



# 759-2022

Report

## Appoint Elizabeth Gomez and Jennifer Santhouse to the Development Review Advisory Committee for terms to expire September 13, 2025

Accepted

As Mayor, I request Council confirmation of the following appointment to the Development Review Advisory Committee.

As the City's advisory body on development review, the Development Review Advisory Committee (DRAC) seeks to foster an efficient, predictable, and accountable development review process. I am recommending two candidates for appointments to vacant positions on the DRAC for 3-year terms running from September 14, 2022, through September 13, 2025.

Appointment	Membership Category	1st Full Term
Elizabeth Gomez	Home Remodelers	September 14, 2022 through September 13, 2025
Jennifer Santhouse	Major Facilities Landowners	September 14, 2022 through September 13, 2025

**Elizabeth Gomez** has been the President of Bridge City Contracting since 2014, is a member of the Hispanic Metro Chamber Board, and is the Remodelers Chair of the Building Industry Association of Clark County. Elizabeth is an active remodeler who has worked with government agencies on development issues that impact the Latino community and businesses. Elizabeth's application for Committee membership is supported by the Portland Home Builders Association (HBA).

### Statement from Elizabeth Gomez:

*It would be an honor to serve on the Development Review Advisory Committee (DRAC) in developing the City's goals for land use, transportation, housing and economic development, neighborhood livability and the environment.*

### Introduced by

[Mayor Ted Wheeler;](#)  
[Commissioner Dan Ryan](#)

### Bureau

[Development Services \(BDS\)](#)

### Contact

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### Requested Agenda Type

Time Certain

### Date and Time Information

<b>Requested Council Date</b>	September 14, 2022
<b>Requested Start Time</b>	10:05 am
<b>Time Requested</b>	15 minutes

*I believe in the importance of advancing our community through fair application of essential ordinances and regulations. My background will add a new voice to the committee; one which will provide a new perspective; knowledgeable about current construction and land use best practices.*

*If given the opportunity to serve as a DRAC member, it would be a privilege and a pleasure to be a part of a process that serves the greater good of the City of Portland.*

**Jennifer Santhouse** is a construction project manager at Portland General Electric with 15 years' experience in real estate transactions and development. Jennifer has familiarity with the City's land use and permitting processes through several years of experience in land use reviews and permitting for electric substations and other projects. Jennifer also serves on the board of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association.

**Statement from Jennifer Santhouse:**

*Over the past 15 years, I've committed to building a community in which residents and businesses have positive interactions with new and existing development both personally through my neighborhood association and school parent-teacher organization and professionally in the utility and real estate sectors. I believe that we need to be cognizant of the impact of the many projects contemplated and underway, and how they weave together to create a vibrant, reflective, and supportive Portland. To me, a position on the Development Review Advisory Committee (DRAC) provides an avenue for equitable, economic, and future-oriented reviews of development and processes to support thriving communities and business growth.*

*At Portland General Electric (PGE), I've worked within the Property Services and Construction Project Management departments to facilitate the improvement and redevelopment of substation, distribution, and transmission line facilities throughout our service territory, including within the City of Portland. And while few outside the electrical industry appreciate the beauty of these facilities, they provide for economic growth within the city, are critical to meeting our clean energy goals, and reduce customer electrical outages and wildfire risks. In recent transmission and substation projects, we've worked closely with various bureaus to understand and satisfy the permitting requirements, but on many occasions the requirements of the bureaus contradict each other and next steps are unclear. I am optimistic that within this role on the DRAC, I can provide insight into these issues, share learnings from other jurisdictions, and offer suggestions to create alignment between the City's planning and budgetary objectives, infrastructure requirements, and development processes.*

*I'm looking forward to engaging more deeply with our City leaders and representatives to support the continuing development of Portland's businesses and communities.*

These two candidates will bring a wealth of expertise and experience to the DRAC. Their appointments will help ensure that the good work of the DRAC continues on behalf of BDS and other City bureaus, the development

community, and all Portlanders.

With these appointments, only one vacant position will remain on the DRAC, representing the Planning & Sustainability Commission (PSC). The PSC is in the process of identifying a candidate for the position.

## **Impact Statement**

### **Purpose of Proposed Legislation and Background Information**

As the City's advisory body on development review, the DRAC seeks to foster an efficient, predictable, and accountable development review process. The DRAC is composed of 17 members representing different stakeholder groups, such as builders, developers, designers, and neighborhoods.

After a thorough review process, Elizabeth Gomez and Jennifer Santhouse are recommended for appointment to vacant DRAC positions for 3-year terms ending September 13, 2025.

### **Financial and Budgetary Impacts**

The DRAC appointments are citizen-volunteer positions, so no revenue or expenses are incurred by this legislation.

### **Community Impacts and Community Involvement**

This legislation will benefit the development review process and the Portland community by supporting the continued effective functioning of the DRAC. Each of the 17 members of the DRAC represents a unique stakeholder group to the development review process; making the appointments specified in this legislation will help ensure balanced representation on the DRAC.

The City conducted a recruitment for vacant DRAC positions through GovernmentJobs.com (NeoGov) from March – May 2022. Information about the recruitment was posted on the DRAC webpage on the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) website, as well as through BDS social media channels.

With these appointments, only one vacant DRAC position will remain, representing the Planning & Sustainability Commission (PSC). The PSC is in the process of identifying a candidate for appointment to that position.

### **100% Renewable Goal**

This legislation appoints citizen volunteers to serve on the DRAC and will therefore have no impact on the City's energy use. This legislation neither contributes to nor detracts from the City's goal of meeting 100% of community-wide energy needs with renewable energy by 2050.

## Budget Office Financial Impact Analysis

The DRAC appointments are citizen-volunteer positions, so no revenue or expenses are incurred by this legislation.

## Agenda Items

### 759 Time Certain in September 14, 2022 Council Agenda

Confirmed

Motion to accept the report: Moved by Ryan and seconded by Hardesty.

Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty Yea

Commissioner Mingus Mapps Yea

Commissioner Carmen Rubio Yea

Commissioner Dan Ryan Yea

Mayor Ted Wheeler Yea