

CITYWIDE RACIAL EQUITY GOALS & STRATEGIES

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ Charles JOHNSON		
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**OFFICE of EQUITY
and HUMAN RIGHTS**
CITY OF PORTLAND

Realizing Equity. Enhancing the City of Portland.

Commissioner in Charge:
Charlie Hales, Mayor

Bureau Director:
Dante J. James, Esq.



July 8, 2015

AUDITOR 07/07/15 PM12:14

City Council
1221 Southwest 4th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear City Commissioners:

The Bureau Advisory Committee for the Office of Equity and Human Rights supports the adoption of the Citywide Racial Equity Goals and Strategies presented by the Office to City Council on July 8, 2015.

We are confident that, with sustainable investment of funding to achieve our aims, following the goals and strategies will help the City remove barriers for people of color including eliminating socioeconomic disparities, institutional racism, and inequity of service delivery.

Advancing and institutionalizing equity is essential to eliminating disparities in Portland's communities of color that have resulted from historic racial discrimination and marginalization. All Portlanders should enjoy the resources and opportunities of an equitable and socially-just City government.

Once the Citywide Racial Equity Goals and Strategies are adopted, they will serve as a guide and accountability tool for all City employees, elected officials, and community members. We respectfully urge you to adopt the Citywide Racial Equity Goals and Strategies and to support the goals moving forward.

Sincerely,

OEHR Bureau Advisory Committee:

Steven A. Brown
Lakeitha Elliott
Alem Hagdu
Dana Ingram
Joseph Santos-Lyons
Solen Wilebski

Michael Darbouze
Rosa Garcia-Moreno
Denise Harvey
Mercy Koffa
Thuy Tran

Michelle DePass
Mayra Gómez
Heather Heater
Janis McDonald
Ranfis Villatoro

Sho Dozono
Virginia Gómez
Edward Hill
Tamra Russell
Kyle Weismann-Yee

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Moore-Love, Karla

From: Steven M Brown <steven.social58@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 5:39 PM
To: Council Clerk – Testimony
Subject: Racial Equity Road Map Goals and Strategies for the Office of Equity and Human Rights
Attachments: SMB Testimony Concerning OEHR Racial Equity Roadmap Strategies and Goals.pdf

Hello,

Please find my written testimony enclosed in support of the racial equity roadmap goals and strategies that the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) adapts.

Please let me know when you receive this.

Thank you,
Steven

Steven M Brown, MPA, MA
steven.social58@gmail.com

June 29, 2015

Mayor Charlie Hales, and the City Commissioners:

Hello. My name is Steven M. Brown, and I live in Southeast Portland. As a Commissioner of Portland Commission on Disability (PCoD), as well as a Portland resident, I am here to represent us as a whole.

Civil Rights play a central role in our everyday lives, and for people with color, as well as for people with diverse backgrounds, including with the disabilities, it sometimes provides such protections and other times, creates discriminations and such inequalities. In the last fifty years since the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, we have seen many improvements in these class protections, thanks to new additional laws as well as improved rules, policies, and procedures that nationwide cities have adapted. We now have more protections to filing complaints, identifying such racial inequity issues, and attempting to overcome such discriminations than ever before, however we still have a way to go. My testimony supports on these issues and concerns since the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, but also exclusively addressed more specifically on the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) racial equity roadmap strategies and goals.

The OEHR Racial Equity Roadmap starts to really improve with the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which required OEHR to identify and propose such internal focused plans for the City Bureaus, including the programs and services to ensure that the delivery of services to the community is hindering with racial equity. The Racial Equity Roadmap assists the City officials to deliver services with racial equity, to ensure that programs and services are compliable to meet with the Racial Equity Roadmap strategies and goals, and to finally able to ensure that racial equity is achievable among of the constituents, community consumers, and the City employees.

The future is always changing and our community continues to play catch up as new policies and procedures evolve beyond our legal protections. However, achieving racial equity is improving, in addition to the Racial Equity Roadmap strategies and goals, which has allowed us to catch up more quickly than ever before. Please support the Racial Equity Roadmap strategies and goals.

In its furtherance, we will also enrich and promote equality for all Portlanders with diverse backgrounds to enjoy and participate in public facilities, programs, services, and activities. We look forward to continuing this work with the Portland City Council and others as our work moves ahead.

Thank you.



Steven M Brown, MPA, MA, NCC
BAC Community Member
Bureau Advisory Committee (BAC)
Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR)
Portland, Oregon 97202