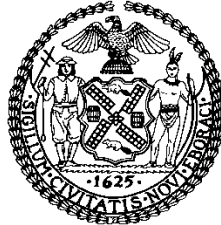


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THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK



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COMMITTEE REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON RULES, PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS
Hon. Brad Lander, Chairperson

July 22, 2014

Council Chambers at City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Topic: *New York City Planning Commission – (Candidates nominated by the Mayor for appointment, upon the advice and consent of the Council)*

- **CHERYL COHEN EFFRON [M - 80]**
- **BOME E JUNG [M - 81]**
- **LARISA ORTIZ [M - 83]**

In a letter dated June 23, 2014, Mayor Bill de Blasio formally submitted the names of Cheryl Cohen Efron, Bomee Jung, and Larisa Ortiz to the Council of the City of New York, for its advice and consent, regarding their appointment to the City Planning Commission ("CPC").

Pursuant to the *New York City Charter* ("Charter") §192, there shall be a thirteen-member City Planning Commission, with seven appointments made by the Mayor

(including the Chair), one by the Public Advocate, and one by each Borough President.

[*Charter* §192(a)] All members, except the Chair, are subject to the advice and consent of the Council. [*Charter* §192(a)] Further, the *Charter* states that members are to be chosen for their independence, integrity, and civic commitment. [*Charter* §192(a)]

The *Charter* provides that CPC members shall serve for staggered five-year terms, except for the Chair, who as Director of the Department of City Planning (*Charter* §191), serves at the pleasure of the Mayor. [*Charter* §192(a)] For purposes of Chapter 68 of the *Charter* (Conflicts of Interest), CPC members, other than the Chair, shall not be considered regular employees of the City. [*Charter* §192(b)] There is no limitation on the number of terms a CPC member may serve. [*Charter* §192(a)] CPC members are prohibited from holding any other City office while they serve on the CPC. [*Charter* §192(b)] The Chair receives an annual salary of \$205,180. The CPC member designated to serve as the Vice-Chair receives an annual salary of \$62,271. The other CPC members receive an annual salary of \$54,150.

CPC is responsible for the following:

- CPC must engage in planning focused on the City's orderly growth, improvement, and future development, which includes consideration of appropriate resources for housing, business, industry, recreation, and culture. [*Charter* §192(d)];
- CPC assists the Mayor and other officials in developing the ten-year capital strategy, the four-year capital program, as well as the annual *Statement of Needs*. [*Charter* §192(f)];
- CPC oversees and coordinates environmental reviews under the *City Environmental Quality Review* ("CEQR"), as mandated by state law (*Environmental Conservation Law* – Article 8). [*Charter* §192(e)];
- Every four years, the CPC must prepare and file with the Mayor, Council, Public Advocate, Borough Presidents and Community Boards, a zoning and planning report containing CPC's Planning Policy, and in light of this policy, provide a proposal for implementing the policy, along with any associated recommended amendments, if any, to the Zoning Resolution. The report must also include the plans and studies CPC undertook or completed in the previous four years. [*Charter* §192(f)]; and
- CPC must review, and either approve or deny, any City proposal involving the City's request to make acquisitions for office space and any requests for existing buildings for office use. [*Charter* §195]

CPC is also responsible for promulgating various rules, some of which consists of the following:

- It is CPC's responsibility to establish minimum standards for certifying the *Uniform Land Use and Review Procedure* ("ULURP") applications, which includes providing specific time periods for pre-certification review. [Charter §197-c (i)];
- The criteria associated with the selection of sites for capital projects is also established by CPC. [Charter §218 (a)];
- CPC establishes the minimum standards for the form and content of plans for the development of the City and boroughs. [Charter §197-a (b)]; and
- CPC also adopts rules that either list major concessions or establishes a procedure for determining whether a concession is defined as a *major concession*, as it relates to the act of City Agencies granting concessions. [Charter §374 (b)].

Cheryl Cohen Efron, Bomee Jung and Larisa Ortiz are all scheduled to appear before the Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections on Tuesday, July 22, 2014. If appointed to the CPC, Cheryl Cohen Efron, a resident of Manhattan, will succeed Maria Del Toro and become eligible to serve the remainder of her five-year term, expiring on June 30, 2019; Bomee Jung, a resident of Brooklyn, will succeed Betty Y. Chen and become eligible to serve the remainder of her five-year term, expiring on June 30, 2018; and Larisa Ortiz, a resident of Queens, will succeed Angela Battaglia and become eligible to serve the remainder of her five-year term, expiring on June 30, 2017.

Copies of the following for each candidate are annexed to this briefing paper: the candidate's résumés, questions with the candidate's associated answers concerning this proposed appointment to the CPC, as well as the related message.

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