

PDC

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

DATE: February 13, 2008
TO: Board of Commissioners
FROM: Bruce A. Warner, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Report Number 08-15
Appointment to Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 6554

ACTION SUMMARY

This action will authorize the following appointment:

John A. McDonald to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee as a Regular member representing the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association for a term ending in June, 2011. Mr. McDonald is a resident and active member of the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association and works for Northwest Natural. He has experience in geography and land use, and is interested in urban planning issues in east Portland.

RELATIONSHIP TO ADOPTED PLANS AND POLICIES

This action is consistent with the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Policy adopted by the Board of Commissioners on September 14, 2005 (Resolution 6293) that requires the Board to appoint members to Urban Renewal Advisory Committees ("URAC's) that the Board has created.

This action helps implement the Public Participation Policy adopted by the Board on June 22, 2005 (Resolution 6266) which established that "public participation is required and will be an integral component of project schedules, budgets, and board decision-making processes for developing and implementing urban renewal area plans and implementing urban renewal projects."

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Meaningful public participation helps promote democracy and civic engagement, builds public trust in government and enhances the Commission's credibility within the community.

Effective public participation can improve the quality and effectiveness of Board plans and decisions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no significant financial impact as a result of this action.

RISK ASSESSMENT

There are no significant legal, financial or operational risks resulting from this action.

WORK LOAD IMPACT

The major work load associated with the appointment of new URAC members is providing new members with an orientation session and related material specific to their URAC's. This activity is coordinated by Public Participation staff, and included in existing work plans.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS

Per Board established policy, there is no alternative process for making this appointment.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK

The public is continually advised of the opportunity to serve on a URAC, and encouraged to apply for appointment.

CONCURRENCE

In accordance with PDC's URAC Policy, the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association, through its Chair, Mr. Jack Vahey, has nominated Mr. John A. McDonald to serve as one of its representatives to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

On September 14, 2005, the Board of Commissioners ("Board") adopted Resolution 6293 establishing a formal policy regarding the composition and operations of Urban Renewal Advisory Committees ("URACs"). Pursuant to that policy, the following URACs have been formally established by the Board:

1. Lents Town Center
2. Central Eastside
3. Interstate Corridor
4. Gateway Regional Center
5. Oregon Convention Center
6. North Macadam

The process for identifying potential URAC members includes:

- Ongoing recruitment and acceptance of applications via the PDC website.
- Assessing the range of existing and potential stakeholders in a particular urban renewal area in relation to the existing URAC composition and diversity.
- Personal outreach and recruitment by PDC staff and URAC members.
- Review of applications by PDC staff and URAC chairs.

The Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association currently has two organization member seats on the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (LTC URAC). Since July

1, 2007 one of those seats has been empty due to the resignation of its former holder. On January 3, 2008, the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association Chair, Mr. Jack Vahey, nominated Mr. John A. McDonald to fill its open LTC URAC member seat. Staff is requesting consideration of Mr. McDonald's appointment based on the organization's nomination and the submission of his application for service on the LTC URAC.

CC: J. Jackley, Executive Department Operations Manager
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