

Metro Central Community Enhancement Grants 2022-2024 recruitment Environmental Committee Seat

Name

Shayna Snyder

Organization or business name

Portland State University

Please describe your connection to the communities in the grant area boundary, or your interest in serving those communities.

I live within the grant boundary area. I specifically moved to this area out of a love for the land and nature found here. I have lived in Portland on and off since 1999, and continuously since 2008, and this part of the city has always been held my heart. I grew up in a home of environmentalists and my mother, Gail Snyder, was the ED of Friends of Forest Park and was instrumental in the transition of that organization into the Forest Part Conservancy.

Members of the Metro Central Enhancement Committee contribute a wide variety of complementary skills and experiences. Please describe any relevant knowledge, professional and/or lived experience that you would bring to the committee, including knowledge and experience about environmental justice or protecting the environmental quality of communities.

I am a volunteer crew leader with Friends of Trees and spend many weekends working to help build tree canopy and improve environmental wellbeing in Portland. I do not have science or forestry background, but I do bring a care, concern, and love of this land. I have also learned from my mother's work that environmental work is done best and most effectively when respect and a true desire to listen to all parties is implemented. Demonizing people who appear to be "on the other side" is not a useful approach, and we often have more shared goals than not.

Please explain how you keep informed and aware of the community's diverse needs and priorities.

I believe that nearly all work is based on relationships and I am good at building trusting and caring relationships. If I were chosen to serve in this capacity, I would work to learn more from those already serving as well as the community.

Cont. on next page...

Summarize any relevant experience in working or collaborating with people whose background is different than yours.

I am an advisor at Portland State University and I am experienced at leading collaborative work in groups with many different stakeholders. In my role, I am detail oriented and skilled at working with diverse groups with sometimes competing interests. Advocacy is central to my work, and I believe I could bring this to the committee.

The committee evaluates grant proposals on the project's and/or organization's efforts to advance racial equity, including serving and representing underserved communities. What knowledge and experience do you bring to help Metro allocate grant dollars that will address racial equity in the grant area boundary?

I am actively involved in anti-racism work at PSU. I am experienced in the work of slowing down, understanding the organizational aspects of white supremacy culture and how they impact work, and the need to use an equity lens with all decisions.

Do you now have or anticipate any conflicts of interest that might require you to excuse yourself from the review of any potential project? Please explain. For example, do you or a family member work for or serve on the board of an organization that might seek a grant from this program? Are you a consultant or employed by an organization that might be interested in submitting a proposal for the type of work that this program funds? This does not disqualify you from applying for the committee, but you will not be allowed to review any projects that you have a conflict with.

I do not know of any conflicts.