

City of Seattle



**Director
Office of
Sustainability and Environment**

**Confirmation Packet
June 23, 2022**

Jessyn Farrell



June 23, 2022

The Honorable Debora Juarez
President, Seattle City Council
Seattle City Hall, 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Juarez:

It is my pleasure to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my appointment of Jessyn Farrell as Director of the Office of Sustainability & Environment (OSE).

The materials in this packet are divided into two sections:

A. **Jessyn Farrell**

This section contains Ms. Farrell's appointment and oath of office forms, her resume, and the press release announcing her appointment.

B. **Background Check**

This section contains the report on Ms. Farrell's background check.

Since serving as Interim Director, Jessyn has demonstrated herself to be an accessible and approachable leader who proactively engages with environmental experts, advocates, and impacted community members to inform her work. She's brought a unified vision to the office through undertaking a comprehensive assessment of OSE's operations while consulting with experts and affirmatively visiting advisory groups, like the Green New Deal Oversight Board and the Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board. She is prepared to implement a pioneering climate agenda, elevate communities most affected by issues of environmental justice, and help leverage millions in state and federal funds to address the climate crisis.

A long-time environmental advocate, Jessyn's career has spanned the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors as a state legislator from the 46th District in North Seattle, Executive Director of Transportation Choices and most recently as Senior Vice President at Civic Ventures. Jessyn passed ground-breaking legislation on oil-by-rail safety, affordable housing near transit centers, education funding for low-income and homeless youth, protections for pregnant workers, and restrictions to cell-phone use while driving. She also led advocacy efforts resulting in billions of dollars in regional light rail investments. With Jessyn, we have a collaborator who will work to build public consensus on difficult issues related to the environment, housing, transportation, and the economy.

I nominated Ms. Farrell as Interim Director last February. In the time since, my office consulted with stakeholders regarding her performance, including representatives from 350 Seattle, the Transit Riders Union, Community Passageways, the Housing Development Consortium, Seattle Building Trades, MLK Labor, Climate Solutions, Transportation Choices Coalition, the Green New Deal Oversight Board, and several staff members at the Office of Sustainability & Environment. The clear conclusion from stakeholders was that Jessyn is a talented and approachable change agent who maintains a bias toward action and is undaunted in the face of challenge. Review of her action-oriented work since taking the

The Honorable Debora Juarez
Jessyn Farrell Confirmation Letter
June 23, 2022
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helm at OSE and the strong support shown by the affected stakeholders is the process that informed my decision to advance Ms. Farrell for your consideration today.

Jessyn Farrell is a collaborator to her core and centers the marginalized voices who are most inequitably impacted by the effects of climate change. Further, she's attuned to the need that OSE's portfolio should integrate with other departments across the City, from the Office of Housing, to the Department of Transportation, to the Office of Immigrant & Refugee Affairs, to the Department of Construction & Inspections. She is prepared to push the envelope (and the bureaucracy) to advance winning solutions on climate.

I trust that after reviewing Jessyn's application materials, meeting with her, and following the thoughtful review of her credentials and vision through Councilmember Sawant's Sustainability & Renters' Rights Committee, you will find that she is the perfect choice to serve as permanent Director of the Office of Sustainability & Environment.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, Chief Equity Officer Adiam Emery would welcome hearing from you. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce A. Harrell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Bruce A. Harrell
Mayor of Seattle

SECTION

A



City of Seattle

Mayor Bruce Harrell

June 12, 2022

Jessyn Farrell
Seattle, WA
Transmitted via e-mail

Dear Jessyn,

It gives me great pleasure to appoint you to the position of Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment at an annual salary of \$168,000.

Your appointment as Director is subject to City Council confirmation; therefore, you will need to attend the Council's confirmation hearings. Once confirmed by the City Council, you serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

Your contingent offer letter provided employment information related to the terms of your employment, benefits, vacation, holiday and sick leave.

I look forward to working with you in your role as Director and wish you success. We have much work ahead of us, and I am confident that the Office will thrive under your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce A. Harrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce A. Harrell
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Seattle Department of Human Resources file



City of Seattle Department Head Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Jessyn Farrell</i>		
City Department Name: <i>Office of Sustainability and Environment</i>		Position Title: <i>Director</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment <i>OR</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		Council Confirmation required? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Appointing Authority: <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Specify appointing authority</i>		Term of Office: <i>City Council Confirmation to Mayor's Discretion</i>
Legislated Authority: <i>Seattle Municipal Code Section 3.14.960</i>		
Background: <p>Since serving as Interim Director, Jessyn Farrell has demonstrated herself to be an accessible and approachable leader who proactively engages with environmental experts, advocates, and impacted community members to inform her work. She's brought a unified vision to the office through undertaking a comprehensive assessment of OSE's operations while consulting with experts and affirmatively visiting advisory groups, like the Green New Deal Oversight Board and the Sweetened Beverage Tax Community Advisory Board. She is prepared to implement a pioneering climate agenda, elevate communities most affected by issues of environmental justice, and help leverage millions in state and federal funds to address the climate crisis.</p> <p>A long-time environmental advocate, Jessyn's career has spanned the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors as a state legislator from the 46th District in North Seattle, Executive Director of Transportation Choices and most recently as Senior Vice President at Civic Ventures. Jessyn passed ground-breaking legislation on oil-by-rail safety, affordable housing near transit centers, education funding for low-income and homeless youth, protections for pregnant workers, and restrictions to cell-phone use while driving. She also led advocacy efforts resulting in billions of dollars in regional light rail investments. With Jessyn, we have a collaborator who will work to build public consensus on difficult issues related to the environment, housing, transportation, and the economy.</p>		
Date of Appointment: <i>6/23/2022</i>	Authorizing Signature (original signature): <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i>	Appointing Signatory: <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i> <i>Mayor</i>



CITY OF SEATTLE ▪ STATE OF WASHINGTON

OATH OF OFFICE

State of Washington

County of King

I, Jessyn Farrell, swear or affirm that I possess all of the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of The City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment.

Jessyn Farrell

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this ____ day of _____, 2022.

[Seal]

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk



JESSYN FARRELL

PROFILE

Jessyn Farrell, J.D., is a leader in building public consensus on difficult issues related to the environment, housing, transportation, and the economy. With over 20 years of experience in the public, private, philanthropic and non-profit sectors Jessyn emphasizes listening, creative-thinking and data-based decision-making to find solutions that meet community objectives.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dec. 2017-Present: Civic Ventures, Seattle, WA

For a policy incubator, lead policy development on the economy, housing, homelessness, childcare and tax reform. Served as Community Lead for Governor Jay Inslee's Safe Work and Economic Recovery Task Force, which has resulted in a comprehensive set of recommendations related to small business support, worker safety, infrastructure investments and preservation of the social safety net. In this capacity played a key role in the development and launch of the \$30 million WA Recovery Fund to support BIPOC small business. Member of Sound Communities, a multidisciplinary effort to massively scale affordable housing around transit centers. Participated in the Pearl Jam Home Shows "Banding Together to Fight Homelessness" Advisory Committee and provided messaging and policy feedback throughout process. Create original content for a variety of social media channels, including co-host of the Pitchfork Economics Podcast and host of Civic Action Live. Regular contributor to local media outlets including KUOW and Crosscut.

2013-June 2017: WA State Representative, 46th District Seattle, WA

As a legislator, served on the Transportation (Vice Chair), Rules, Environment, and Commerce and Gaming committees. As Transportation Vice Chair participated as member of the negotiating team for the approximately \$6 billion biennial budget, including oversight of WSDOT, DOL and WSP agency budgets. Legislation passed includes measures to: restrict cell phone use while driving; protect pregnant workers; improve the safety of oil transport by rail safety; increase educational enhancements for at-risk, homeless and foster youth by \$500m; invest in bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure; streamline permitting; improve transit agency coordination; and ground-breaking legislation to provide low-income housing near transit stations. Provided constituent services including advocacy, conflict resolution and mediation with government entities, and assistance with navigation of political and agency processes.

2011-2013: Independent Consultant, Seattle, WA

As an independent consultant, emphasized listening, creative thinking and data-based decision-making to find solutions that met client objectives. Services provided included mediation, facilitation, public relations, strategic planning, and fundraising. Past clients include Citizen University, City Club Seattle, and Pierce Transit.

2009- 2011: Pierce Transit, Lakewood, WA

As Strategic Advisor to the CEO (May 2009 to Feb 2011) and Public Relations Officer (Feb 2011 to Sept 2011) and part of the Agency's executive team managed all aspects of media and public relations on sensitive and high-profile issues such as major service reductions, public employee compensation and benefits, labor relations and capital facility projects. Directed all aspects of federal, state and local government relations, secured \$2 million in federal funding and \$1.8 million in state funding, and improved coordination with local and regional partners on transit-related transportation and land-use issues. Assisted in compliance with Title XI and NEPA requirements as well as the successful development of federal, state and regional grant applications. Advised the CEO and mentored employees on public involvement, communications, board engagement, conflict resolution, and staff development.

Directly engaged influential leaders and elected officials to create and develop support for the agency's mission and strategy, resulting in the delivery of more efficient and effective services based on community values such as racial justice, economic equity and transit efficiency. Mediated community conflicts with agency on a variety of issues including bus stop placement, noise and nuisance, use of transit centers, and service delivery.

2005-2008: Transportation Choices Coalition, Seattle, WA

As Executive Director (Oct 2005 - Dec 2008) and Development Director (June 2005 - Oct 2005) transformed a small non-profit into one of Washington's most effective transportation advocacy groups. Built broad coalitions of business, labor, public health and environmental leaders to successfully advocate for common goals resulting in over \$25 billion in new funding for bus and rail transit, trip reduction incentives, and walking and bicycle infrastructure. Led negotiations for environmental community on major decisions such as the SR 520 Bridge replacement, and Sound Transit's successful Phase 2 ballot measure. Developed creative solutions to reach consensus and advance environmental goals. Secured legislative victories on cutting-edge policies including congestion pricing, commute trip reduction, climate change, and transportation planning reform. Developed effective partnerships between various stakeholder groups, grassroots activists and elected officials resulting in the passage of seven local and regional transportation funding measures. Significantly improved organizational internal capacity by creating strong financial systems, cultivating board leadership, and recruiting and retaining a high-quality staff. Developed high-impact fundraising program, with significant increases in foundation, major donor and corporate support of organizations.

2004-2005: Washington Public Interest Research Group, Seattle, WA

As Transportation Advocate, developed WashPIRG's transportation policy program to reduce the health and environmental impacts of automobile emissions. Researched and created policy solutions, and directed related political strategy, grassroots organizing, legislative lobbying, media work, and fundraising. Provided key environmental leadership in the passage of the 2005 Transportation Partnership Act.

1999-2000: The Princeton Review Amherst, MA

As Course Operations Director, directed educational services for over 2,500 students including test preparation, academic tutoring, and college advising. Managed staff of fifty teachers and support personnel. Taught the GRE, LSAT, MCAT, and SAT.

1996-1998: The Youth Tutoring Program, Seattle, WA

As Teacher/Site Coordinator (1997-1998) and AmeriCorps Member (1996-1997), coordinated after-school tutoring center for 80 high-risk students in Seattle Public Housing. Managed and trained 120 volunteers in tutoring activities. Organized community events, and managed media relations, in-kind fundraising, and volunteer recruitment.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, Boston College Law School, 2003 Newton, MA

Bachelor of Arts, University of Washington, 1996 Seattle, WA

Internships

- **Summer 2003: Pickett, Mayares, and Harrington PLLC Boston, MA:** As an associate, assisted with land use and municipal law practice including discovery and drafting client correspondence.
- **Summer 2002: Alternatives for Community and Environment Boston, MA:** As a Legal Intern for environmental justice organization, conducted legal and factual research on land use and zoning law, and assisted attorneys with litigation strategies and community outreach. Assessed the impacts of a major new transportation project in the Boston area on low-income communities and developed an advocacy position.
- **Fall 2002: International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague, Netherlands:** As a Legal Intern for the Office of the Prosecutor, assisted in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes. Drafted indictments, sentencing briefs, and trial motions. Analyzed evidence in preparation for suspect interviews. Engaged in research projects on military and political matters, and on legal issues using case law from a variety of international jurisdictions.
- **Fall 2001: Suffolk Superior Court, Boston, MA:** As a Legal Intern, assisted with research and editing of handbooks for community members on pro se litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

- **Summer 2001: Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, Boston, MA:** As a Legal Intern, analyzed proposed streamlining of the NEPA process for transportation projects. Created environmentally-sound highway design guidelines on low-volume rural roads. Guidelines were subsequently adopted by MassHighway. Drafted memoranda on the Endangered Species Act, and on highway safety, speed, and design.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Current – Community Passageways Board member • Trust for Public Lands, Advisory Board member • Member of Washington State Bar; **Past** – Anti-Defamation League NW, Board member • Puget Sound Regional Council of Governments Transportation Policy Board • Sound Transit Citizens Oversight Panel • Pierce County Planning Commission • Pierce Conservation Voters Board Co-Chair



City of Seattle

Mayor Bruce Harrell



City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Contact Information

Jamie Housen

Phone: 206-798-5002

Email: jamie.housen@seattle.gov

Mayor Bruce Harrell Announces New Leadership at Offices of Sustainability and Environment, Economic Development, and Department of Neighborhoods

New appointments include Jessyn Farrell at OSE, Markham McIntyre at OED, and Greg Wong at DON

Seattle – Today, Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell announced the appointment of three new members of his Cabinet.

Former State Representative Jessyn Farrell will lead the Office of Environment and Sustainability, taking over for Interim Director Michelle Caulfield, who will return to the office as deputy director. Farrell will be tasked with implementing a pioneering climate agenda, elevating communities most impacted by issues of environmental justice, and helping to leverage millions in state and federal funds to address the climate crisis.

“Jessyn Farrell understands Seattle must set the example for the nation as a bold, climate-forward City that leads by partnering with underrepresented communities too often left out,” **said Mayor Harrell.**

“Jessyn will bring the ambitious policy ideas and experience, needed collaborative approach, and vision grounded in a true commitment to environmental justice necessary to make the most of this moment and ensure a healthy Seattle environment today and for future generations.”

Markham McIntyre will serve in the Office of Economic Development, leading the agency with a focus on small business support, workforce development, and equity initiatives – specifically focused on growing contracting opportunities, improving access to capital, and removing barriers to success.

“Ensuring a true pandemic recovery means supercharging our Office of Economic Development, and Markham has the experience, energy, and shared vision needed to make that possible,” **said Mayor Harrell.** “I’ve heard time and again that small and local businesses want an accessible department focused on equity, innovation, and outcomes. Markham is the right leader to make the most of COVID recovery investments and work with Seattle businesses to drive real economic development that benefits our entire community.”

Harrell is appointing Greg Wong to lead the Department of Neighborhoods, tasking the experienced community leader with driving local engagement, coordinating neighborhood strategies citywide, and charting a future direction for a City full of unique, vibrant, and welcoming neighborhoods.

“Greg Wong is exactly the kind of analytical, community-focused leader we need at our Department of Neighborhoods,” **said Mayor Harrell.** “Together, we will redefine what makes a ‘good neighborhood’ – working to ensure every community in Seattle has strong access to affordable housing, good jobs and successful small businesses, great schools, safe streets, robust parks, and a true feeling of inclusivity. Greg’s demonstrated work ethic and values-driven approach, along with his long record of local leadership and community partnership, make him well equipped to lead this work.”

“I want to thank Directors Pamela Banks, Michelle Caulfield, and Andrés Mantilla for their service to our City during exceptionally challenging times – we owe them each a debt of gratitude,” **said Mayor Harrell.** “I’m proud of the Cabinet and leadership team of our administration. We are striving every day to showcase Seattle’s diversity through an array of backgrounds and life experiences, driving better representation for all.”

What People Are Saying

Michelle Caulfield, Interim Director, Office of Sustainability and Environment

"It's been my honor to step up during this time of transition and lead an incredible team dedicated to advancing climate action and environmental justice. I couldn't be more excited to welcome -- and work alongside -
- Jessyn Farrell, whose policy leadership and comprehensive approach to the issues in front of us will drive urgent action, help leverage state and federal funds, and take the Office of Sustainability and Environment to the next level."

Jaebadiah Gardner, Founder, GardnerGlobal

"Seattle's small businesses – especially those owned and operated by Black and Brown and under-considered communities – need attention and support from their local government to succeed and thrive. Markham understands the existing and emerging needs facing small businesses, and how action drives true equity and wealth building. He is well equipped to deliver needed help with consistency, creativity, and urgency and will be a strong advocate and needed voice for women- and minority-owned businesses at the Office of Economic Development."

Marie Kurose, Chief Executive Officer, Workforce Development Council of Seattle-King County

"Markham McIntyre has been a tremendous collaborator with our team at the Workforce Development Council and our network of partners. He exhibits an expansive and inclusive leadership style that will be critical to advancing equitable and innovative economic development strategies that align with the needs of businesses and workers in Seattle and our region. I look forward to continued partnership with Markham to increase access to quality jobs and address deep racial disparities."

Michelle Merriweather, CEO and President, Urban League

"Mayor Harrell is building a power bench within the City of Seattle. Markham's appointment as the Director of Office of Economic Development is no different. I am excited to continue to work with Markham to expand opportunities for small businesses, especially businesses led by people of color. What he brings to the City from the Chamber is invaluable; from the relationships with businesses of all sizes, compassion, and the intentionality to lean in, listen, learn, and support. The Office of Economic Development is in good hands at such an important time in our City."

Erin Okuno, Executive Director, Southeast Seattle Education Coalition

“Greg has a long history and commitment to social justice; it is evident in his work, leadership, and volunteer services. I believe he will harness these relationships and experiences to boost and support Seattle's neighborhoods.”



Interim Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment Jessyn Farrell

Jessyn Farrell, J.D., is a leader in building public consensus on difficult issues related to the environment, housing, transportation, and the economy. A long-time environmental advocate, Jessyn’s career has spanned the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors as a state legislator from the 46th District, Executive Director of Transportation Choices and most recently as Senior Vice President at Civic Ventures. Jessyn passed ground-breaking legislation on oil-by-rail safety, affordable housing near transit centers, education funding for low-income and homeless youth, protections for pregnant workers, and restrictions to cell-phone use while driving. She also led advocacy efforts resulting in billions of dollars in regional light rail investments. Jessyn has three kids, a dog, a cat, and is working on her first book.



Interim Director of the Office of Economic Development Markham McIntyre

Markham McIntyre was born and raised in Seattle on Capitol Hill. Before joining OED, he was the Executive Vice President at the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, where he led economic development, equity partnerships, and regional outreach. Prior to working at the Chamber, Markham worked for then-Congressman Jay Inslee and, before that, he was a farmer in East King County. He’s passionate about Seattle sports, being outdoors, and supporting our local businesses. He lives with his wife, Alexa, and two kids, Grace and Bo, in Madrona, a few miles away from where he grew up.



Interim Director of the Department of Neighborhoods Greg Wong

Greg Wong is a community leader and attorney experienced in addressing a diverse array of complex issues that impact our lives. As a lawyer, his work included preventing gun violence, ensuring investments in our people and public services, creating more just and equitable economic and educational systems, and numerous other issues. A recipient of the Seattle Council PTSA's Golden

Acorn Award and Seattle Public School's Citizen Service Award, Wong has led school levy campaigns, helped establish the City's high-quality, affordable preschool program, and served in executive board roles with several community nonprofits. Before becoming an attorney, he worked locally in homeless and affordable housing services, was an eighth-grade science teacher in the Mississippi Delta, and coordinated a tutoring center for children living in public housing. Born and raised in Seattle, he has a deep love for the City's unique neighborhoods and a deep belief in the people of Seattle's ability to create vibrant, thriving, and safe communities for everyone. Wong lives in Southeast Seattle with his wife and children.

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SECTION

B



City of Seattle

Seattle Department of Human Resources

Kimberly Loving, Interim Director

March 16, 2022

TO: Adam Schaefer, City Budget Office

FROM: Annie Nguyen, Seattle Department of Human Resources

SUBJECT: Background check for Jessyn Farrell

The Seattle Department of Human Resources has received a copy of **Jessyn Farrell** background check provided by Global Screening Solutions. There were no findings that would impact their employment eligibility.

Cc: Personnel File

Seattle Department of Human Resources

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue Suite 5500, PO Box 34028, Seattle, WA 98124-4028
(206) 684-7999 • TTY:7-1-1 Fax: (206) 684-4157 • Employment Website: www.seattle.gov/jobs

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