

## **The Oregonian**

### **Portland's new police chief starts her first day on the job**

*By Maxine Bernstein*

*October 2, 2017*

Portland's new chief of police officially starts Monday morning and will be sworn in during a private ceremony in the chief's office on the 15th floor of the Justice Center.

Chief Danielle Outlaw is expected to spend her first day meeting with Mayor Ted Wheeler, who also serves as police commissioner, Chris Uehara, who recently served as interim chief, the bureau's public information officers and address one or two precinct roll calls.

Outlaw declined requests for interviews in the last month. Instead, she has slated 15-minute interviews with interested media on her second day on the job, Tuesday. A public swearing-in ceremony is expected to be held later this fall, police spokesman Sgt. Chris Burley said.

Outlaw, who celebrated her 42nd birthday last month, is the city's first African American woman to lead the police bureau. She spent the last 19 years at the Oakland Police Department, most recently serving as a deputy chief. She started as a police explorer with Oakland police when she was in high school, attending Holy Names High School.

The mayor introduced Outlaw during a brief press conference in Portland in August after the mayor named her as the city's next chief following a national search. She explained then that she wanted the job because Portland police face many of the same issues as the Oakland department.

Both are grappling with how to improve community relationships, deal with racial disparities in the criminal justice system, handle homeless encampments, effectively manage crowds, hire a more diverse force and adopt police reforms in hotbeds of social and political activism.

"It's very important as an organization that we have to be willing to hear things that we might not want to hear," Danielle Outlaw said. "That's the only way we can improve as a police agency."

Outlaw will take command of a bureau that has struggled with a staffing shortage, problems complying with a federal settlement agreement over excessive use of force against people with mental illness, ongoing controversies about the police handling of large protests and a breakdown in trust with community members.

She has said she expected to spend her first months here trying to learn the culture of the Police Bureau. She's only the third outsider to lead the Portland Police Bureau as chief.

Last month, the City Council approved a 5 percent boost in annual base pay for the new chief and other top brass, including captains, commanders and assistant chiefs, who live in the city.

Outlaw indicated this summer she planned to live in Portland. The five percent will be added to Outlaw's base salary of \$215,000, bringing her annual pay to \$225,750.

Only three other high-ranking police supervisors now live in Portland, according to an Oregonian/OregonLive public records request. They are Cmdr. Bryan Parman, Capt. Mike Krantz and Capt. Todd Wyatt.

# **The Portland Tribune**

## **Council considers conflict, press restrictions**

*By Jim Redden*

*October 1, 2017*

### **Restrictions on press contacts by advisory committee members included in proposed new policies**

Public disclosure and other policies covering volunteers serving on advisory committees will be considered by the City Council on Wednesday.

The proposed policies require such members to declare their potential conflicts of interest, and to identify family members with such potential conflicts, too. The policies also include restrictions on members talking to the press without first going through the city agencies they are advising.

The resolution was introduced by commissioners Nick Fish, Amanda Fritz and Chloe Eudaly. It says, "the City does not have standard policies to ensure effective functioning of advisory bodies, including a comprehensive database of advisory bodies, uniform training for members and staff, and conflict of interest disclosures."

The issue gained traction after accusations of undisclosed conflicts of interest by members of a stakeholder group advisory to the city on possible zoning and other changes in the downtown area a few years ago. The City Ombudsman ruled the members were public officials subject to state laws on disclosing potential conflicts, although the city was not requiring compliance.

The council directed that new policies be developed by the Office of Neighborhood Associations in May 2017. At the time, the council said that although the city has over 100 such committees, there is no central registry of them.

A "Conflict of Interest" form attached to the resolution asks for all potential interests in the topic being discussed by the committee, along with the names of any relatives with such interests or involvement with city government.

One section of "Communications" attached to the resolution says, "While not precluded from communicating with the media, members agree to generally defer to the Bureau liaison to field and route all media communications related to the Body's processes and recommendations." It also says, "Members agree to raise all their concerns, especially those being raised for the first time, at a meeting and not in or through the media."

You can find the proposed resolution and attachments at [www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/26997](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/26997).

You can read a previous Portland Tribune story on the issue at [www.pamplinmedia.com/pt/9-news/373270-257298-conflicts-of-interest-snag-central-city-plan](http://www.pamplinmedia.com/pt/9-news/373270-257298-conflicts-of-interest-snag-central-city-plan).

## **Judge rules Monsanto suits can proceed, with changes**

*By Tony Schick/OPB/Earthfix  
October 1, 2017*

### **Portland and the Port of Portland are suing over PCB's in the city's waterways**

The City of Portland and Port of Portland can proceed with lawsuits against Monsanto, but a judge has dismissed several of the city's claims over chemical contamination of the city's waterways.

Portland is one of eight West Coast cities, including Seattle and Spokane, with pending lawsuits against the agrochemical corporation. The suits focus on lasting contamination from polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs, a now-banned group of chemicals widely used decades ago, often as coolants or lubricants in electrical equipment.

Monsanto has now lost attempts to dismiss such cases in Oregon, Washington and California.

"This is a sign of a continuing trend. If anything this litigation is going to continue to grow and strengthen in its evidence and legal rulings," said John Fiske, outside counsel for the City of Portland and other entities suing Monsanto. "It seems like the more Monsanto fights, the better the cases get."

In a Sept. 22 ruling, District Judge Michael Mosman said the City of Portland does have standing in a nuisance claim against Monsanto and its claim for damages under the Clean Water Act, stating "the City's allegations that it suffered special damage not suffered by the public generally by being required to expend funds to investigate, monitor, analyze, and remediate PCB contamination were sufficient."

OPB is a news partner of the Portland Tribune. You can read the rest of its story at [www.opb.org/news/article/portlands-lawsuit-against-monsanto-proceeds-with-some-claims-dismissed/](http://www.opb.org/news/article/portlands-lawsuit-against-monsanto-proceeds-with-some-claims-dismissed/)

## **Willamette Week**

### **Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler Says Only 200 More Shelter Beds Needed to Keep Campaign Promise on Homelessness**

*By Rachel Monahan  
September 29, 2017*

**With his goal close to being met, he pushes for higher quality shelter and focus on moving people into housing.**

With his goal close to being met, he pushes for higher quality shelter and focus on moving people into housing.

In a memo released today, Mayor Ted Wheeler says he is seeking to add just 200 more beds to area homeless shelters—and instead wants to focus his next efforts on getting people into permanent housing.

The memo, sent to City Council colleagues and Multnomah County officials, is the latest move by Wheeler to gradually pivot away from shelter beds and toward permanent housing as a way to address Portland homelessness.

In his run for mayor, Wheeler pledged to assure that "every person living on Portland's streets has a safe place to sleep." He emphasized shelter beds as the best way to do that.

Multnomah County has about 1,600 shelter beds—and more than 4,000 homeless people.

But starting with an interview in WW this week, Wheeler began staking out the position that 1,800 shelter beds is a good place to stop—in order to dedicate resources instead toward housing that comes with social services.

He solidified that shift today.

"I still think 1,800 is around the right number, and because we are so close, I hope the conversation pivots from the number of beds to the quality of beds," the mayor wrote in the memo to colleagues.

"For example, permanent shelter beds are preferable to temporary shelter beds. Low barrier shelter has advantages over high-barrier shelter. Most importantly, increasing the throughput in our shelters—getting people off the street, into shelter, and into housing—should be prioritized."

The mayor's memo, sent to fellow members of City Council, tallies the current number of shelter beds in Multnomah County at 1,600. The number includes roughly 1,300 publicly-funded, year-round shelter beds, as well as 300 privately-funded beds, according to data from the Joint Office of Homeless Services.

It's a conservative estimate of year-round shelter beds. If he had included shelters receiving temporary funding as well as nontraditional shelters, such as Right to Dream that are not publicly funded through the joint office, the number is above 1,900.

Here's the tally, according to data provided by the Joint Office of Homeless Services:

#### Publicly Supported Year-Round Facility Based

Clark Center (men) 90

Doreen's Place (women) 90

Willamette Resource Center (couples) 120

Hansen Shelter (mixed adult) 200

Do Good Multnomah: Veteran Shelter (men) 30

SOS Women's Shelter (women) 75

SAFES Year Round Women's Shelter (women) 105

Jean's Place (women) 60

Gresham Women's Shelter (women) 90

Kenton Village (women) 14

Family Shelter – East/West Side (families w kids) 125

Family Shelter – Overflow Motel Vouchers 100

Community of Hope (families w kids) 20

Janus Youth (youth) 72

Daybreak (families w kids) 15

DV Shelters, Facility and Scattered Site 90

DV Motel Vouchers 15  
Unity Shelter (motel vouchers, facility site TBD) 30  
Total: 1341

Privately Funded Shelter – Year Round

City Team 58  
Portland Rescue Mission 98  
My Father’s House 110  
Total: 266

Total Year-Round 1607

Temporary Publicly Funded

Columbia 90  
Family Voucher Additional Overflow 100  
Total Temporary 190

Total Non-Traditional Shelter w/o Public Operating

Dignity Village 60  
Right to Dream 90  
Hazelnut Grove 25  
Total 175

Full memo:

MEMO

September 29, 2017

From: Mayor Ted Wheeler

To: Portland City Council Commissioners

Cc: Deborah Kafoury, Marc Jolin

Re: Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Revenue

I want to point you to the article linked here, if you have not seen it already. It was a short interview, but was packed with information about where I see the conversation around housing and homelessness heading in the months ahead. I’d like to take this opportunity to unpack my thoughts with you.

Nearly two years ago, I made a commitment to significantly increase shelter space in Portland. At that time, I was asked what that commitment meant in terms of numbers, and I stated that my belief was that we needed about 1,000 additional shelter beds, or about 1,800 total.

Since that time, the City and County have significantly increased our investments in shelter, to the point that we now have more than 1,600 beds system-wide. Much of that work took place before I was sworn in, and I thank those who put in the hard work to get it done. With some

additional shelter options in the works, I think we are in a good place regarding the number of beds in our community.

I still think 1,800 is around the right number, and because we are so close, I hope the conversation pivots from the number of beds to the quality of beds. For example, permanent shelter beds are preferable to temporary shelter beds. Low barrier shelter has advantages over high-barrier shelter. Most importantly, increasing the throughput in our shelters – getting people off the street, into shelter, and into housing – should be prioritized.

While we continue to focus on the short-term challenges to ensure that shelter is available for those who want and need it, we need to begin planning in earnest for strategies that will lead to sustained success over the long-term.

One proven approach to moving people into housing, while also addressing the challenges we face around chronic homelessness is to invest in supportive housing. Commissioner Fish and Chair Kafoury are working on an ambitious proposal to significantly increase the number of supportive housing units in our community. I am proud to support that work and to help lead it.

A key to sustained success is a sustainable budget. Increasing shelter beds takes money. Making those beds higher-quality requires investments. Homelessness prevention, housing placement, improved addiction and mental health is dependent on dollars. That is why I support new revenue dedicated to homeless services. I do not have a settled preference when it comes to which mechanism we decide upon or where the money is specifically directed, but the need is clear.

One thing that has become clear to me is that we succeed or fail as a team. The City Council, our bureaus, the County, and the Joint Office must all work together to agree upon and implement the strategy. I do not claim all the ideas presented here as my own. Many people championed them before me, and many deserve the credit for the progress we've made.

I look forward to continuing these discussions in the coming weeks and months, and I look forward to continuing the sense of unity and purpose we've adopted to addressing our shared challenges.

## **The Daily Journal of Commerce**

### **City Council set to approve raising allowable heights for key property**

*By Chuck Slothower  
September 29, 2017*

Final approval is expected Wednesday for the city's plan to raise allowable building heights on the sprawling U.S. Postal Service property in Northwest Portland.

The new zoning would raise allowable building heights to 400 feet on the portion of the property north of Northwest Johnson Street, and to 250 feet south of Johnson Street. Both are significant increases from the 75 feet height allowed under current zoning.

The move to raise zoning heights comes as Prosper Portland prepares to guide redevelopment of the site. The Broadway Corridor Framework Plan envisions developing 3.8 million square feet of new space on the 14-acre Postal Service site, with a mix including housing and offices.

The new zoning could accommodate 4,000 jobs and 3,100 residents on the site, according to a city staff report.

City officials see it as an opportunity for dense, urban space, with an average floor area ratio of 6.7-to-1 across the site. If development proceeds along the lines of the Framework Plan, the North Park Blocks would be extended into the site.

City officials are trying to balance development options with maintaining views of the historic Union Station clock tower. ZGF Architects also conducted a shadow study to see how new development would cast shadows across the site.

Construction to maximum densities would impact views of the clock tower, according to the staff report. It recommended limiting these impacts by taking the clock tower's location into account when designing new buildings and the Johnson Street extension.

The City Council did not discuss a motion to pass the zoning Thursday. It proceeded to a final reading scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday.

## **Wheeler: Equity will factor into \$146M project**

*By DJC Staff*

*September 29, 2017*

Supporters of Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs) were told Wednesday by Portland City Council members that whatever happens, high standards for workforce diversity would apply to a major utility-based construction project now rolling into action.

The different sides are still debating an equity plan for city construction projects drafted by Mayor Ted Wheeler, the Community Equity and Inclusion Plan. CBA supporters want the CEIP to closely resemble CBAs, which are considered union-friendly, and others want greater opportunities for minorities who own open-shop firms.

On Wednesday, the council held a procedural hearing related to a \$146 million upgrade of the city's Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant. Heavy work on the project won't begin for about two years, but CBA advocates who testified were assured by council members the project would feature ambitious targets for gender and racial diversity.

"We're concerned the city could be missing an opportunity," said Kelly Haines of the Metropolitan Alliance for Workforce Equity.

Wheeler said Wednesday the sides are "weeks, not months" from agreement on the CEIP. He confirmed the main sticking point has been a threshold of \$25 million stipulating projects use the CEIP.

Also at the hearing, the council voted unanimously to use the construction manager-general contractor alternative contracting method for the wastewater treatment plant project. The method, preferred by many builders for complex and/or risky projects, is also said to help firms meet workforce and subcontracting goals.

The debate over equitable contracting was going on long before Wheeler took office in January, but in April, his office released a draft CEIP that had the support of the National Association of Minority Contractors-Oregon, whose membership includes both union and open-shop firms. But the region's largest construction worker union, the Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council,

along with many other nonprofit groups, opposed several conditions of the CEIP, notably a threshold exempting required use of the CEIP on projects valued over \$25 million.

Built in 1952, the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant today serves 600,000 Portlanders, handling an average of 76 million gallons per day. However, as a result of Portland's ongoing controlled sewer overflows, the plant now sees peaks of up to 450 million gallons in a day following heavy rain.

These wide variations require more biological treatment during a rain and increased resiliency, according to BES program manager Muriel Gueissaz-Teufel. The upgrades have been included in planning documents as far back as the 1990s. Beyond that, she said, regulators have mandated the city complete the project by 2024.

The first deadline is Saturday, when the city is required to notify the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality it's implementing the project.

"The project is really about increasing the quality of treatment at the plant," Gueissaz-Teufel said. "The EPA is asking that as much flow as possible be sent to biological treatment."

The project addresses deferred maintenance needs, upgrades of technical systems and rolls in several long-needed capital projects at the treatment plant. It adds 15,000 square feet of storage space and 5,000 square feet of staff space, as well as add two wet-weather clarifiers and replacement of odor control systems. Wastewater clarifiers are large basins that allow for the separation of sediments.

"(Clarifiers) are low-profile structures that are essentially full of water," Gueissaz-Teufel said.

The existing clarifiers at the treatment plant will remain in place.

Construction costs for the project are budgeted at \$89 million. The overall project budget of \$146 million includes predesign, design, construction and permitting. Funding comes from sewer ratepayers via the Sewer System Operating Fund.

Mike Jordan, director of the Bureau of Environmental Services, said the CM-GC method will help by providing the contractor more flexibility in scheduling, which for this project will feature complex sequencing and maintenance of operations.

"When you're talking about \$90 million you're talking about considerable risk, and anything you can do to minimize risk would be supported by the ratepayer," Jordan said.

Jordan showed the council a picture of equipment at the plant used for biosolids processing jerry-rigged to prevent leaks.

"As you know, big electrical equipment and leaks just don't mix," he said.

Contracts for the project will require frequent reporting by involved parties, to groups including the Portland Utility Board, the Citizens Utility Board and the City Council.

Management help sought for treatment plant work

Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services is looking for program management and other support services as it embarks on major projects at its two wastewater treatment plants.

The Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant treats as many as 76 million gallons per day. Design for improvements is expected to begin next year.

The Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant treats an average of 6.5 million gallons per day. The facility was built in 1964 and expanded in 1976. An improvements program for the plant approved in 2014 includes five projects.

The overall project budget is \$89 million. The program to expand secondary treatment in Portland is mandated by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

The winning bidder will work as an extension of BES staff to assist project managers with completion of the two large projects, according to the request for proposals. The initial contract will run for five years with provisions allowing for a five-year extension.

## **Chinatown/Japantown design guidelines approved**

*By Kent Hohlfield  
September 29, 2017*

New design guidelines for the Chinatown/Japantown Historic District were approved by the Portland City Council on Thursday, via a 4-0 vote.

It was the second reading for the guidelines; they received widespread praise during the first reading on Sept. 15.

“It is quite something that we are adopting guidelines for a district that was created in 1989,” Commissioner Amanda Fritz said. “I am glad we finally got it done. Well done, team.”

City staffers worked for a year and a half to develop the guidelines and were supported by the Historic Landmarks Commission. The rules are geared to help developers understand what is required for projects to meet the commission’s standards.

The new guidelines will not supersede zoning requirements set forth by the city, Commissioner Nick Fish said.

“There is some tension between the views of two of our distinguished commissions as to whether their guidelines complement or somehow supersede those guidelines that are in our zoning map or the (comprehensive) plan to follow,” he said. “With all due respect, I think the ultimate decision will rest with our zoning map and this council.”

There will now be a 28-day appeal period before the guidelines become final.