



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Leah Martin</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Housing Levy Oversight Committee</i>		Position Title: <i>Member</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Term of Position: * 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2028 <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Stevens</i>	Zip Code: <i>98112</i>	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <i>Leah is co-founder of Allied8, a Seattle-based architecture, development, and advocacy firm. With over 30 years of experience, she is a dedicated housing policy advocate focused on removing local policy barriers to community-based affordable housing. For the past eight years, Leah has pioneered new homeownership models that help communities at risk of displacement build generational wealth while staying rooted. She and Allied8 designed and developed Corvidae Co-op, Washington's first affordable housing cooperative.</i> <i>Leah serves on the board of Spark Northwest, an environmental justice nonprofit advancing clean energy for low-income communities. She is a regular design critic at the University of Washington and an active member of the Northwest EcoBuilding Guild and the AIA.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): November 21st, 2025		Appointing Signatory: <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

**Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not the appointment date.*

LEAH MARTIN

ARCHITECT, DEVELOPER, ADVOCATE



CONTACT

[REDACTED]

PRACTICE AREAS

Development & Feasibility
Architectural Design & Details
Owner's Representation
Construction Administration

ACCREDITATION

Licensed Architect
Washington State, 2003
AIA Member

EDUCATION

University of Washington,
Master of Architecture, 1998
University of Connecticut,
Bachelor of Arts, 1993

ACTIVITIES

Spark Northwest
VP of Board of Directors
University of Washington
Design studio critic & Lecturer
NW Ecobuilding Guild
Long time member and two time
presenter at annual conference

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Leah is co-founder of Allied8, a Seattle-based architecture, development, and advocacy firm. With over 30 years of experience, she is a dedicated housing policy advocate focused on removing local policy barriers to community-based affordable housing. For the past eight years, Leah has pioneered new homeownership models that help communities at risk of displacement build generational wealth while staying rooted. Leah is actively working with several CBO's, helping them access capital for their housing developments and strategizing a path toward to completion and stability.

EXPERIENCE:

Allied8 Architects, Founder, 2015 - Present, Seattle, WA
Verge Architecture & Design, Founder, 2003 - 2015, Seattle, WA
GGLO, Project Architect, 2000 - 2003, Seattle, WA
Wesselman Pellechia & Assoc., Designer, 1998 - 2000, Seattle, WA
Olson Kundig, Intern, 1995, Seattle, WA
Paul Fiedberg & Partners, Intern, 1993, New York, NY

SELECTED WORKS:

Corvidae Co-op

Leah designed, developed, and was the early investor in Corvidae Co-op, a groundbreaking new affordable housing typology. Corvidae is a demonstration project in the heart of the Rainier Valley that can offer homeownership to populations who see no feasible way to purchase a home in their community. Corvidae has been widely published and won an AIA Honor Award. Completed 2024.

Columbia City Abbey Apartments, Seattle, WA

An adaptive reuse project converting a vacant church structure into 14 apartments and two small retail spaces. Lead Architect/Project Manager. Responsibilities include program development, conceptual design, consultation coordination, agency coordination, construction administration and client care. Columbia City won an AIA Honor Award. Completed 2022 construction.

North South House, Orcas Island, WA

This remote fo of Puyallup engaged Allied8 to rewrite their Downtown Design Guidelines to inspire new development in their downtown core that embodies high-quality design well as a thoughtful consideration of their existing historic building stock. Adoption of the guidelines requires Council Approval. Completed 2023.

Curry DADUs, Seattle, WA

This project is rooted in Allied8's anti-displacement work. We have designed two DADU's in the back yard of a Black Legacy Homeowner's property. Project partners include Resource Equity, WA State Dept of Commerce, and Byrd Barr Place. These DADUs will pay off the reverse mortgage that has become a displacement risk to the family. Expected completion, Autumn 2026.

Housing Levy Oversight Committee

Thirteen Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 126837, all subject to City Council confirmation.

- 6 City Council-appointed
 - Position 8 (City employee): Seven-year term
 - Positions 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13: Three-year terms*
- 7 Mayor-appointed
 - Position 1 (City employee): Seven-year term
 - Position 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7: Three-year terms*

*Positions 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10 had initial two-year terms starting in 2024, but after the expiry of those initial terms, now have three-year terms.

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
9	F	4	1.	Mayor Representative	Cara Kadoshima Vallier	1/1/24	12/31/30	1	Mayor
1	F	4	2.	Member	Yuvika Tolani	1/1/26	12/31/28	1	Mayor
6	F	6	3.	Member	Dan Wise	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Mayor
6	F	3	4.	Member	Leah Martin	1/1/26	12/31/28	1	Mayor
2	F	5	5.	Member	Patience M. Malaba	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Mayor
1	M	3	6.	Member	Joel C. Ing	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Mayor
4	M	N/A	7.	Member	James W. Lovell	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Mayor
6	F	5	8.	Council Representative	Jennifer LaBrecque	1/1/24	12/31/30	1	Council
2	F	2	9.	Member	Febben Fekadu	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Council
9	F	4	10.	Member	Sunaree Marshall	1/1/26	12/31/28	2	Council
2	F	N/A	11.	Member	Andrea Caupain Sanderson	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Council
6	M	N/A	12.	Member	Noah Fay	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Council
1	M	2	13.	Member	Paul H. Park	1/1/24	12/31/26	1	Council

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART

	(1)				(2)		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	Male	Female	Transgender	NB/ O/ U	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non-Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	2	5	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	1
Council	2	4	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
Other													
Total	4	9	0	0	3	3	0	1	0	4	0	0	2

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.