



May 30, 2017

Mr. Glen Morgan  
[glenmorgan89@gmail.com](mailto:glenmorgan89@gmail.com)

Re: Ethics Complaint

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The City received the Ethics Complaint that you filed against Council Member De'Sean Quinn on May 8, 2017. When the complaint was received, the City promptly contacted the Chairpersons for the City's five commissions (the Arts Commission, the Civil Service Commission, the Equity and Diversity Commission, the Park Commission and the Planning Commission) in order to convene a meeting of the Board of Ethics. Per our process, either the Chair of the respective commissions or their designee can serve on the Board of Ethics.

The Board of Ethics was comprised of the following members:

Trisha Gilmore, Arts Commission Chair  
Bruce Paquette, Civil Service Commission Chair  
Miguel Maestas, Planning Commission Chair (recused himself)  
Aaron Draganov, Equity and Social Justice Vice Chair  
Michael Martin, Michael Martin, Parks Commission Chair (excused)

The Board of Ethics met on May 23, 2017. At the meeting, the Board members received a copy of Tukwila Municipal Code (TMC) Chapter 2.97, Code of Ethics for Elected Officials, and a copy of the complaint. I reviewed TMC 2.97.050 with the members and asked if anyone felt they had a conflict of interest and could not make an objective determination about the complaint before them. I also let them know that if at anytime during the process they felt they could not make an objective determination to let me know and we would adjourn the meeting and request a different representative from that Commission. At that time, Mr. Maestas recused himself and left the meeting. The remaining board members reviewed and discussed the complaint and TMC 2.97. After discussion, the Board unanimously determined that the complaint did not constitute a violation of TMC 2.97.030 because any potential violation was minor and that further proceedings on this complaint were unwarranted. A copy of the written findings is enclosed for your records.

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Based on the findings issued by the Board of Ethics and pursuant to TMC 2.97.050 the City considers this matter resolved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel B. Turpin".

Rachel B. Turpin, City Attorney

RBT/mlm  
Enclosure  
cc: City of Tukwila Board of Ethics



## *Tukwila Boards & Commissions – Board of Ethics*

### FINDINGS OF SUFFICIENCY

**Re: Glen Morgan Ethics Complaint against Council Member De'Sean Quinn**

On May 8, 2017, the City of Tukwila received an Ethics Complaint filed by Glen Morgan against Council Member De'Sean Quinn. On May 24, 2017, the Board of Ethics was convened pursuant to TMC 2.97.050 to review the complaint and issue Findings of Sufficiency. In his complaint, Mr. Morgan alleged that Council Member Quinn violated TMC 2.97.030 Sections 1 and/or 2 on September 6, 2016, when he voted to approve a consent agenda that included a contract with the nonprofit organization Forterra for \$76,725 for site work Forterra completed at the Duwamish Hill Preserve, funded by a King County Heritage Cultural Facilities Grant received by the City in April 2016. After consideration of the complaint and the evidence in the record, the following shall constitute the findings and decision of the board on this matter.

### **FINDINGS**

1. Council Member De'Sean Quinn is an unpaid board member of the nonprofit organization Forterra.
2. On September 6, 2016, Council Member Quinn voted to approve a consent agenda that included a contract with Forterra for \$76,725 for site work Forterra completed at the Duwamish Hill Preserve, funded by a King County Heritage Cultural Facilities Grant received by the City in April 2016.
3. Prior to its approval at the September 6, 2016, the agreement with Forterra was heard in the Community Affairs and Parks Committee (CAP), which Council Member Quinn chairs. CAP placed the contract on the consent agenda for the September 6, 2016 City Council.
4. Council Member Quinn did not disclose and note his Forterra membership when it was considered at the CAP meeting or before it was voted on at the September 6, 2016 City Council meeting.

### **CONCLUSION**

While it may have been better for appearances if Council Member Quinn had disclosed his Forterra board membership prior to voting on the agreement, his failure to do so was not material violation of the City's Code of Ethics, as Council Member Quinn lacked a personal beneficial interest in the contract. As such, any potential violation was minor and no further proceedings on the complaint are warranted.

### **DECISION**

The complaint filed by Mr. Morgan is deemed insufficient pursuant to TMC 2.97.050(C)(2).

DATED this 24th day of May, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Draganov", written over a horizontal line.

Aaron Draganov, Chair  
Board of Ethics