

The Oregonian

Portland Commissioner Chloe Eudaly ousts second bureau director

By Jessica Floum

April 10, 2017

Portland's newest city commissioner, Chloe Eudaly, has ousted her second bureau director within her first four months on the job, according to an email obtained by The Oregonian/OregonLive.

Paul Scarlett, long-time director of the Bureau of Development Services, will get \$183,000 from the city to leave after running the development permitting office for almost 12 years. The golden parachute is equivalent to one year's salary for Scarlett, whose last day is Friday, said Eudaly's chief of staff Marshall Runkel.

The bureau's principal planner, Rebecca Esau, will serve as the interim director, according to a statement released by Eudaly Monday.

Scarlett announced his departure in an email to bureau employees Monday.

"Commissioner Eudaly has shared with me that she plans to take the bureau in a different direction and will be seeking new leadership," Scarlett wrote in the email. "I leave knowing we have made great strides in the work we do and I am confident the bureau and its employees will continue to play an important, relevant and necessary role in the development of this beautiful city."

Scarlett declined to talk to The Oregonian/OregonLive on Monday.

The director's announcement came three days after the City Budget Office released a [summary report](#) detailing problems within Scarlett's bureau. Operations there cause delays in the permitting and inspection process required to build affordable housing, it says.

Unfilled job vacancies at the bureau have posed workload challenges, the report found. Low staff morale, poor customer service and a confusing process for new developers have also contributed to development delays.

The report encouraged the bureau to fill vacant positions, create a technology-driven solution, reduce development fees when possible and coordinate better with other bureaus. The report noted the need for the development office to coordinate with the Portland Housing Bureau to stay committed to project timelines.

The bureau now has 385 full time employees after filling more than 100 positions since June, Scarlett wrote in his departure email.

"Though several challenges still exists such as filling vacancies, updating our permitting system, improving service levels and working relationships throughout the bureau, I am optimistic good progress will continue to be made in all of these areas," Scarlett wrote.

The Portland representative for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees [Tweeted his surprise](#) about Scarlett's departure on Monday.

"Really?!!" Rob Wheaton Tweeted. "Paul was great. Members loved him."

Low morale

Evaluations of the bureau and of Scarlett over the years have repeatedly [noted low morale](#), a retaliatory work environment and a lack of direction from and trust in leadership.

An [August 2014 performance review](#) of Scarlett by then-bureau manager Commissioner Amanda Fritz also said "morale is very low."

Fritz told The Oregonian/OregonLive on Monday that Scarlett impressed her by addressing some of the problems she laid out in her evaluation. He embraced her emphasis on equity by hiring an equity director within the bureau, she said.

"When I was in charge of the bureau, I was very pleased with the progress we were making and I was very pleased with Paul's responsiveness to my directing," Fritz said. "I could have made more if I were able to keep the bureau."

A November 2015 organization assessment by a Portland-based consulting firm called Coraggio Group found "persistent equity issues" in the bureau that made it a challenging place to work for women.

"Women don't do well here," an employee told the firm anonymously.

The report included anonymous comments from bureau employees interviewed by the consulting firm.

"This is the most singularly unhealthy work environment I've ever seen," one employee reported. "People are great and vastly overqualified and contribute their best, despite the work environment."

An August 2016 performance evaluation of Scarlett by Commissioner Dan Saltzman noted increased complaints from customers frustrated by delays, a slow hiring process and a struggle to find new staff for the bureau. Saltzman managed the bureau from 2015 to 2016.

Still, Saltzman awarded Scarlett 48 additional hours of paid leave. He complimented Scarlett's effort to "move the equity needle forward."

Saltzman told The Oregonian/OregonLive Monday that he enjoyed working with Scarlett. He did not respond when asked why he did not get rid of Scarlett after several reports showed problems in the bureau.

Long-time development bureau worker Lisa Gill said the development services office has long valued and promoted men over women, a problem she said starts with Scarlett at the top.

"A lot of his managers need a lot of help," Gill said. "He is not willing to take that step to make them accountable."

Gill now works as a management assistant on the bureau's online permitting system after working for the city for 26 years.

She successfully sued the City of Portland for racial discrimination in 2002. She and former colleague Roxie Granville also made allegations of gender discrimination.

Gill said Scarlett is a nice guy and wished him luck, but said this leadership change is necessary.

"The bar needs to be raised," Gill said. "I think his tenure is done. I don't think he can do any more."

A colossal boondoggle

Employees quoted in the Coraggio Report placed hope in a new technology project that ended up costing the city millions before [spiraling out of control](#). Portland's development services office failed to heed warnings and stop the massive technology project.

The so-called Information Technology Advancement Project, or ITAP, was supposed to create a 21st Century online permitting system into which developers and architects could electronically submit paperwork and from which city employees could access records from the field. It was supposed to cut costs for businesses by up to \$1 million per year and shave payroll costs by \$1.3 million by eliminating the need to hire nine more employees, the city estimated.

But [ITAP failed after costing the city](#) at least \$8 million. As of November 2016, the city had spent 70 percent of its budget for the project but completed as little as 25 percent of the work. At that point, a report said, the city would need six months just to assess what had gotten done and the cost of moving forward.

The city blamed an ousted contractor, Sierra-Cedar Inc., but the report found "significant gaps in leadership, management and oversight of the project.

Project Manager Rebecca Sponsel took most of the blame. Scarlett forced her out in November.

Eudaly shakes things up

Scarlett is the second long-time bureau director pushed out by Eudaly. At Eudaly's bidding, the city paid the Office of Neighborhood Involvement's former director \$144,000 [to quietly leave in March](#). Amalia Alarcon de Morris's departure followed a [scathing November audit](#) and 11 years of Alarcon de Morris leading the bureau.

A political novice and former bookstore owner, Eudaly pledged to do things differently if she made it onto the Portland City Council. So far, she has.

Eudaly ousted the two long-time directors of the bureaus. It took her at least 30 days to have a face-to-face sit down with each of them, city officials told The Oregonian/OregonLive at the end of January.

Scarlett attributed the delay in meeting to the city's [historic January snow storm](#) that put a lot of city plans behind schedule. He told the paper in January that he looked forward to his first meeting with Eudaly, who he said seemed sincere and genuine.

"I imagine we'll have a good working relationship and a lot of trust," Scarlett said.

The Portland Tribune

R2DToo solution requires housing emergency to be extended

*By Jim Redden
April 11, 2017*

The last-minute plan to save the Right 2 Dream Too homeless camp means the most recent Housing State of Emergency declared by the City Council will have to be extended.

The relocation plan announced by Mayor Ted Wheeler last Thursday allows the homeless camp to move to a parcel of city-owned industrial property in the Rose Quarter for up to two years.

Although camping is prohibited on such property, the emergency declaration allows the council to waive zoning requirements to site new homeless facilities.

The declaration is scheduled to expire in September after already having been renewed by the council for a year. So it will have to be extended again for an even longer period to complete the two-year relocation plan.

Wheeler says the current camp at Northwest Fourth Avenue and Burnside Street first will be allowed to remain at its present location for 60 days. The property owners had served an eviction notice for last Friday, when the Portland Development Commission was scheduled to buy the site for \$1.2 million if it was free and clear.

According to Wheeler, over the next 60 days, R2DToo — as it is commonly called — will be allowed to move to a new city-owned site on the east side between the Moda Center and the Willamette River. It is a parking lot owned by the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

"Solutions around locating R2DToo have eluded the city for years, and it was unclear if this time would be any different," Wheeler said in a statement announcing the plan on Thursday.

The new site, owned by the Portland Bureau of Transportation, is the triangular segment of right-of-way, a paved surface parking lot at the west end of North Holladay Street, where North Thunderbird Road and North Crosby Avenue come together.

"It's one of the best spots we've seen in a few years," said R2DToo co-founder Trillium Shannon. "We needed to find something that was in close proximity, and so the city did work with the parameters that we put out there. We think it's a very viable spot."

According to the announcement, the city will work through the region's Low Income Fare Program and Fare Assistance Program administered by TriMet in partnership with Ride Connection to supply R2DToo residents with transit passes at no cost to access services.

KOIN News 6, a news partner of the Portland Tribune, contributed to this story.

City Hall Update: Chief Marshman could soon be replaced

*By Jim Redden
April 11, 2017*

Mayor Ted Wheeler hopes to pick the next police chief by July.

Wheeler, who oversees the Portland Police Bureau, has announced the city will conduct a national search for the next chief, with the job announcement to be released later this month and applications accepted in May.

When he ran for mayor last year, Wheeler promised the next chief would be selected after a national search. He will be looking for someone with an ability to lead and reform, a belief in community policing, and a dedication to diversity.

Mike Marshman, the last permanent chief, currently is on paid administrative leave pending an Independent Police Review investigation. Assistant Chief Chris Davis is serving as acting chief.

Gang violence continues to fall

Mayor Ted Wheeler may be dealing with multiple problems at the Portland Police Bureau, but one positive development is the continued decrease in gang-related violence.

According to the most recent statistics, the Gang Enforcement Team investigated 22 incidents of gang violence in the first quarter of 2016. That's down from 41 incidents during the same period in 2016, 35 in 2015 and 32 in 2014.

After peaking at an official 193 incidents in all of 2015, the total fell to 159 last year, with a sharp drop from 23 in November to just nine in December. That has turned into a welcome trend.

City to stop investing in corporations

The City Council voted Wednesday to stop investing city funds in corporate securities, including stocks and bonds issued by private companies. The decision could reduce the return of city investments by \$3 million to \$5 million a year, according to estimates by the City Treasurer's Office.

The decision was made while the council was considering a new socially responsible investment policy that would have given weight to third-party ratings of the commitment of corporations to such issues as the environment, social justice and corporate governance. Various activists and advocacy organizations have pressed the council for years to not invest city funds in certain corporations.

During the discussion, Commissioner Dan Saltzman moved that the city simply stop investing in all corporate securities on a permanent basis. His amendment passed on a 3-to-2 vote, with commissioners Chloe Eudaly and Nick Fish also supporting it. The revised policy then passed unanimously, with Wheeler and Commissioner Amanda Fritz also voting yes on the final version.

Mayor, county chair pledge that Portland and Multnomah County won't rely on fossil fuels by 2050

*By Steve Law
April 10, 2017*

Leaders of the city of Portland and Multnomah County pledged Monday that their community would get all its energy from renewable sources by the year 2050.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler and Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury joined 25 other cities that have committed to a 100 percent renewable future, including San Diego and Salt Lake City.

"Getting our community to 100 percent renewable energy is a big goal," said Wheeler, in announcing the joint pledge at a news conference with Kafoury. Wheeler had hinted about the new goal at a recent town hall on climate action.

"This is a pledge to our children's future," said Kafoury. "100 percent renewables means a future with cleaner air, a stable climate and more jobs and economic opportunity."

The two jurisdictions have a joint climate action plan that has been cited as one of the best in the world.

Getting to 100 percent renewable energy for city and county operations is challenging enough, but getting the entire county off fossil fuels will be a herculean task, because it's mostly outside the control of the city and county, resting largely with the Oregon Public Utility Commission and the three large utilities serving the area: PGE, Pacific Power and NW Natural.

PGE and Pacific Power, the two big electric utilities, are on track to phase out their use of coal power, but expect to continue to rely on natural gas. NW Natural's business model is dependent on continued sales of natural gas.

Development services bureau director leaves

By Jim Redden

April 10, 2017

Portland Bureau of Development Services Director Paul Scarlett announced he is leaving his post in an email to employees Monday morning.

Scarlett said Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, who is overseeing BDS, has decided to take it "in a different direction and will be seeking new leadership."

"I leave knowing we have made great strides in the work we do and I am confident the bureau and its employees will continue to play an important, relevant and necessary role in the development of this beautiful city," Scarlett said. BDS issues building permits and enforces construction codes, among other things.

In a separate statement, Eudaly said she was appointing Rebecca Esau as interim director of BDS and plans to launch a search for a permanent director. Esau has 16 years of management experience with the city, including 14 years as the manager of the Land Use Services Division of BDS.

Eudaly also said Scarlett accomplished a lot during his 12 years as BDS director, including helping design and implement a plan to co-locate agencies involved in the permit review process at the Permit Center.

"Nevertheless, since I took office in January, it has become clear to me that the bureau will benefit from new leadership," Eudaly continued.

Scarlett's departure follows the resignation of another director of a bureau overseen by Eudaly. Amalia Alarcon de Morris left the Office of Neighborhood Involvement last month. She left after a city audit faulted the management of ONI, and Wheeler transferred the bureau from Commissioner Amanda Fritz to Eudaly. A permanent replacement has yet to be named.

The most recent change comes as Mayor Ted Wheeler is preparing to take control of all city bureaus on April 27, the day he will release his proposed budget for the next fiscal year. He will reassign them after the budget is approved and will give them back to their previous commissioners if he is satisfied with their management of them.

Wheeler has been pressing BDS and other city agencies to increase the supply of available housing as much and as fast as possible to reduce housing costs. This is a goal he repeatedly stressed when he successfully ran for mayor last year.

A recent memo issued by the City Budget Office details a number of recommendations to make development-related bureaus more efficient, especially to accelerate affordable housing development, but notes that staff morale is low at BDS due to heavy workload and pressure to expedite reviews.

The recommendations are included in an April 7 memo to the City Council from City Budget Office Director Andrew Scott and Office of Management and Finance CEO Tom Rinehart. The recommendations grew out of a Government Accountability, Transparency and Results (GATR)

session conducted by the Wheeler administration that assessed the current state of housing development in Portland and identified areas and potential strategies for improvement.

"Portland is in the midst of a housing crisis, and increasing the supply of housing is one way to close the gap of available units. Recognizing that the city plays a critical role in facilitating local housing development through our policies and practices around land use review, permitting, and inspection," the memo says of the session.

The GATR session happened on Jan. 19. It was attended by members of the mayor's office and Eudaly's office, in addition to staff from BDS, the Portland Housing Bureau, the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, the Portland Bureau of Transportation, the Portland Water Bureau, Portland Fire and Rescue, and Portland Parks and Recreation.

Among other things, the memo says improving bureau responsiveness to enhance customer service is key to increasing the willingness of developers to build in Portland.

It points out that although development bureaus have made improvements in cross-bureau coordination in recent years, there is a "clear need for coordination and leadership accountability for the entire development review process."

It adds that further enhancing cross-bureau coordination will increase the city's ability to meet development guidelines.

The memo does not recommend reducing development review fees and charges, saying such reductions would have a negligible effect on new developments but would significantly reduce city services.

Another GATR session is scheduled for April 13.

Willamette Week

Portland Police Unveil Interactive Tool for Viewing Neighborhood Crime Statistics

*By Nigel Jaquiss
April 10, 2017*

The Portland Police Bureau today made public a new tool that will allow citizens to more easily monitor reported crimes by neighborhood and citywide.

Here's a [link to the site, which PPB says is the first of many the bureau will provide.](#)

The PPB is a proud participant in the Police Data Initiative (PDI). The intent of the PDI is to leverage the use of data to increase transparency, build trust and strengthen accountability. As a participating agency, PPB is committed to making open data accessible to community members. Reported crime is the first dataset to be released as part of this initiative. This site continues to include data and information on: Officer-involved shootings, Calls for Service, Historical Data, Stops Data Collection and Use of Force Data Summaries.

The Portland Mercury

Commissioner Chloe Eudaly Is Getting Rid of Another Bureau Director

By Dirk VanderHart

April 10, 2017

Chloe Eudaly continues to clean house.

Weeks after the hurried departure of the director of the Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Paul Scarlett, the long-time director of the Bureau of Development Services, is on his way out as well. For those keeping score at home, that means Eudaly has overseen the departure of the longtime leaders of the only two bureaus she controls.

"I am writing to inform you all that I will be ending my employment with the Bureau of Development Services and the City of Portland, effective this Friday, April 14, 2017," Scarlett wrote in an announcement to BDS staff this morning. "It has been an amazing journey and I have enjoyed working alongside all of you and leading the bureau in my role as the Director for the past nearly 12 years."

In Scarlett's place, Eudaly has tapped Rebecca Esau, the bureau's principal planner and a longtime employee. News of Scarlett's departure was [first reported](#) by the Oregonian.

The move is less anticipated than Eudaly's ouster or former ONI Director Amalia Alarcon de Morris. Since the commissioner took over that bureau, her staff had telegraphed seismic changes were in the works. There wasn't as much talk about changes for BDS, which issues building permits and carries out code enforcement.

In a statement [[PDF](#)] on Scarlett's departure, Eudaly said: "Since I took office in January, it has become clear to me that the bureau will benefit from new leadership."

BDS under Scarlett has seen a host of challenges. Some involved the Great Recession, when building permit applications plummeted and the bureau's staff did as well. Since then, Scarlett concedes, BDS has had difficulty recruiting new employees. And as the Oregonian notes, there have been signs that morale within the bureau is in the basement, and a new digital permitting system the bureau has tried to implement has fallen on its face.

Scarlett worked for the city for nearly three decades. He'll receive a year's salary of \$182,561.60 as part of a severance deal negotiated with the city's Bureau of Human Resources, according to Marshall Runkel, Eudaly's chief of staff.

The departure comes at an interesting time. Mayor Ted Wheeler [has pledged](#) to take all city bureaus back from their respective commissioners when he releases a budget at the outset of this month. Wheeler says he hopes that will help commissioners avoid lobbying for their own bureaus' interests, and hasn't committed to ensuring each commissioner keeps the bureaus they currently have.

But as Runkel notes, it also means Wheeler's going to take on BDS just as the bureau might be gearing up for recruitment. Runkel anticipates a permanent director will be in place in four to six months, and believes Esau will be among candidates for the position.

Daily Journal of Commerce

Scarlett out as BDS director

By Chuck Slothower

April 10, 2017

Paul Scarlett, the director of Portland's Bureau of Development Services since 2005, stepped down Monday under pressure from Commissioner Chloe Eudaly.

Eudaly immediately appointed Rebecca Esau as interim director and announced a search for a permanent director.

In a memo to the bureau's employees, Eudaly praised Scarlett's accomplishments during his 12-year tenure. "Nevertheless, since I took office in January," she stated, "it has become clear to me that the bureau will benefit from new leadership."

Scarlett had worked for the city since 1989, when he served as a planner in the Bureau of Planning. He was promoted to inspection supervisor for the BDS in 2001, and then to inspection manager in February 2005. He was appointed director in July 2005.

Eudaly devoted most of her memo to Esau's credentials and experience. Esau has served as manager of the BDS' Land Use Services Division for the past 14 years. Eudaly praised Esau's leadership style as "collaborative, inclusive, innovative and resourceful."

Eudaly was not available for comment Monday, said her chief of staff, Marshall Runkel.

Eudaly oversees Development Services, the city bureau responsible for processing development applications and issuing building permits. The bureau is working to hire dozens of new employees to deal with a permit backlog. Complaints of low morale have long dogged the department.

Eudaly previously spearheaded the effort to create an ordinance requiring landlords to compensate tenants if they're forced to move after a rent increase of 10 percent or more, or receive a no-cause eviction notice. Landlords sued to strike the ordinance; the case is currently being weighed by a Multnomah County district court judge after summary judgment arguments last week.

The Portland Business Journal

Ted Wheeler: State leadership lacking on carbon cap

By Pete Danko

April 11, 2017

Portland and Multnomah County's path to 100 percent renewable energy — [the two sides announced the goal on Monday](#)— could be eased by a new economy-wide carbon market.

Cap and trade, as it's widely known, is now under consideration in Salem. Environmental groups [support it](#), big business [groups oppose it](#) and the governor [hasn't said much either way](#).

Asked about the debate Monday, Portland Mayor [Ted Wheeler](#) said, "It can be cap and trade or cap and invest, but the bottom line is there hasn't been the kind of leadership in the state of Oregon to create the same carbon emissions standards that we've seen either in Washington (state) or California."

And who does Wheeler look to for that leadership?

In answer to that, the mayor joked that he had to leave. Then he added:

"I look to all of us. The reality is if it's not happening at the state level, it's not happening because we haven't collectively applied enough pressure to make it happen. We haven't moved it up to the top of the priority list."

A leading cap-and-trade proposal, [Senate Bill 557](#), could face a vote in the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources on Wednesday.

City's development director heads for the door

By Jon Bell

April 10, 2017

Citing a need for new leadership in the city's Bureau of Development Services, Portland City Commissioner [Chloe Eudaly](#) has replaced longtime director [Paul Scarlett](#) after 12 years at the helm.

In a statement released today, Eudaly thanked Scarlett for his 28 years of service to the city, 12 of which were spent heading up BDS.

"Nevertheless, since I took office in January, it has become clear to me that the bureau will benefit from new leadership," she said, in the statement.

Eudaly has appointed [Rebecca Esau](#) to serve as interim director and start the search for a permanent replacement. Esau has 16 years of management experience with the city, including 14 years as the manager of the Land Use Services Division of BDS.

BDS, which among other functions issues construction and demolition permits, has come under intense criticism in recent years as the development scene has boomed in Portland. Developers and architects regularly rail against the bureau for how long it can take to have permits issued.

The bureau lost about half of its 300 or so employees during the Great Recession but has since rebuilt its ranks to slightly more than 315 employees. That alone has not been enough to pick up the pace.

[According to the Oregonian](#), BDS under Scarlett has also been dinged for an atmosphere of low morale. [The Oregonian also noted](#) that Scarlett is set to receive one year's salary of \$183,000 after he departs on Friday.

In a [recent interview with the Business Journal](#), Commissioner Eudaly said that, in addition to her focus on affordable housing issues, she wants to streamline the city's permitting process, an effort that may now be under way with Scarlett's departure.

OPB

Portland May Join Seattle's Lawsuit Challenging Trump On Sanctuary Cities

*By Amelia Templeton
April 10, 2017*

Portland's City Council is voting this week on whether to join a lawsuit Seattle has filed over the Trump administration's threat to withhold funding from sanctuary cities.

The president's directive came as part of a January executive order on interior immigration enforcement.

Seattle filed the suit against President Donald Trump and U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions last month.

The city has a policy that says employees are not supposed to ask people about their immigration status. Portland has similar guidelines in place.

In the suit, Seattle has asked a court order to affirm its policy.

The city also asks for the court to declare Seattle is not a "sanctuary jurisdiction," as defined in the president's executive order, and to declare the threat to withhold federal funding violates several sections of the Constitution that protect states' rights.

Portland's City Council will vote Wednesday on whether to join the lawsuit. Portland's attorneys say the executive order could potentially apply to \$29 million in federal grants the city received this year.

Sessions has said cities must comply with a federal law, 8 U.S.C. 1373, which requires them to share information with immigration authorities.

City leaders in Portland and Seattle have said even as sanctuary cities they do comply with that federal law. City leaders also contend the administration is trying to pressure local law enforcement officers to, in effect, participate in immigration enforcement operations.

Trump's executive order on immigration enforcement gives the secretary of homeland security the authority to designate sanctuary jurisdictions and directs federal officials to ensure those jurisdictions are not eligible to receive federal grants, to the extent that is legally possible.

David Lapan, a spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security, said the agency cannot comment on pending litigation.

He said Portland and Seattle have not been officially designated as sanctuary jurisdictions by DHS because the agency has not yet decided on a definition of a "sanctuary jurisdiction."