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Central City Plan Panel

Margaret Strachan

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CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Margaret D. Strachan, Commissioner
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 1984

CENTRAL CITY PLAN PANEL NOMINATED

Mayor Francis J. Ivancie and Commissioner Margaret D. Strachan today announced the names of 15 citizens who are being appointed to serve on the Citizen Steering Committee for the Central City Plan.

The citizens were chosen from among more than 100 applicants by the Central City Pre-Planning Committee, chaired by Strachan. After reviewing the Committee's nominations, Mayor Ivancie appointed all 15, subject to confirmation by the City Council on Wednesday, December 5.

Appointed as Chair of the CSC, which will oversee and manage the 2½-year planning process, is Portland architect Donald J. Stastny, who was a member of the Pre-Planning Committee. Strachan said she believes Stastny has "the vision and sense of fairness and balance" necessary to guide the multi-faceted planning process.

Appointees are: (bio sketches are attached)

Donald J. Stastny, principal, Stastny Architects, Chair
Thomas Higgins, Publisher, The Business Journal
Marcy Jacobs, Vice-President for Development, Lansing Corp.
Tom Walsh, owner, Walsh Construction Co.
Dennis A. Biasi, graphic designer, Washington Park Zoo
Mary Burki, Housing Director, Burnside Consortium
Cary Jackson, management consultant
Betsy Lindsay, teacher, Portland Art Association
Sheila D. Holden, economic relations, Pacific Power & Light Co.
Edmund P. Jensen, President, U.S. Bancorp
Gary W. Madson, Terminal Manager, Lone Star Industries
William W. Wyatt, Director, Association for Portland Progress
Isabella Chappell, former General Manager, Civic Theater
Sumner Sharpe, professor, Urban Studies, Portland State University
Jessilyn A. White, Director, Friendly House

Strachan said she was pleased with the quality and diversity of the Committee, noting that it would have overall responsibility for development of the Central City Plan. She said the Committee represents a balance of neighborhood, business, social service, cultural affairs, planning/design and "at-large" interests.

(OVER)

Ivancie said he was impressed with the "quality and wide range of people" nominated by the Pre-Planning Committee.

"As you know, this Committee will have a very important job to do -- to prepare a plan for the future of our downtown and the commercial and residential districts which surround it," Ivancie said. "I believe they will do a credible job for the City and will prepare us well for the economic and social challenges of the future."

Strachan, who initiated the Central City Plan idea, said that citizens are the "heart and soul" of the process. "This is one of the most important citizens' committee ever formed by our City government," she said. "Over the next 2½ years, these citizens will conduct a very visible, citizen-dominated planning process."

Stastny, who served on the Pre-Planning Committee, said the CCP "will be as important -- perhaps even more important -- than the Downtown Plan was a decade ago." He said the City's decision to give a citizen committee the overall management authority demonstrates the confidence the City Council has in "the ability of citizens to take a 'hands on' role in shaping their future."

Stastny said the Committee will meet in December to begin the task of organizing the planning process, and that the major public activities will occur in the Spring when the first of three "design events" will take place.

The design events, he said, will allow citizens and professionals alike, to contribute their "visions" of the future. "We want to give the community an opportunity to, as Commissioner Strachan has said, 'dream great dreams' -- and we want to give us, as members of the Steering Committee, an opportunity to turn those dreams into reality."

Stastny said the Steering Committee will form a number of subcommittees which will further involve citizens in the planning process. He said citizens not selected for the Steering Committee would be considered for subcommittees and others interested in participating should contact Commissioner Strachan's office.

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