

PDC

PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

DATE: July 26, 2010
TO: Board of Commissioners
FROM: Bruce A. Warner, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Report Number 10-69

Appoint David Knowles to the North Macadam Urban Renewal Advisory Committee as an at-large member

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

Adopt Resolution No. 6811

ACTION SUMMARY

This action will authorize the appointment of David Knowles to the North Macadam Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (NM URAC) as an at-large member representing city-wide interests for a term beginning, July 26, 2010 and ending in June 30, 2013. This position was created by the Board of Commissioners on March 14, 2007 (Resolution No. 6446), and is currently vacant.

Mr. Knowles is currently employed by CH2MHill as an urban and transit planner. Prior to this position he was the Planning Director for the City of Portland between 1993 and 1999. In that capacity, Mr. Knowles was involved in the early planning stages for the formation of the North Macadam Urban Renewal Area.

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
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- 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 an urban renewal advisory committee (URAC), and encouraged to apply for appointment.

COMPLIANCE WITH 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 No. 6293), and amended on July 9, 2008 (Resolution No. 6614), that requires the Board to create membership positions and 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 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 or operational risks resulting from this action.

WORK LOAD IMPACT

The major workload associated with the appointment of a new URAC member is providing that person with orientation training and related materials specific to their URAC. This activity is coordinated by the 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

Because Mr. Knowles is filling a City-wide At-Large representative seat, his nomination resulted from staff review of his interests and qualifications.

BACKGROUND

On September 14, 2005, the Board of Commissioners (“Board”) adopted Resolution No. 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. Central Eastside
2. Gateway Regional Center
3. Interstate Corridor
4. Lents Town Center
5. North Macadam
6. Oregon Convention Center
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 URAC composition and diversity.
- Personal outreach and recruitment by PDC staff and URAC members.
- Review of applications by PDC staff and URAC chairs.

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 City-wide At-Large representative seat open on the North Macadam Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (NM URAC).