




City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: <i>Molly Spetalnick</i>		
Board/Commission Name: <i>Seattle Design Commission</i>		Position Title: <i>Urban Designer</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 type="checkbox"/> City Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		Term of Position: * 3/1/2025 to 2/28/2027 <input type="checkbox"/> Serving remaining term of a vacant position
Residential Neighborhood: <i>Brighton/New Holly</i>	Zip Code: <i>98118</i>	Contact Phone No.: [REDACTED]
Background: <i>Molly Spetalnick is an urban designer in the Seattle Offices of ZGF, an architecture and design firm with offices in Seattle, Portland, and 6 other cities in the US and Canada. Molly specializes in urban design outcomes that advance transit and transit-oriented development, mixed use projects, and master planning. Molly's recent work includes site assessments for Sound Transit parcels for future development, public engagement on concept designs for Africatown Achievement center, and design work for the Pike Pine corridor. Molly has a master's in architecture from University of Texas and a bachelor's in interior design from University of Georgia. Molly recently completed an 18-month term as the Get Engaged Commissioner on the Seattle Design Commission. We're pleased to see her transition into an additional two-year term with the Commission, filling a recent vacancy created by the resignation of Erica Bush as Urban Designer.</i>		
Authorizing Signature (original signature):  Date Signed (appointed): May 12 th , 2025		Appointing Signatory: <i>Bruce A. Harrell</i> <i>Mayor of Seattle</i>

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

EDUCATION

[GRADUATED MAY 2019] **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN**, SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Architecture, NAAB professionally accredited program
Focus in Urban Design, Transit Oriented Development

[GRADUATED MAY 2014] **UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**, LAMAR DODD SCHOOL OF ART
BFA in Interior Design, CIDA professionally accredited program
Graduated Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

[MAR 2022-PRESENT] **SEATTLE DESIGN COMMISSION**. URBAN DESIGN COMMISSIONER [SEATTLE, WA]

- Provide comprehensive reviews for capital projects and projects that impact the public Right of Way, are located on City land, or utilize City funds.
- Advise the Mayor, City Council, and City departments about project-specific applications of context, sustainability, inspired design, exemplary partnerships, investments, and equity.
- Provide reviews for light rail alignments, stations, and station access in coordination with matrixed City staff.

[AUG 2019-PRESENT] **ZGF ARCHITECTS**. SENIOR URBAN DESIGNER [SEATTLE, WA]

URBAN DESIGN TOOLS + TECHNOLOGY | PROGRAM LEAD

- Lead the Urban Design Tools + Technology Initiative for Urban Designers in ZGF's 6 offices in order to ensure that urban design and architecture project teams clearly communicate urban spatial data and have the data necessary to help clients and stakeholders make decisions that are informed by realistic mobility scenarios, economic and real estate realities, and demographic context.
- Serve as liaison between Urban Design and Data + Strategy Teams.

LLOYD CENTER REDEVELOPMENT MIXED-USE TOD MASTER PLAN, PORTLAND

- Provided urban design services and development test-fits for 33 acre mixed use sustainable redevelopment of an aging shopping mall in a transit rich environment. Increased community connectivity and opportunities to live, work, play, and entertain.
- Collaborated with developers, potential tenants, and a broad consultant team, including transportation, economic, landscape, community outreach, and PR experts.
- Drove decision making for developer client through 30+ attendee in-person sessions in which options analysis and comparison were communicated clearly via PowerBI.
- Prepared materials to compare multiple master plan alternatives for developers, City of Portland agencies, and potential tenant groups.
- Developed alternatives for streets, open space, parcelization, and development capacity to support Portland's Central City Master Plan process and entitlements.

STATES OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON INTERSTATE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM STATION CONFIGURATIONS & STATION AREA PLANNING

- Provided Urban Design and Station Architecture services for new light rail alignment, stations, shared use path, and station areas to be built in coordination with a new I-5 bridge across the Columbia River from Portland, OR to Vancouver, WA.
- Developed functional configurations for elevated and at-grade light rail stations with a focus on legible vertical circulation, fare paid zones, platform configurations, and context-driven approaches.
- Integrated bike, walk, roll, and bus improvements at station locations, in station areas, and throughout project area alongside street and lane reconfiguration and preliminary design of shared use path.
- Worked for WSDOT and ODOT in coordination with TriMet and C-TRAN to incorporate station standards that will serve multiple agencies and a broad ridership.
- Coordinated with engineering team to compare alternatives for high-capacity transit, interchange improvements, urban design impacts, travel lanes, bridge height, and multi-use connections.

BARKLEY VILLAGE URBAN VILLAGE MASTER PLAN AND SUB AREA PLAN

- Managed internal Urban Design, Architecture, and Sustainability team and external consultant team that included Landscape Architecture, Civil Engineering, MEP, Resilience, Mobility, Environmental, and Parking services for 250 acre Master Plan.
- Developed RFQ for consultant teams and conducted interviews alongside client stakeholders. Developed preliminary scope and fee for full consultant team and fine-tuned with consultant input once selected.
- Lead 30+ person multi-day Visioning Sessions that included interdisciplinary consultant team and client stakeholder group, including CEO, owners, operations and maintenance, construction management, architectural advisors, financial team, marketing, and tenant management.
- Wrote and compiled Sub Area Plan and Development Regulation draft for City of Bellingham with support from full consultant team to clarify development goals, density expectations, jobs to housing ratio expectations, land stewardship intentions, mobility planning, and parking strategies for mixed use development.

CITY OF SEATTLE PIKE PINE STREETScape AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS

- Completed active transportation infrastructure Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Documentation, and Design Services During Construction for a 23 block corridor connecting Seattle's Waterfront to the Capitol Hill neighborhood through Seattle's downtown retail zone.
- Managed and coordinated consultant team of civil, structural, and electrical engineers, signalization, traffic modeling specialists, surveyors, and lighting consultants.
- Planned and supported weekly coordination with SDOT, Office of the Waterfront, King County Metro, and consultant team. Provided materials and subject matter support for meetings with SPU, SCL, Sound Transit, and other stakeholders.
- Hosted stakeholder engagement sessions to guide projects goals and Schematic Design. Prepared presentations for Seattle Design Commission to maintain accountability to stakeholder input and to City requirements.

SOUND TRANSIT 1000 NE 45TH SITE ASSESSMENT

- Completed research, graphic production, code and spatial analysis for a site assessment of a Sound Transit owned parcel in the U-District, including the exploration of different building technologies (mass timber versus concrete and steel) and incentives within the Land Use Code (the Living Building Pilot Program, open space, childcare, and affordable housing bonus options).

SOUND TRANSIT TOD INVENTORY

- Completed test fits for affordable and market rate housing, retail, townhome, and commercial uses for 24 Sound Transit surplus sites which were reported to Sound Transit Board to drive real estate portfolio decisions.
- Provided code and spatial analysis, 3D modeling, units and square footage, and walkshed mapping for presentations and reports to the Sound Transit Board to clarify the relevancy of alternatives to neighborhood context and station areas.
- Coordinated with economic consultants to compare development alternatives for affordable and market rate alternatives.
- Provided GIS mapping and spatial analysis to assess need for grocery, daycare, and other community-serving retail across municipalities served by Sound Transit ST3 expansion to help drive decisions regarding surplus Sound Transit properties.

SOUND TRANSIT STATION EXPERIENCE DESIGN GUIDELINES (SEDG)

- Co-wrote guidelines with multi-departmental Sound Transit leadership and multidisciplinary ZGF team that gained consensus across departments about architectural and urban design approaches for stations and station environments that center a seamless passenger experience.
- Prepared materials for facilitation of meetings with Passenger Experience, Design Engineering and Construction Management, Operations, Planning, Environment, and Project Development, and Portfolio Services teams to ensure that each department's input and concerns were incorporated early in the document's development, which has driven continued implementation and ownership.
- Continued to confirm successful application of SEDG during design process of ST3 projects by gathering lessons learned from design teams and Sound Transit staff, who continue to use persona exercises, decision points review, and checklists at each milestone for new alignments, including West Seattle Link Extension and Ballard Link Extension.

DOWNTOWN SEATTLE ASSOCIATION THIRD AVENUE VISION

- Studied and prepared alternatives for curb management, pedestrian through zones, cafe zones, bus facilities, bus routing, lane allocation, layover alternatives for buses through downtown Seattle in 2019, which remains a tool in the broad tool kit for improving the multifaceted conditions on Third Avenue.

METRO, TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD) STUDY

- Served as Project Manager for a study of 3 affordable housing development alternatives in Lake Oswego, Oregon adjacent to bus and pedestrian improvements.
- Reviewed City of Lake Oswego Land Development Code and developed massing models to assess site capacity.
- Collaborated with Metro, the Portland Housing Bureau, and the City of Lake Oswego to align stakeholder goals for the site and review technical challenges, utilities, parking, and capacity.

AFRICATOWN COMMUNITY LAND TRUST YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

- Provided pre-design visioning, stakeholder engagement, and massing studies for Africatown Community Land Trust's 65,456 SF Youth Achievement Center on two Sound Transit owned sites adjacent to the Columbia City Light Rail Station.
- Engaged community stakeholder groups from Community Passageways, Creative Justice, and the Youth Consortium for co-design process that prioritized voices within the BIPOC community in Columbia City.
- Provided materials to support Office of Housing Funding rounds and private funding rounds for a complex mix of community-facing commercial uses and affordable housing for youth ages 18+. Provided studies for a second building to support youth ages 13-17.

[MAR 2022- AUG 2023] **PUBLIC ART ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** SEATTLE DESIGN COMMISSIONER SEAT. [SEATTLE, WA]

- Reviewed public art programs and projects, Supported the development of art in public places including parks, libraries, community centers, roadways, bridges, and other public venues.

[MAY-DEC 2018] **MITHUN.** ARCHITECTURAL AND URBAN DESIGN RESIDENCY. [SEATTLE, WA]

- Collaborated with an array of interdisciplinary architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, and interior design teams and compiled presentations, 3D models, diagrams, and research.
- Created visualization materials for architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design projects. Materials included GIS mapping for infrastructure projects, landscape architecture materials for mixed use districts and single commercial sites, and architectural materials for mass timber affordable housing, mass timber student housing, and mixed use phased developments.

[AUG 2016 - MAY 2019] **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE.**
CAREER SERVICES ASSOCIATE. [AUSTIN, TX]

- Advised Urban Planning, Urban Design, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Interior Design undergraduate and graduate students, paired students with internships and full time positions, and planned and executed career fairs with over 100 firms, including AIA, ASLA, and APA award winners.

[JULY 2014 - JULY 2015] **MARK WORD DESIGN.** LANDSCAPE DESIGNER. [AUSTIN, TX]

- Designed exterior spaces within collaborative and cross-disciplinary landscape architecture firm.
- Engaged in permitting process and reported implications of land development code on the intersection of public and private spaces.
- Coordinated design and construction within design-build landscape architecture firm and with architects, engineers, & subcontractors

[FEB 2015] **ARTISTREE HOMES.** FREELANCE DRAFTER [CYPRESS VALLEY, TX]

- Drafted permitting set for eco hotel tree houses.

[AUG 2013 - JULY 2014] **BORK DESIGN INC.** ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER. [ATHENS, GA]

- Participated in design of energy efficient homes that addressed local material use, cost, passive heating, and passive cooling.
- Prepared CD sets for contractors, built and rendered 3D models to aid design decisions, and designed interior built-in units. Presented designs in client meetings.

[JAN 2013] **US INSPECT.** FREELANCE SITE SURVEYOR. [ATHENS, GA]

PUBLICATIONS

[2020]

21BB MODEL REGION BERLIN BRANDENBURG

EDITED BY BARBARA HOIDN AND WILFRIED WANG

- Contributed the section “Densifying the Köpenicker Landstraße: Transit Oriented Development as a Strategy to Densify Köpenicker Landstraße”

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

[JAN - MAY 2019]

BARCELONA AND MADRID TRANSIT RESEARCH FOR DANIELLE BRISCOE [SPAIN]

- Alongside the consortium for Cooperative Mobility for Competitive Megaregions (CM2), researched accessibility and user experience for pedestrian transit riders in metro stations throughout Barcelona and Madrid and in high speed rail stations that connect the two cities.

[MAR 2018 - MAY 2019]

RESILIENCE RESEARCH FOR FLOOD AND DROUGHT CONDITIONS [MEXICO CITY, MEXICO]

- Traveled to Mexico City to conduct case study research about landscape, architectural, infrastructural responses to flooding, drought, subsidence, and aging water infrastructure.

[SEPT - DEC 2017]

BERLIN URBAN DESIGN TOD RESEARCH FOR WILFRIED WANG [BERLIN, GERMANY]

- Conducted urban design research for transit oriented densification for 2050 Berlin with focus on an infill strategy for a 13 kilometer transit corridor and six station areas. Demonstrated the ability to accommodate a population increase of 117,500 people along a transit corridor through transit oriented development nodes that respect the fabric of their neighborhoods. This strategy, if applied across multiple transit lines, would help accommodate a population increase of 1.5 million people without sacrificing the character of Berlin’s urban neighborhoods.
- Conducted Space Syntax studies to quantify multimodal connectivity.
- Prepared boards for public opening in Berlin (2019), for the exhibition “urbainable-stadthaltig” at the Academy of Arts, Berlin (2020) and provided comprehensive research to local politicians to clarify opportunities to accommodate population growth.

SELECT VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

[2018-2019]

AIA COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS / BENEFITS LAW CENTER. DESIGNER. [SEATTLE, WA]

- Designed the Justice Bus, a flagship mobile law office that provides social security advocacy for people with disabilities who are low income or experiencing homelessness.

[AUG 2016]

CODENEXT PUBLIC DISCUSSION: MOBILITY. SCRIBE. [AUSTIN, TX]

- Gauged community use of transportation and presented findings of community engagement
- Organized public responses into categories that apply to new land development code

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND LICENSURE

[MAY 2019-PRESENT]

AIA ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

[APRIL-JUNE 2025]

Pursuing **AICP LICENSURE**, Professional Experience completed, to be documented following testing in May 2025.

Seattle Design Commission

The Seattle Design Commission advises the Mayor, City Council, and City departments on the design and environmental implications of City funded projects, projects seeking long-term or permanent use of a right of way, or public projects seeking City approval. The Commission is comprised of 10 members, as established by Seattle Municipal Code Section 3.58. Members serve a two-year term and are eligible for two consecutive terms, except the Get Engaged member who will serve a one-year term pursuant to SMC 3.51. All members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council.
A Chair is also appointed on each year. The Chair is selected by Commissioners for appointment by the Mayor and confirmation by the Council for a one-year term.

New appointments are underlined, reappointments in **bold**.

Roster:

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
6	M	3	1.	Urban Planner	Raymond W. Gastil	3/1/25	2/28/27	1	Mayor
1	F	2	2.	Get Engaged	Caitlin Truong	9/1/24	8/31/25	1	Mayor
6	M	4	3.	Engineer (Civil/Transportation)	Brian Markham	3/1/24	2/28/26	1	Mayor
8	F	3	4.	At-large	Shirin Masoudi	3/1/25	2/28/27	1	Mayor
1	M	3	5.	Architect	Zubin Rao	3/1/24	2/28/26	1	Mayor
6	F	5	6.	Landscape Architect	Phoebe Erin Bogert	3/1/25	2/28/27	2	Mayor
6	M	2	7.	Architect	Ben Gist	3/1/25	2/28/27	2	Mayor
6	NB	2	8.	Urban Designer	Molly Spetalnick	3/1/25	2/28/27	2	Mayor
6	M	6	9.	Transportation Planner	Kevin O'Neill (Chair appointment for 1 year)	3/1/25 3/1/25	2/28/27 2/28/26	2	Mayor
6	F	3	10.	Fine Artist	Kate Clark	3/1/24	2/28/26	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	5	4		1	2					7		1	
Council													
Other													
Total	5	4		1	2					7		1	

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.