

# PDC

## PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

**DATE:** November 12, 2008

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**FROM:** Bruce A. Warner, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Report Number 08-126  
Appointing Charles Braymen and Raymond Hites to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

#### BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution 6645

#### ACTION SUMMARY

This action will authorize the following two appointments:

**Charles Braymen** to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee ("URAC"), as a Regular member representing the businesses at-large in the Urban Renewal Area ("URA") for a term ending in June 2011. Mr. Braymen has more than 14 years in the real estate and mortgage industries in the Portland metropolitan area. He has lived in east Portland for more than 25 years. He has extensive experience as a volunteer for a variety of organizations, including as an English tutor to Eastern European immigrants.

**Raymond Hites** to the Lents Town Center URAC as a Regular member representing the Lents Neighborhood Association for a term ending in June 2011. Mr. Hites is a long-term resident of the Lents neighborhood and has been a community activist and organizer for more than 22 years. He has been an active member of the Lents Neighborhood Association since 1986, and has experience representing this organization on many committees and other groups.

#### 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.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK

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

## **COMPLIANCE WITH ADOPTED PLANS AND POLICIES**

This action complies with the URAC Policy adopted by the Board of Commissioners (“Board”) on September 14, 2005 (Resolution No. 6293) and amended on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614) that requires the Board to appoint members to URAC’s that the Board has created.

This action helps implement the Public Participation Policy adopted by the Board on June 22, 2005 (Resolution No. 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.”

## **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.

## **CONCURRENCE**

In accordance with PDC’s URAC Policy, the Lents Neighborhood Association, through its Chair, Mr. Deward Akers, has nominated Mr. Hites to serve as its representative to the Lents Town Center URAC.

Because Mr. Braymen is filling a Business at-large representative seat, his nomination resulted from staff review of his interests and qualifications.

## BACKGROUND

On September 14, 2005, the Board adopted Resolution No. 6293 establishing a formal policy regarding the composition and operations of URACs. This Policy was most recently revised on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614). 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
7. River District

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 Lents Neighborhood Association currently has two organization member seats on the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (LTC URAC). Since July 10, 2007 this seat has been empty due to the resignation of its former holder. On October 7, 2008, the Lents Neighborhood Association Chair, Mr. Deward Akers, nominated Mr. Raymond Hites to fill its open LTC URAC member seat. Staff is requesting consideration of Mr. Hites' appointment based on the organization's nomination and the submission of his application for service on the LTC URAC.

At present there is one business at-large representative seat open on the LTC URAC. Staff is requesting consideration of Mr. Charles Braymen's appointment based on his interests and qualifications, as well as the need an additional business at-large representative on the LTC URAC.