Sharon Kelly

Brief Bio for the Portland Utility Review Board.

I am excited about the opportunity to become involved with the PURB. One of my personal goals is to become more involved in community service activities. My interest in serving on the PURB is to apply some of my knowledge, analytical skills and understanding of public process and decision making from transportation, land use and environmental planning to another arena. I have previously focused on transportation and land use services, and am excited about the opportunity to learn more about the public utility sector, and to make a contribution to the community through service on the PURB. Having worked both in the public and private sectors, I hope to bring a balanced view to the group and feel that I have a relatively strong working knowledge of public decision making processes, including the roles and responsibilities of the various groups including the public, the staff, the advisory committees and the City Council.

I am a 23 year resident of the Northwest Neighborhood and City of Portland. I have been on the NW Neighborhood Transportation Committee for the last couple of years. In May 2008 I ran for and was elected to the NWDA Board of Directors. In my professional life I am a land use, transportation and environmental planner with over 30 years of experience. I have spent most of my career working as a transit planner for Metro and TriMet, and have received two national planning awards. Three years ago I joined URS, an international consulting firm with an office in Portland that does a significant amount of transit planning. As a private sector consultant, I am currently working on several transit projects, including the city-wide Portland Streetcar System Plan.

I was born and raised in the Portland area and am a 6th generation Oregonian. I have raised my two children (Tara & Adam Meyer) in the Portland. They both attended Friendly House Pre-School, Chapman Grade School (and Friendly Chaps), West Sylvan Middle School, and Lincoln High School. One of the sculptures at the entrance to Chapman was designed by my daughter, Tara Meyer. My son is a junior at Willamette University in Salem, and spending the summer in Ecuador studying Spanish. My daughter graduated from Colgate University last year and is traveling in India and Nepal for two months and will return to work in Portland.

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Short Resume

Ms Kelly has over 20 years of transit planning and NEPA experience, primarily in the Portland Oregon region. While at Metro, the Portland area MPO (and previously at TriMet), Sharon led the FTA NEPA analyses for several light rail project EIS's, including:

- South Corridor I-205/Portland Mall FEIS (this project is currently under construction)
- South Corridor Project: Downtown Amendment to the South Corridor Project SDEIS
- South Corridor Project: Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- North Corridor Interstate MAX Light Rail Project (constructed and began operations in 2004)
- South/North Corridor Project: Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement
- South/North Corridor Project: Draft Environmental Impact Statement

For these projects, Ms Kelly was responsible for: managing the local lead agency NEPA efforts; defining the consultant scopes, schedules, and budgets; coordinating with the local and regulatory agencies; coordination with public outreach efforts; development of the Analysis Methodology Reports; development of the series of Technical Reports documenting the NEPA analyses; and, she was a primary author and editor for all of these FTA NEPA EIS documents.