



Office of the Mayor

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 11, 2023

To: Honorable Members of the City Council
 From: Mayor Jesse Arreguín
 Subject: Berkeley Housing Authority Board of Commissioners Re-Appointments

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution re-appointing Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez, Max Levine and Ali Kashani to the Berkeley Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

BACKGROUND

On May 22, 2007, the Berkeley City Council established a Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) Board of Commissioners. State law mandates BHA commissioners, including successors be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council. State law also states that the length of a commissioner's term shall be four years and can be reappointed.

Currently, there are three members of the BHA Board that have either terms that have expired or will be expiring soon. Specifically, they are:

Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez – Expired January 2023

Ms. Thomas-Rodriguez serves as a tenant commissioner on the BHA board and was first appointed in January 2021 (Resolution No. 69,672-N.S.). Among other leadership qualities, Ms. Thomas Rodriguez brings her extensive experience as a community leader to assist BHA in improving tenant outreach and customer service. Ms. Thomas-Rodriguez is also a commissioner on the Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission.

Max Levine – Expired April 2023

Mr. Levine is the current vice-chair of the BHA board and was first appointed in April 2019 (Resolution No. 68,846-N.S.). Mr. Levine brings his valuable experience as a Section 8 landlord in Oakland to assist BHA in improving landlord outreach and customer service.

Ali Kashani – Expires in December 2023

Mr. Kashani was first appointed to the BHA board in December 2019 (Resolution No. 69,206, N.S.). Mr. Kashani brings significant expertise in affordable housing development to assist BHA in policy matters and in the development of the Housing Authority's nonprofit arm, Affordable Housing Berkeley, Inc.

All three commissioners have expressed verbally their request to serve another term.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Not applicable.

CONTACT PERSON

Mayor Jesse Arreguín 510-981-7100

Attachments:

- 1: Resolution
2. Resolution 69,672-N.S.
3. Resolution 68,846-N.S.
4. Resolution 69,206-N.S.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF ALEXANDRIA THOMAS-RODRIGUEZ, MAX LEVINE AND ALI KASHANI TO THE BERKLEY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Berkeley, as the governing body of the City of Berkeley, declared itself to the Commissioners of the Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) and appointed two tenant Commissioners pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34290; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2007 the Mayor appointed and the City Council by a majority vote confirmed the appointment of 5 Commissioners and 2 tenant Commissioners to the BHA Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34270; and

WHEREAS, there are currently three commissioners – Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez, Max Levine and Ali Kashani, whose terms have either expired or will be expiring soon; and

WHEREAS, all three commissioners have expressed verbally their request to serve another term.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that Max Levine and Ali Kashani are re-appointed to serve as a Commissioner of the Berkeley Housing Authority Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez is re-appointed to serve as a tenant Commissioner on the Berkeley Housing Authority Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it supports the Mayor's determination regarding the qualifications of Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez, Max Levine and Ali Kashani and hereby confirms the Mayor's reappointment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34272(a), Max Levine and Ali Kashani are appointed to serve a four-year term; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34272(a), Alexandria-Rodriguez is appointed to serve as a tenant Commissioner for a two-year term.

RESOLUTION NO. 69,672-N.S.

APPOINTING ALEXANDRIA THOMAS-RODRIGUEZ AS A TENANT COMMISSIONER
ON THE BERKELEY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Berkeley, as the governing body of the City of Berkeley, declared itself to the Commissioners of the Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) and appointed two tenant Commissioners pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34290; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2007 the Mayor appointed and the City Council by a majority vote confirmed the appointment of 5 Commissioners and 2 tenant Commissioners to the BHA Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34270; and

WHEREAS, there is currently one vacant tenant Commissioner seat that needs to be filled; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez has been involved with the Berkeley Housing Authority for the past three years, serving on the Resident Advisory Board, where she works on reviewing, editing and brainstorming ideas with the Operations Manager and other Section 8 participants on the Administrative Plan; and

WHEREAS, Thomas-Rodriguez currently works as a Tenant Counselor and Hotline Administrator for Tenants Together where she is on the front lines of handling tenant issues, taking in and prioritizing calls amid the COVID-19 pandemic that has led to a surge in tenants seeking advice. She also recently joined Berkeley Mutual Aid as a Case Manager, providing resources to Berkeley citizens for mental health, housing, food and essential items; and

WHEREAS, As a Section 8 tenant and through her work experience, Thomas-Rodriguez has gained the knowledge and experience to handle the work of the BHA Board, bringing compassion and fairness for tenants and landlords.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez is appointed to serve as a tenant Commissioner on the Berkeley Housing Authority Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that it supports the Mayor's determination regarding the qualifications of Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez and hereby confirms the Mayor's appointment; and


BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34272(a), Alexandria Thomas-Rodriguez is appointed to serve as a tenant Commissioner for a two-year term.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on December 15, 2020 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Droste, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Taplin, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest: 

Mark Numainville, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 68,846–N.S.

APPOINTMENT OF MAX LEVINE TO THE BERKELEY HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Berkeley, as the governing body of the City of Berkeley, declared itself to the Commissioners of the Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) and appointed two tenant Commissioners pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34290; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2007 the Mayor appointed and the City Council by a majority vote confirmed the appointment of 5 Commissioners and 2 tenant Commissioners to the BHA Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34270; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2016, the Berkeley City Council confirmed the Mayor's nomination of Damion McNeil to a four-year term on the Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, in late 2018, Mr. McNeil resigned from the BHA Board and there are currently three vacancies on the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has nominated Max Levine, a Berkeley resident, PTA leader, property owner in the East Bay, with a background in finance and private equity investment.

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Berkeley is an office filled by election of the people of Berkeley.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that Max Levine is appointed to serve as Commissioner of the Berkeley Housing Authority Board.

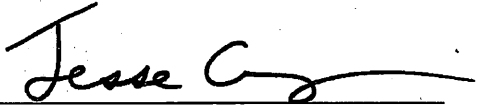
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34272(a), Mr. Levine be appointed to serve a four-year term.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on April 30, 2019 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Davila, Droste, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest: 

Mark Numainville, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 69,206-N.S.

APPOINTMENT OF ALI KASHANI TO THE
BERKELEY HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Berkeley, as the governing body of the City of Berkeley, declared itself to the Commissioners of the Berkeley Housing Authority (BHA) and appointed two tenant Commissioners pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34290; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2007 the Mayor appointed and the City Council by a majority vote confirmed the appointment of 5 Commissioners and 2 tenant Commissioners to the BHA Board pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34270; and

WHEREAS, there are currently two vacancies on the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has nominated Ali Kashani, a Berkeley resident, who has over 35 years of experience in real estate acquisition, zoning/planning, and financial analysis for affordable and market-rate housing in the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, Kashani has served as the founding Executive Director of Affordable Housing Associates (now SAHA) from 1993-2004, and has held board positions at Resources for Community Development, Bay Area Community Services, East Bay Housing Organizations, and Livable Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Berkeley is an office filled by election of the people of Berkeley.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that Ali Kashani is appointed to serve as Commissioner of the Berkeley Housing Authority Board.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor of the City of Berkeley that, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 34272(a), Mr. Kashani be appointed to serve a four-year term.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on December 10, 2019 by the following vote:

Ayes: Bartlett, Davila, Droste, Hahn, Harrison, Kesarwani, Robinson, Wengraf, and Arreguin.

Noes: None.

Absent: None.



Jesse Arreguin, Mayor

Attest: 

Mark Numainville, City Clerk

