

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

March 7, 2011

Mayor Bill Bogaard
100 N. Garfield Ave., Room S228
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Bogaard,

Subject: Appointment of Sharon Yonashiro to the Design Commission

Recommendation:

At its February 24, 2011 meeting, the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) voted to nominate Commissioner Sharon Yonashiro to serve as the TAC representative to the Design Commission, effective as of the date of the Council's approval.

Background:

Commissioner Julianna Delgado has served as the TAC representative on the Design Commission since the Council created the position and she was appointed in 2006. As of July 1, 2010, the term of Julianna Delgado to the TAC expired. Although Ms. Delgado expressed her intent to serve until her TAC replacement was named, at its September 9, 2010 meeting the TAC discussed its desire to move to select a new representative to the Design Commission. Due to questions raised about qualifications to serve on the Design Commission, the action was delayed pending a study of amendments to the TAC Rules and Regulations and clarification from the City Attorney on the qualifications required to serve on the Design Commission.

The TAC has reviewed and approved proposed amendments to its Rules and Regulations which would add a requirement that Commissioners designated to serve on the Design Commission must have served on TAC for at least one year. There are no additional requirements to serve as the TAC designee to Design Commission. This and other proposed changes to the TAC Rules and Regulations are being prepared to submit to Council for approval sometime in Spring 2011.

In addition, we have conferred with the City Attorney's office on personal qualifications required to serve as the TAC representative to the Design Commission. On January 27, 2011 Chief Assistant City Attorney Nicholas Rodriguez met with the TAC and discussed the general issue of qualifications for the nominee to the Design Commission by the TAC. First, it should be noted that the qualifications for nomination to the TAC itself, set forth in Pasadena Municipal

Code, Section 2.135.040 indicate that members, "shall have experience and knowledge in the fields of transportation, urban planning and public services." Similarly, the qualifications for Design Commission set forth in Pasadena Municipal Code Section 2.80.040, speak of experience in "one or more of a number of fields, including urban design and transportation planning." By virtue of appointment to TAC, each member may be presumed to have met the qualifications and to have a level of expertise in the required fields sufficient to allow them to serve on the TAC or on the Design Commission. Mr. Rodriguez opined that the TAC, in its nomination, was presenting to the Council, the name of whomever it found well suited and qualified to comment on the transportation planning related elements of the project and that the person nominated was not limited solely to professionals in a more traditional, design-related field.

The TAC has been advised that Commissioner Julianna Delgado plans to resign from TAC as of June 30, 2011. In light of her imminent departure from the Commission, the TAC desires to immediately commence the transition of a new member to the Design Commission while Commissioner Delgado is still available to serve as an advisor/mentor to the new designee.

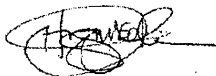
Sharon Yonashiro has agreed to serve as the TAC representative to the Design Commission and her appointment was approved by TAC on February 24, 2011. She does meet the proposed internal TAC requirement of having one year of experience on TAC.

Since Ms. Delgado has been the only TAC representative to the Design Commission since this position was created and she was appointed in 2006, it is imperative that the new appointee be approved by the Council with all due speed so Ms. Yonashiro can have the benefit of guidance from Ms. Delgado before she retires from the TAC.

The TAC wants to recognize and thank Ms. Delgado for her tireless service to the Design Commission and for her many contributions to the operation of that Commission's activities, including serving as its Chair as well as the Chair of TAC.

Thank you for your consideration of this TAC recommendation.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Higginbotham
Chair, Transportation Advisory Commission

Copies:

Michael Beck, City Manager
Fred Dock, Director, DOT
Mark Jomsky, City Clerk
Nick Rodriguez, Chief Assistant City Attorney
Sharon Yonashiro, TAC Vice-chair