

PDC

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

DATE: February 23, 2011

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Bruce A. Warner, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Report Number 11-10
Appoint Ms. Tracy Gratto to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 6849

ACTION SUMMARY

This action will authorize the appointment of Tracy Gratto to the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (LTC URAC) as a regular representative of the Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association ("FPNA") for a term ending on June 30, 2014. Ms. Gratto works for the Oregon Health Department and serves on the Board of Directors of the FPNA. She served as FPNA Board Chair for seven years, on the Foster Target Area Advisory Committee, and worked as a non-profit administrator. She is interested in community development, collaborations, and problem-solving.

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:

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND FEEDBACK

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 URAC Policy as revised by the Board of Commissioners on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614) that requires the Board to identify and appoint 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 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

The FPNA through its Chair, Ms. Erica Bjerning, nominated Ms. Gratto to fill the FPNA representative seat in the LTC URAC, which is open due to the resignation of its previous holder.

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.

At present there is one open seat for the FPNA on the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (LTC URAC).