





City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Reappointment

Appointee Name: <i>McCaella Daffern</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Planning Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Member position 1</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		City Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Fill in appointing authority</i>		Term of Position: * <i>4/16/2025</i> to <i>4/15/2028</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Serving remaining term of a vacant position</i>
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Miller Park</i>	Zip Code: <i>98112</i>	Contact Phone No.: 
Background: Ms. Daffern's planning career has spanned the public, private, and nonprofit sectors with an ever-increasing focus on building thriving and equitable communities with 14 years of professional experience providing policy, planning, affordable housing, and community development services. She has expertise in affordable housing and a regional perspective having held positions with organizations that finance, build, or support affordable housing for nearly a decade. This includes work at a statewide nonprofit community development financial institution that provided lending capital and capacity building grants to advance affordable housing and community development in Washington State. Through her current position as the lead staff for the King County Affordable Housing Committee, she has developed an informed perspective on the unprecedented challenge facing Seattle and the region in increasing affordable housing production while ensuring our communities remain livable, healthy, and economically vibrant.		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): <i>5/29/2025</i>		Appointing Signatory: <i>Councilmember Mark Solomon – District 2</i> <i>Land Use Committee Chair</i>

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

Professional Experience

King County Department of Community and Human Services, Seattle, WA

Regional Affordable Housing Implementation Manager

April 2019 – Present

- Serve as lead staff for the Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) of the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), including primary responsibility for the AHC and regional Housing Interjurisdictional Team (HIJT).
- Supervise staff focused on implementation of committee-recommended housing policies and programs throughout jurisdictions in King County.
- Work with Committee members, GMPC members, and relevant staff on drafting policy proposals, research briefings, reports, and legislation to support the work of the AHC.
- Provide technical assistance to local jurisdictions implementing affordable housing policies and/or programs.
- Support AHC and HIJT in the creation and maintenance of a data dashboard, monitoring local progress in implementing affordable housing policies, and the impact of local actions on affordable housing production.
- Research best practices and perform technical analyses on housing and land use policies that promote the AHC's and County's affordable housing objectives and address the root causes of homelessness.

Capitol Hill Housing, Seattle, WA

Sustainability and Planning Manager, Sustainability and Planning

August 2015 – April 2019

- Provided comprehensive technical and professional planning and community development services to achieve equitable and resilient growth and development in the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict.
- Led teams, scoped, managed, and implemented complex and multidimensional policy initiatives and planning, affordable housing, and community development projects that addressed Capitol Hill Housing (CHH) priorities.
- Managed and participated in and interdepartmental special project teams, Steering Committee work groups, community meetings, and neighborhood advisory groups, and represented the organization's perspective.
- Led or assisted in advocacy efforts related to issues significantly affecting the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict or CHH at events, community meetings, public hearings, and meetings with governmental agencies and officials.
- Developed and sustained strong collaborative relationships with elected officials, public-sector entities, nonprofits, major institutions, and other stakeholders, particularly members of underrepresented communities, to advance affordable housing and community programs and initiatives.

Impact Capital, Seattle, WA

Vice President, Community Building and Development

July 2013 – May 2015

- Managed the Capacity Building Program, providing organizations in Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane undertaking affordable housing and economic development projects with technical assistance, resources, and training.
- Supervised, trained, directed work assignments, and evaluated performance of Capacity Building staff.
- Developed new program guidelines for capacity building grant program, reviewed grant proposals, recommend funding awards to board of directors, managed contracts, and evaluated results.
- Led fundraising and loan fund capitalization activities, including grant and investment prospecting, grant writing, contract management, and donor and investor relations.
- Marketed the services and communicated the impact of this community development financial institution through reports, presentations, events, website, social media, media relations, and marketing collateral.
- Served as a member of the senior leadership. Participated in planning, budgeting, and agency management.

New Jersey Community Capital, New Brunswick, NJ

Manager, Resource Development

June 2010 – June 2013

- Supervised team of five individuals.
- Managed resource development activities, including identifying and cultivating relationship with investors and donors, applying for grants, and managing grant contracts.
- Developed a communications strategy and marketing collateral to promote brand identity, improve visibility, and inform stakeholders, including development of new brand, website, annual report, and press releases.
- Assisted in the development and implementation of new, innovative foreclosure and hurricane recovery real estate development programs for this statewide community development financial institution.

- Oversaw advocacy efforts, which included engagement with federal, state, and local governments to promote policies that facilitated community development lending and development activities.
- Coordinated internal capacity building initiatives, including an impact assessment model to inform program strategy and progress towards mission and facilitation, development, and implementation of a strategic plan.
- Managed capacity building and collaborative initiatives with organizations serving low-income communities.
- Developed an impact assessment model to inform program strategy and progress towards mission.

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Teaching Assistant

January 2010 – May 2010

- Managed student-led research project analyzing the impact of foreclosures in Newark, New Jersey.

Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Research Assistant

January 2009 – January 2010

- Analyzed housing affordability indices, evaluated the economic benefit and impact of federal and state historic rehabilitation tax credits, and contributed to published studies on these subjects.

City of Newark, Department of Economic and Housing Development, Newark, NJ

Intern

June 2009 – August 2009

- Surveyed abandoned properties and created database for use in redevelopment planning.
- Organized a public outreach campaign for a neighborhood plan update.

ESM Consulting Engineers, LLC, Federal Way, WA

Planner II

August 2007 – December 2008

- Managed complex real estate development proposals from feasibility to construction.
- Prepared environmental reports, permit applications, and development feasibility studies.
- Performed site planning for master planned communities, residential developments, and industrial sites.
- Analyzed demographics, level of service impacts, development regulations, and legal issues.
- Represented clients in public hearings and other interactions with regulatory agencies.

Whatcom County Planning and Development Services, Bellingham, WA

Planner II

August 2005 – August 2007

- Reviewed permits for compliance with land use and natural resource regulations.
- Provided guidance and technical assistance to the public and staff.
- Worked with staff, property owners, developers, and citizens to resolve development-related issues.
- Represented the County at public hearings and prepared staff reports for the Hearing Examiner and Council.

City of Bellingham Planning and Community Development, Bellingham, WA

Intern

March 2004 – July 2005

- Assisted staff in updating the City's Shoreline Master Program.

Education

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

May 2010

Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy

Master of City and Regional Planning

- President of the Rutgers Association of Policy and Planning Students.
- Awarded the Edward J. Bloustein Planning Fellowship and the Outstanding Student Service Award, a peer-nominated, faculty-selected award for service to the community and school at large.

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

June 2004

Huxley College of the Environment

Bachelor of the Arts in Planning and Environmental Policy, cum laude

- Received the Thomas Henry Huxley Award for scholastic achievement, service, community involvement, and all-around excellence in environmental studies.
- Selected by a faculty committee to deliver student commencement speech.

Seattle Planning Commission

16 Members: Pursuant to SMC 3.6, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 3-year terms (except for position 16 which serves a one-year term and is a Get Engaged member):

- 7 City Council-appointed
- 8 Mayor-appointed
- 1 Other Appointing Authority-appointed (specify): Planning Commission

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	F	3	1.	Member	McCaella Daffern	4/16/25	4/15/28	2	City Council
3	F	3	2.	Member	Dhyana Quintanar Solares	4/16/22	4/15/25	1	Mayor
6	F	6	3.	Member	Rebecca Brunn	4/16/25	4/15/28	1	City Council
2	M	2	4.	Member	Kelabe Tewolde	4/16/22	4/15/25	1	Mayor
2	F	6	5.	Member	Julia Jannon-Shields	4/16/25	4/15/28	1	City Council
6	M	4	6.	Member	Andrew Dannenberg	4/16/23	4/15/26	1	Mayor
9	F	1	7.	Member	P Xiomara (Xio) Alvarez	4/16/23	4/15/26	1	City Council
1	F	5	8.	Member	Radhika Nair	4/16/23	4/15/26	2	Mayor
6	M	1	9.	Member	Matt Hutchins	4/16/23	4/15/26	2	City Council
9	NB	3	10.	Member	Monika Sharma	4/16/23	4/15/26	1	Mayor
6	F	4	11.	Member	Cecelia Black	4/16/24	4/15/27	1	City Council
9	F	5	12.	Member	Rose Lew Tsai-Le Whitson	4/16/24	4/15/27	2	Mayor
6	M	3	13.	Member	Dylan Glosecki	4/16/24	4/15/27	1	City Council
6	M	1	14.	Member	Nick Whipple	4/16/24	4/15/27	1	Mayor
4	M	7	15.	Member	Dylan Stevenson	4/16/24	4/15/27	1	Commission
6	M	6	16.	Get Engaged	Matt Malloy	9/1/24	8/31/25	1	Mayor

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	4	3		1	1	1	1			3			2
Council	3	5				1				5			1
Other								1					
Total	7	8		1	1	2	1	1		8			3

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.