

PDC

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

DATE: January 14, 2009

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Bruce A. Warner, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Report Number 09-03

Create a new position on the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee to represent the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association and appoint Bryan Agee to fill this new position.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 6660

ACTION SUMMARY

This action will authorize the creation of a new position on the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee ("URAC") to represent the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association. On May 14, 2008, the Board approved the first amendment to the Lents Town Center URAC, which included the expansion of the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Area ("URA") along Southeast Foster Road between 79th and 50th Avenues (Resolution No. 6583). This expansion resulted in 85.07 acres of the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood to be included in the Lents Town Center URA, making it the neighborhood with the fourth largest amount of land in this URA. In November 2008, the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association officially requested to become an Organization Member of the Lents Town Center URAC.

Appointment of Bryan Agee to the Lents Town Center URAC as a Regular member representing the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association for a term ending on June 30, 2012, in accordance with the Portland Development Commission ("PDC") URAC Policy. Mr. Agee serves on the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association board and has extensive experience as a volunteer for other local organizations and efforts, including organizing a Symphony in the Park Concert at Mt. Scott Park, and Love Portland, a yearly volunteer action day in conjunction with Imago Dei Community. Mr. Agee also owns a business in Southeast Portland.

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.

This action will support the following PDC goals:

- Sustainability and Social Equity
- Healthy Neighborhoods
- A Vibrant Central City
- Strong Economic Growth and Competitive Region
- Effective Stewardship over our Resources and Operations, and Employee Investment

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK

PDC staff has consulted with stakeholders in the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Area and they are in agreement about the need to add the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association and its representative to the Lents Town Center URAC.

Lents Town Center URAC members were also briefed about this proposed addition, and they officially expressed support for adding this position to their committee.

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

COMPLIANCE WITH ADOPTED PLANS AND POLICIES

This action complies with the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee Policy as revised by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614) that requires the Board to identify and appoint regular organization members to URACs that the Board has created.

This action complies with and 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 workload associated with the creation of new positions on a URAC and the appointment of new URAC members is communicating the decisions to the URAC and providing new members with an orientation session and related material specific to their URACs. These activities are coordinated by Public Participation staff, and included in existing work plans.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS

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

CONCURRENCE

In accordance with PDC's URAC Policy, the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association through its Chair, Shawna Fuller, has nominated Mr. Bryan Agee to serve as its representative on the Lents Town Center URAC.

BACKGROUND

On September 14, 2005, the Board adopted Resolution No. 6293 which established a formal policy regarding the composition and operations of URACs. This policy was adopted in response to the Board's desire to ensure consistency in the procedures for creating and operating URACs and to emphasize the agency's commitment to public participation and involvement. This Policy was most recently revised by the Board on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614).

Pursuant to that Policy, the Board has established the following URACs:

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 Board retains sole authority to establish, recompose or disband a URAC. Among the elements under the discretion of the Board is the identification of URAC organization members and their representatives.

Acting upon the request made by the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association, staff is requesting consideration of the creation of a new regular organization member position on the Lents Town Center URAC for the Mt. Scott-Arleta Neighborhood Association, and the appointment of Bryan Agee as the member's representative in accordance with the PDC URAC Policy.