

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:**

Reappoint Ben Kaiser to the Design Commission for a 4-year term to expire August 14, 2019 (Report)

**Contact name:** Tim Heron, Bureau of Development Services, Land Use Section  
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**Presenter name:** Tim Heron

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

The reappointment of this Commissioner is required by Portland City Code [Title 33] to fulfill quorum requirements for Type 2 and Type 3 Land Use Reviews.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

The Commissioner appointment is a citizen-volunteer position, so no revenue or expenses are incurred by these position.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

The Bureau of Development Services continually advertises positions for the Commission through its webpage, public phone calls to the Commission Clerk and Staff, and as needed Media Announcements of upcoming positions. These Media Announces are widely circulated in the design, development and neighborhood community news outlets and web pages.

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

**Does this action change appropriations?**

- YES: Please complete the information below.
- NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount



CITY OF

# PORTLAND, OREGON

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August 19, 2015

To: Mayor Charlie Hales  
Commissioner Nick Fish  
Commissioner Amanda Fritz  
Commissioner Steve Novick

From: Commissioner Dan Saltzman  
Office of Public Affairs

*DNS*

Subject: Reappointment of Ben Kaiser to the Design Commission

## **1) Reappointment & Design Commissioner candidate rationale.**

**I am recommending Ben Kaiser be reappointed to the Design Commission. His 2<sup>nd</sup> term will be from August 15, 2015 to expire on August 14, 2019.** This reappointment is in the “design, engineering, financing, construction or management of buildings, and land development” category. Ben Kaiser is willing to serve the Commission again in a second term. He is an experienced and respected professional in his field as exemplified by the high-quality work his firm has completed here in Portland.

**Ben Kaiser**, a local developer, has been practicing in Portland for over 20 years, and is completing his first full term on the Design Commission. Ben is also clear in his messaging as a “developer’s developer” on the Design Commission when it comes to the expectation for high design quality in proposed projects and how to get there. His own projects demonstrate this bar for excellence, and he expects nothing less from the development community. This type of “leadership by example” has been a helpful and qualifying perspective for the Design Commission.

Land Use Senior Planner Tim Heron worked directly with Design Commission Chair David Wark [RACC position] and developed a rationale to rank 20 interested Interest Forms that were ultimately submitted for the positions on the Design Commission.

## **2) Current Membership.**

With the exception of recently appointed Julie Livingston, the current Design Commission membership have at least two to six plus years’ experience. The Commission just recently completed their *State of the City Design Report* to City Council, heard on April 8, 2015 at 9:30 TC. This report highlighted the positive impacts the Commission has on our urban environment these past three years, and what challenges they are prepared to help tackle as the City grows.

With the proposed reappointment of Ben Kaiser, the Design Commission will have one remaining vacancy in the “design, engineering, financing, construction or management of buildings, and land development” category previously held by Gwen Millius.