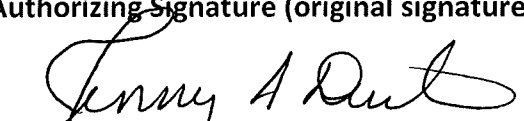




# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> Thomas Byers		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> Board of Park Commissioners		<b>Position Title:</b> Commissioner
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment <i>OR</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		<b>Council Confirmation required?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>	<b>Date Appointed:</b> <del>3/19/2018</del> 3/27/18 ECP	<b>Term of Position: *</b> 4/1/2018 to 3/31/2021
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Madison Park	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98112	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px;"></div>
<b>Background:</b> <p>Tom Byers is founder of the Cedar Rivers Group, an organization that collaborates with non-profits and government agencies to create solutions to some of our communities' most difficult issues.</p> <p>Tom has a background working in the public sector as Deputy Mayor under Mayor Schell; helping to create and implement ballot initiatives that brought much needed funding to Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Public Library and the redevelopment of the Seattle Center. Prior to that Tom had served as Deputy Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation where he helped develop the first comprehensive parks plan in more than 30 years. Throughout his life, Tom has dedicated himself to working for real change through creative partnerships between non-profit organizations and government agencies. The majority of this work takes place in the areas of environmentalism, public health and equity.</p> <p>Tom's activist spirit, creativity and adept ability at problem-solving make him an excellent contributor to the Board of Park Commissioners.</p>		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b> 		<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> Jenny A. Durkan Mayor of Seattle

CITY CLERK

18 MAR 27 PM 2:18


CITY OF SEATTLE  
FILED

Last revised

\*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not appointment date or appointee.  
August 30, 2016

# TOM BYERS

Principal/Partner  
Cedar River Group



[www.cedarrivergroup.com](http://www.cedarrivergroup.com)

## EXPERIENCE

**2002 – Present; 1990-1998**

### **Founding Partner and Principal, Cedar River Group**

The Cedar River Group is a Seattle-based public policy consulting firm that specializes in projects in the public interest. Cedar River Group provides a wide range of services to help public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, foundations and corporations conceive and implement projects. Tom's recent projects at Cedar River Group have included: development of the successful 2008 Parks for All Levy package, which provided \$148 million for Seattle parks; development of a "sustainability plan" for the Seattle Art Museum; preparation of two successful applications for federal stimulus funds for public health measures, totaling \$25 million; creation of *Bands of Green*, a plan for the development of trails, boulevards and linear parks in Seattle for the Seattle Parks Foundation; development of the Office of Port Jobs and the Apprenticeship Opportunities Program for the Port of Seattle; organizing Friends of the Basic Health Plan for the Fremont Public Association; developing a Strategy to Find Common Ground on Farmworker Housing for the Washington Migrant Health Council and the Governor's Office; the Galer Street Bridge Project for Immunex Corporation; the Skagit Farmland Preservation Project for Skagit County; the Working Landscapes Initiative for the Bullitt Foundation and King County; a study of the re-use of the Sand Point Naval Air Station for the Seattle Homeless Coalition, and the creation of a public/philanthropic partnership to provide services for homeless families, for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as more than thirty other projects in the fields of community development, park and open space planning and preservation, health care planning, and human services program development.

**1998-2001**

### **Deputy Mayor, City of Seattle**

As one of two Deputy Mayors, Tom had responsibility for strategic planning, housing, community development, neighborhood programs, land use regulations and permitting, parks and recreation, education, health, human services, human rights, the arts, Seattle Center, and the Seattle Public Library system. In this role he guided development of three successful ballot initiatives which provided nearly \$600 million to rebuild the city's library system, redevelop the Opera House and other buildings at Seattle Center; expand the city's network of community centers; and upgrade and expand the parks system. Tom also had oversight responsibility for the administration's implementation of 37 neighborhood plans, and for the creation of the Office for Housing. He played a leadership role in the development of Project Liftoff and Reinvesting in Youth, two major community initiatives to improve early childhood education, expand out-of-school youth programs, and reduce juvenile incarceration.

**1980-1990**

**Special Assistant to the Mayor, City of Seattle**

Tom served as special assistant to Mayor Charles Royer during three terms. In that capacity he led Mayor Royer's Human Services and Environmental Cabinets and led the development of the City's Human Services Funding Program, which now provides more than \$24 million annually in direct City assistance to community agencies. Tom formed the Mayor's Task Force on the Homeless and oversaw implementation of its recommendations. He led teams prepared the successful Regional Health Facilities Bond measure in 1987, which provided \$100 million for public hospitals and clinics, and the \$90 million Open Space Bond proposal adopted by the voters in 1989. Tom organized the City's Environmental Coordinating Committee, which managed and successfully resolved a series of major environmental issues including Gas Works Park pollution abatement, removal of PCB contamination at the Lake Union Steam Plant, and the preservation of the 90,000 acre Cedar River Watershed.

**1988**

**Deputy Superintendent, Seattle Parks and Recreation Department**

Following the sudden retirement of the Parks Superintendent in 1988, Tom was asked by Mayor Royer to act as interim deputy superintendent to assist in managing the department for an eight month period. In this assignment, Tom initiated the first comprehensive plan for parks and recreation since 1968, negotiated agreements with Burlington Northern Railroad for right-of-way to extend Burke-Gilman Trail, and worked to adapt recreation programs to the needs of poor and single-parent families by creating dawn-to-dusk summer programs and scholarships for low income children in various recreation programs.

**1978-1979**

**Program Coordinator, Mayor's Government Reorganization Project**

Tom successfully carried out reorganization of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, redesigned the delivery of the agency's personal health services offerings, and forged a partnership between the Department, non-profit community health centers the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital, and other medical institutions to improve health care for low-income populations.

**1971-1978**

**Coordinator, Country Doctor Community Health Center**

Tom worked as a member of the team that created a new community health center serving Capitol Hill, and became the first coordinator of the clinic. In that role he secured affiliation agreements with major medical centers to provide backup services to the medically indigent on an ability-to-pay basis. He also led the effort to document the poor health status of the urban poor and worked with Senator Warren Magnuson to create the nation's first major urban National Health Service Corps project and expand the authorization of the Corps to provide health care workers to jails, medical institutions and prisons.

**1970-1971**

**Community Organizer**

Tom came to Seattle to work as a field organizer for the anti-war movement in central Seattle. He also worked as part of a team to establish free food programs and community clinics in low-income

neighborhoods during the Boeing recession. Prior to 1970, he worked to earn money for college as a shopkeeper's helper, mason's tender, house painter, farm worker, sports reporter and teacher's assistant.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Masters Degree in Public Administration**

Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs  
University of Washington (2007)

### **Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government**

John F. Kennedy School of Government  
Harvard University (1989)

### **College of Arts & Sciences Interdisciplinary Studies Program**

University of Washington (1973-75)  
Teaching assistant for course in community health service delivery.

### **College of Architecture, Art and Planning**

Cornell University (1967-70)  
Awarded Dean's Scholarship.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Member, Board of Directors, Friends of the Waterfront (2012-present)

Member, Board of Directors, Office of Port Jobs (2002-Present)

Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Directors, Cross Cultural Health Care Program (2002- present)

Member, Board of Directors, Mercy Housing Northwest (2009-present)

Member, Board of Directors, Downtown Emergency Services Center (2002-2010)

Member and co-chair, Families and Education Levy Oversight Committee (1998-2001)

Founding member, Board of Directors, Committee for the Seattle Commons (1991-1996)

Member, Board of Directors, Public Defenders Association (1990-1996)

Co-Chair, Evergreen Alliance (1992)

National Advisory Committee on the National Health Service Corps (1980-81)

Member, Steering Committee, Seattle Public Health Care Coalition (1971-1981)

Member, Washington State Hospital Commission (1989-1990)

Member, Board of Directors, Puget Sound Health Systems Agency (1978-1985)

Saward Commission on the Future of Public Service Hospitals (1979)

Founding member, Board of Directors, Central Seattle Community Health Centers (1976-78)

# Board of Park Commissioners

9 Members: Pursuant to *Ordinance 123803*, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms:

- 4 City Council-appointed
- 4 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify): Get Engaged

**Roster:**

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
1	M	3	1.	Commissioner	Marlon Herrera	4/1/18	3/31/21	1	Mayor
2	M	5	2.	Commissioner	Evan Hundley	4/1/16	3/31/19	1	City Council
1	F	2	3.	Commissioner	Andréa Akita	4/1/16	3/31/19	1	Mayor
2	M	2	4.	Commissioner	Dennis Cook	4/1/18	3/31/21	2	City Council
6	M	3	5.	Commissioner	Tom Byers	4/1/18	3/31/21	2	Mayor
6	F	5	6.	Commissioner	Jessica Farmer	4/1/18	3/31/21	1	City Council
2	M	3	7.	Commissioner	William Lowe	4/1/18	3/31/21	2	Mayor
6	F	1	8.	Commissioner	Kelly McCaffrey	4/1/16	3/31/19	2	City Council
6	F	4	9.	Commissioner	Rachel Anne Williams	9/1/17	8/31/18	1	Mayor

**SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART**

(1)      (2)      (3)      (4)      (5)      (6)      (7)      (8)      (9)

	Men	Women	Transgender	Unknown	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non- Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	3	1			2	1				1			
Council	2	2				2				2			
Other		1								1			
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>				<b>4</b>			

**Key:**

**\*D** List the corresponding *Diversity Chart* number (1 through 9)

**\*\*G** List *gender*, **M**= Male, **F**= Female, **T**= Transgender, **NB**= Non-Binary **O**= Other **U**= Unknown

**RD** Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A

*Diversity information is self-identified and is voluntary.*