustainable regional infrastructure network. Creating, maintain, and upgrading such a network involves intricacy and requires comprehensive forethought to responsibly move forward."

Regarding what he hopes to accomplish during his service:

"If selected to serve, I aspire to center the focus of the group toward equity, inclusions, sustainability, and systems-level thinking for the multi-faceted nature of developing, maintaining, and improving regional infrastructure. The City of Portland seeks to build diverse representation on advisory bodies in terms of race, ethnicity, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, religion, and geographic identification, as well as advocacy experience, community involvement, volunteerism, occupation, and education. I am excited about working together to collaboratively improve regional infrastructure."

BACKGROUND. The MHCRC is a quasi-governmental body, created by Intergovernmental Agreement, to develop and regulate cable services franchise agreements and manage public benefit resources and assets related to the agreements. The MHCRC reports to the City Councils of Portland, Gresham, Troutdale, Wood Village and Fairview, and the Multnomah County Commission. The City of Portland has three (3) seats on this eight-member, five-jurisdiction intergovernmental body.

This position has been vacant since Fall 2020, when the previous appointee, Leif Hansen, resigned his term on the Commission.

- II. FINANCIAL IMPACT. None
- III. LEGAL ISSUES. None
- IV. CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES. None
- V. LINK TO CURRENT CITY POLICIES:
http://www.mhcr.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/about_intergovernmental_agreement1.pdf
- VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. Office of Community and Civic Life's Board & Commission Application Forms are solicited, accepted, and kept on file.
- VII. OTHER GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION. None



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TO: Commissioner Carmen Rubio

FROM: Elisabeth Perez, Director, Office for Community Technology,
Ext: 3-8174

DATE: April 1, 2021

RE: Reappoint Richard Roche to the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory
Commission for term to expire June 30, 2024 (Report)

Requested Placement Date: April 21, 2021, Time Certain 10:00 am, 30 min

I. RECOMMENDATION. Confirmation of Richard Roche's reappointment to the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission for term expiring June 30, 2024.

Regarding his interest in serving on the MHCRC:

The MHCRC position would provide me an opportunity to work to create positive change in our community. Two areas/opportunities that excite me most are:

- To work to evolve cable technologies for the 21st century and beyond. I do not view cable as a mature service/product. With support and direction, I believe that cable technologies can evolve and be a key technology in closing the digital divide in underserved communities.
- To drive Community Technology grants towards opportunities that highlight and focus on the needs of underserved communities. Grants need to "creatively" address closing the

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digital divide and be awarded to organization that can provide a sustained and ongoing change to our communities.

I am a retiree with 40 years' experience working in telecommunications with PacBell and AT&T. I am proud of the knowledge and experience; I have accumulated during my career. From climbing telephone poles, "fixing" customer issues, working with non-profits, managing philanthropic budgets, coordinating build efforts and local programing capabilities with local governments and communities, statewide franchise obligations and other career experiences, I have a "bag of tools" and skills that I would like to use to improve our community. I would bring the knowledge and ability to effectively:

- engage with the community/customers on needs and assist in the development of solutions,
- understand and oversee regulation and use of the public right of way and regulation,
- and work to evolve cable technologies to better serve our all parts of our community.

Throughout my life, I have been afforded the opportunity to work with many diverse, multicultural, and underserved communities. During my six years living in Portland, I have been fortunate to be on the Board of Directors for Self Enhancement Inc and Worksystems. Both roles have provided me with learnings and insights to the needs of our community.

Prior to moving to Portland, I lived and was involved in the communities of Pasadena, Glendale, and Burbank. Examples of my efforts include:

- Working as Board Chair of New Horizons in Glendale, CA. New Horizons was the largest provider or services to the Glendale's Latino community. During my tenure, we developed programs that addressed the needs of homeless families, ESL for unemployed mothers, cooperative after-school programs with the Glendale Police Department and food security. In recognition of my efforts with New Horizons, I was named the Glendale Latino Association's Man of the Year.

I was very proud of this recognition because I was the first non-Latino to be on New Horizons' Board.

- For six years, I was appointed by the City Councils of Burbank and Glendale to Chair of the Glendale/Burbank Workforce Investment Board, I led a board of business, union leaders and educators to develop programs to build skills and capabilities of unemployed. The goal was enabling people to build living wage careers. As a Board, we were able to build productive programs using our disparate perspectives of the workplace. Below are a few examples of successful collaborations.
- Collaborated with local hospitals to financially support nursing students' "on the job" training, so they migrate to full-time nursing positions.
- Worked collaboratively with Glendale Water & Power and Burbank Water & Power to create a "Power Academy. All graduates found living wage jobs in the power industry.
- Worked closely with IASTE Union leaders representing animators to create and fund ongoing skill training. The WIB found grants and created a "continuation" training program for animators.

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This position has been filled since by Commissioner Richard Roche since 2020. Prior to that, this position had been vacant since June 2018, when the previous appointee, John Branam, completed his term on the Commission and declined re-appointment.

- II. FINANCIAL IMPACT. None
- III. LEGAL ISSUES. None
- IV. CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES. None

- V. LINK TO CURRENT CITY POLICIES:
http://www.mhcr.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/about_intergovernmental_agreement1.pdf
- VI. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION. Office of Community and Civic Life's Board & Commission Application Forms are solicited, accepted and kept on file.
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