

South Portland City Council  
***Position Paper of the City Manager***

***Subject:***

**ORDER #172-16/17 – Appointing members to the Affordable Housing Ad-Hoc Committee. Passage requires majority vote.**

***Position:***

In 2016 the ad hoc Affordable Housing Committee completed its work analyzing the economic and regulatory environment affecting the quantity, quality, and affordability of housing in the City of South Portland, and recommended a total of 26 actions and policies for consideration in its final report. The recommendations are policies intended to create a balanced and adequate supply of housing for individuals and households of all incomes and age groups.

The City Council has held multiple workshops, most recently on March 13, 2017, and has expressed general support for these recommendations and provided guidance to Committee members and staff. The Council has asked the Committee to move expediently on certain policy priorities. The Committee is now being given new marching orders to work on implementation of those policies and other recommendations in the report in the months ahead. The Committee will bring items to the Council as they become ready for formal action and will request additional workshops if further guidance is required. The Committee will provide a final report on its progress to the City Council at a regularly scheduled workshop meeting no later than November 30, 2017.

Most of the Committee members have volunteered for reappointment and three other residents have volunteered to fill the seats that had become vacant due to resignations.

***Requested Action:***

Council passage of ORDER #172-16/17

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

## ONLINE COMMITTEE APPLICATION

<b>Date</b>	3/29/2017
<b>Committee</b>	Affordable Housing Committee
<b>Name</b>	Amanda L. Robertshaw
<b>Address</b>	346 Broadway #12
<b>District</b>	2
<b>Email</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Phone</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Employer</b>	Perkins Thompson, P.A.
<b>Occupation</b>	Paralegal
<b>Education</b>	Master's degree
<b>Comments / Interest</b>	I would like to assist in any way to expand affordable housing availability

Bertrand Mizero

14 Red Oak Drive, Apt 1D  
South Portland, ME 04106

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Re:** Membership of the Affordable Housing Committee of the City of South Portland.

**To Whom It May concern**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am very happy to write to you to express my interest to be a member of the Affordable Housing Committee of the City of South Portland. My solid background lead me to believe that I would be a solid candidate.

I am holder of a Master degree in Community Development Studies and a Bachelor degree in Business Administration. For the last six years, I have been involved in community development programs for local communities in relation to ensuring food security in Burundi and Tanzania, East Africa. For the last six months, I have worked with Catholic Charities Maine in case management for their Refugee and Immigration Services. Currently, I am among those who are working for a sustainable integration of new immigrants in Maine through different youth-led initiatives.

During my past work, I have come to recognize the importance of research and evaluation as a tool to help enable reflections and learning, in order to improve what we are attempting to achieve. I believe this aspect could be of potential benefit as a member of the committee.

I understand affordable housing issue as not only a problem for the poor forced to live in homeless shelters but also a problem for the middle class burdened by the exorbitant rents. It is also a major problem for new immigrants who generally don't have any work and rent history in the US and struggle to meet requirements from Landlords.

Given the opportunity, I will contribute to my best, ideas that will enhance the availability, accessibility to all and affordability of rental housing in South Portland.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Bertrand Mizero.

Mary Jo Elliott  
63 Pine St  
South Portland, ME 04106

Joshua Reny  
Assistant City Manager  
25 Cottage Rd  
South Portland, ME 04106

Dear Mr. Reny,

Last spring 2016, I had the opportunity to interact with residents and employees of the city of South Portland as a volunteer analyst for the Affordable housing committee. My time over the spring and summer was spent attending meetings and researching possible opportunities for expanding affordable housing within the community. As a Dean's List economics major at the University of Southern Maine transitioning over to the Muskie School of Business for a Graduate degree in Policy, Planning and Management, last spring's volunteer opportunity provided valuable insight into local government ordinances and Maine state regulation. I truly enjoyed utilizing my understanding of economics into practical use to assist the committee.

The committee was varied demonstrating various strengths while remaining professional. I was impressed with their willingness to assist in the affordable housing crisis within South Portland and our neighboring communities. I am writing to you as I feel my own personal values, education and a renter resident of South Portland may provide continued benefit to the Affordable Housing Committee.

I believe very strongly in personal accountability and integrity and have always made sure to represent myself, my employer and the University of Southern Maine in a professional and ethical manner. I strive to ensure that I am always paying close attention to detail and ensuring that my work and educational ethic is nothing short of my best at all times. Please consider me again as part of the Affordable Housing Committee.

Respectfully,

Mary Jo



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

PATRICIA A. SMITH  
Mayor

SCOTT T. MORELLI  
City Manager

SALLY J. DAGGETT  
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

EMILY F. SCULLY  
City Clerk

**IN CITY COUNCIL**

**ORDER #172-16/17**

District One  
CLAUDE V. Z. MORGAN

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District Two  
PATRICIA A. SMITH

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District Three  
EBEN C. ROSE

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District Four  
LINDA C. COHEN

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District Five  
BRAD FOX

\_\_\_\_\_

At Large  
MAXINE R. BEECHER

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At Large  
SUSAN J. HENDERSON

**ORDERED**, that the following individuals are hereby appointed to the Affordable Housing Ad-Hoc Committee:

Mary Jo Elliott – Member at-large  
Bertrand Mizero – Member at-large  
Amanda Robertshaw – Member at-large  
Tiffanie Bentley – Member at-large  
Mike Hulsey – Representing a Public Housing Authority  
Isaac Misiuk – Representing the Planning Board  
Michael Duvernay – Representing a Landlords Association  
Richard Berman – Representing Affordable Housing Developers  
Tex Haeuser – Staff Member  
Joshua Reny – Staff Member

Dated: April 19, 2017