



**Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland**

June 11, 2019

As Mayor and Commissioner of Finance & Administration, I request Council confirmation of the following appointments to the Portland Utility Board:

| <u>Voting Member Appointment</u> | <u>Term</u> | <u>Replacing</u> |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Kaliska Day | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2022 | Lee Moore |
| Gabriela Saldaña-López | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2022 | Mike Weedall |
| Karen Spencer | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2022 | Scott Robinson |
| Karen Williams | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2021 | Colleen Johnson |
| Mia Sabanovic | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 | Dan Peterson |

| <u>Ex-Officio Appointment</u> | <u>Term</u> | <u>Replacing</u> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Ana Brophy | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 | reappointment |
| Brian Laurent | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 | Vera Zaharova |
| Sara Petrocine | July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 | Van Le |

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Wheeler
Mayor

Biographies and Interest Statements for Appointees:

Voting Members - New Appointments

Gabriela Saldaña-López is the Fiscal Sponsorship Manager and Community Engagement Liaison at Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition in Portland. She was born and raised in Southeast and East Portland and has a double BA from the University of Oregon in Planning, Public Policy and Management and International Studies with a concentration in nonprofit administration. She brings unique perspective, connections and experience through her community organizing and event coordination roles over the years and is passionate about advancing actions that can begin to address disparities in Portland.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB: To represent youth and those at the margins in Portland. Growing up in East Portland, she has seen a clear disparity that needs to change and is passionate and committed to creating space where that can happen. She hopes to bring in through community organizing a wider range of voices and make sure information being considered by the Portland Utility Board is accessible and potential impacts to everyday lives are understandable.

Kaliska Day is a project manager with Wenaha Group and with over 16 years in construction management brings a unique perspective on how utilities impact practical installation. She has familiarity with a breadth of government agencies as well as experience serving several years on the Portland Bureau of Transportation Bureau Budget Advisory Committee. This provided a great opportunity to see the interconnectedness of government and it was rewarding to give input to the process as it would be on the board. She volunteers with the Oregon Native American Chamber which provides opportunity not just to connect with native communities but also many other diverse communities of color.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB: To give a unique perspective and voice to the construction industry and the effects of government decisions on contractors. To give a voice to the native community and advocate for a severely under-served demographic. To gain substantial knowledge and understanding of the utility process and how the public process works for decision making and budget considerations given during capital projects. To be an advocate of equity and public interest.

Karen Spencer is the Chief Operating Officer and a founding team member for Firmcast dba [Searchfunder.com](https://www.searchfunder.com), an online community and technology platform for search funds. Karen is a member of the State Bars of California and Oregon, as well as the US Patent & Trademark Office. She has over 25 years of experience as in-house and external counsel with a focus on intellectual property, commercial agreements and the legal implications of business decisions. Karen has a wide range of interests, volunteer engagement and training, including the Oregon Youth Development Council, Portland Parks Foundation, improvisational acting and managing an award-winning blues band. She brings a range of skills in strategic planning, legal analysis, leadership

and teamwork to the Board.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB: To be engaged in the social, economic and environmental issues facing Portland, particularly in the context of its long-range development and growth. PUB has a role in ensuring that equity considerations are integrated into decisions. When she moved to the Portland Metro area to work for Nike 19 years ago, she was drawn to Portland because of the affordability of housing citywide, its parks system and its culture of neighborliness. Portland has changed much in the intervening years and must change to meet the challenges of growing demand for vital resources and the impacts of climate change. Karen hopes to have a positive impact for the future of Portland and hopes that long term and new residents of Portland would have the same pride in Portland as she has had.

Karen Williams brings a broad range of training and experience in hydrogeology, watershed planning and restoration and water pollution reduction. She is currently a Policy Analyst at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality with a current focus on air quality regulations and pollution reduction strategies, previously focusing for over 10 years at DEQ on water quality. With a master's degree in public administration, she brings a strong research and analytical background as well as understanding of priorities and challenges of local government budgets. As a member of the International Association for Public Participation and volunteer participation in other boards and associations she brings skills in facilitating public meetings, building trust in government and engaging underrepresented stakeholders.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB: The PUB provides an opportunity to combine interests in water and environmental planning with the desire to promote good governance and civic engagement. She hopes to achieve an increased community understanding of the city's responsibilities around water supply and environmental services and how those services are funded and maintained. She hopes to contribute to a public forum or event, improved service or process, and ideas to increase community engagement. She would like to increase awareness of the way infrastructure and environmental program decisions intersect with workers' health and safety and career training.

Mia Sabanovic is a civil water engineer and brings unique experience having worked with both bureaus, working at the PWB for 11 years and the past 2 years with BES, and an interest in helping the bureaus optimize how to preserve and deliver services. As a refugee from a war-torn Bosnia and Hercegovina she understands the importance of clean and potable water and functioning waste water system that does not result in raw sewage overflows into the rivers and lakes. Coming from a country under severe oppression and genocide she also has a unique understanding of cultural differences in communication, trust and overcoming barriers to engagement with government. Mia is sensitive to the cultural and community diversities and is actively engaged in the community, including organizing and participating in leadership development conferences for women through Portland's Muslim Educational Trust Center. She brings

a passion for water as a sustainable and equitable resource, technical engineering skills and a vast knowledge of both bureaus' strategic plans.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB: To provide Asset management and technical expertise as well as strong communication and collaboration skills in evaluating projects and programs to achieve sustainable and long-term equitable solutions that mitigate both bureaus high business risk exposures. One of the biggest accomplishments is to achieve "One Water" framework that engages and encourages both bureaus to share resources and optimize work processes to ensure following goals are achieved: reliable and resilient utilities, thriving and equitable cities, "utility of the future" work practices, healthy and thriving waterways, expanding and growing business/industry.

Ex-Officio Member: Reappointments

Ana Brophy is a Capital Project Manager with the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) where she is responsible for project management activities related to design, contract administration, and project execution of large-scale multi-disciplinary and multi-phased Capital projects. Ana has 33 years of private and municipal experience in renovation of military family housing, subdivision development, road construction, surveying, trenchless sewer construction, stormwater, vertical construction, human resource management, staff training, and budget development.

Ana is a member of the BES Specifications Committee, BES Stormwater Management Committee, and BES Construction Change Management Committee. She serves in the BES Committee for Equity and Diversity (CED) and chairs the CED Professional Development committee, is a member of the Citywide African American Network, mentors in the City Mentoring Program, hosts interns from under-represented high schools interested in environmental and engineering careers, advocates for opportunities for Minority-Owner, Women-Owned, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Owners and Emerging Small Businesses, and strives to integrate equity and inclusion in her work and partnerships.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

To serve Portlanders by collaborating with the PUB on advising City Council on the bureaus budgets, efficiency of operations, asset management, stormwater system, project delivery, sustainability and resilience, regulatory compliance, public policy, economic development, gray and green infrastructure and social equity.

Ex-Officio Members: New Appointments

Brian Laurent serves as the Environmental Specialist for the [MS4](#) and [TMDL](#) regulatory programs that manage the City's compliance with federal and state requirements to protect and enhance water quality in stormwater and surface waters. He joined BES in 2006 and his experience includes program/project management, industrial permitting, monitoring, investigations, enforcements, data systems, organizational development, process improvement, public speaking and the BES PEER Program. His prior experience in private consulting includes technical work specializing

in assessment and restoration of surface water environments and precision surveying for industrial and manufacturing customers. He is a graduate of the Environmental Studies and Geography programs at UCSB and as a resident of Portland, has volunteered with the North Portland Soccer Club and the SMART Reader Program.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

The residents of Portland deserve high quality sustainable public utilities to protect human health and the environment. Public trust and transparency are critical elements contributing to the success of BES and the Water Bureau. The PUB's oversight role requires a comprehensive and strategic understanding of how BES and Water can be assured to deliver effective services now and into the future. My experience translating regulatory requirements into policy, projects and operations brings a perspective that can support the PUB in serving the community and fulfilling its multifaceted mission.

Sara Petrocine is the Legislative Affairs Coordinator for the Portland Water Bureau, where she administers the bureau's state and federal legislative programs. She has nearly fourteen years of experience in policy analysis, policy making, project management, and intergovernmental relations, including representing the bureau in statewide forums, such as the League of Oregon Cities Water/Wastewater Policy Committee. Sara joined PWB in 2012 after serving over six years as a Policy Advisor in City Hall for Commissioner Leonard and has extensive experience working with diverse groups of stakeholders on a wide range of issues across the city. Recently, Sara served three years as an officer of the Oregon Water Utility Council, a statewide committee that monitors and engages in legislation, regulations, public policies, and court actions that could impact water providers.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

The community we serve is touched by water every day. Responsible stewardship of our natural resources, infrastructure and financial resources is essential to serving our community successfully. I look forward to collaborating with members of the PUB as they examine and balance the complex issues facing utilities and the customers they serve.