



Mayor of Providence

Jorge O. Elorza

January 28, 2015

Honorable Members  
Providence City Council  
City Hall

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Sections 302(b) and 1013 of the Providence Home Rule Charter of 1980, as amended and Public Law, Chapter 45-50, Sections 1 through 31 passed in 1987, I am this day appointing Heather Tow-Yick of 36 Fosdyke Street, Providence, RI 02906, as a human services category member of the City Plan Commission for a term to end January 31, 2016, and respectfully submits the same for your approval. Ms. Tow-Yick fills a vacant position on the Commission, formerly held by Ina Anderson.

Sincerely,

Jorge O. Elorza  
Mayor

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 19 2015

READ  
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT  
THE SAME BE RECEIVED AND APPROVED  
  
CLERK

**HEATHER P. TOW-YICK**

36 Fosdyke Street, Providence, RI 02906 • 401-556-3556  
[heatherty@gmail.com](mailto:heatherty@gmail.com) • [linkedin.com/in/htowyick](https://www.linkedin.com/in/htowyick) • Twitter: @htowyick

**EXPERIENCE**

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**TEACH FOR AMERICA**

Providence, RI

Teach For America recruits, selects, trains, certifies and supports leaders to teach in low-income communities for at least two years.

***Founding Executive Director, Rhode Island***

2010-present

- Lead vision setting, strategy, branding and financial sustainability efforts in partnership with advisory Board, external partners, team and other stakeholders
- Oversee budget of \$2.2M and generate local funding to support operating budget and 35% of reserves
- Manage a team of eight staff members, 60 first and second-year teachers and 150 alumni living and working in Rhode Island
- Partner with Rhode Island College, Providence Public Schools, Rhode Island Department of Education, and Independent and Rhode Island Mayoral Academy Charter Schools to certify and support new teachers
- Advocate on behalf of Teach For America with elected officials at all levels, the media, community leaders and union leaders

***Managing Director, Human Assets, New York***

2008-2010

- Worked directly with Vice Presidents and Executive Directors to achieve people priorities leading to Teach For America being named on *Fortune's Top 100 Best Companies to Work For* in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014
- Managed the team operations and data analysis in support of five managing directors working with 34 regions across the country

**THE BRIDGESPAN GROUP**

New York, NY

Founded in 2000 by Bain & Co. to bring leading strategies and tools to help nonprofit organizations and philanthropists address society's most important challenges and break cycles of intergenerational poverty.

***Consultant***

2007-2008

- Developed business plans with supporting analysis for nonprofits with over \$50M in revenue
- Led clients through organizational and structural change decisions, and innovation processes
- Projected funding needs and worked with clients on strategies for financial sustainability

**AMAZON.COM**

New Castle, DE

***Pathways Operations Intern***

Summer 2006

- Developed cross-training strategy and decision-making process for 500 fulfillment center managers and employees to boost morale and reduce safety incidents and presented findings to Senior Vice President of Operations
- Designed management tool for cross-training and job rotation recommendations that served as a model for the fulfillment center network and internal software functionalities

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

New York, NY

Government agency under the Mayor of New York City with an operating budget of \$15B serving 1.1 million children.

***Special Assistant to the Chancellor***

2003-2005

- Managed Panel For Educational Policy and support staff in support of Children First school reform plan to create great schools for all children
- Garnered a consensus vote by the Panel For Educational Policy to pass a fifth grade promotion policy

- Analyzed student promotion rates and policies for third graders across the country to implement a third grade promotion policy affecting approximately 63,000 third graders in New York City
- Advised Chancellor Joel I. Klein on resolution of constituent issues

**TEACH FOR AMERICA**

New York, NY

*Senior Program Director (promoted from Program Director, August 2002)*

2000-2003

- Managed four new program directors to implement a strategic plan for teacher training
- Created the first alternative certification program for 200 teachers to earn subsidized masters' degrees
- Managed seven staff members at school site to train teachers in the Bronx for the pre-service training

**COMMUNITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 145**

Bronx, NY

*English and United States History Teacher*

1998-2000

- 59 of 60 students passed 8<sup>th</sup> Grade State English Language Arts Test. 30 out of 60 students started below 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**EDUCATION**

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**MIT SLOAN SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT**

Cambridge, MA

*Master of Arts, Business Administration*

2005-2007

- Executive Officer: Sloan Senate
- Teaching Assistant: Communication for Managers
- Co-Founder: Global Sales Club, Global Sales Development Series and Sports Analytics Conference
- Recipient: 2005 Diversity Scholarship & 2007 MIT Sloan Achievement Award

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TEACHERS COLLEGE**

New York, NY

*Master of Arts, English Education*

2000-2001

- Completed master's degree while working full-time at Teach For America

**BROWN UNIVERSITY**

Providence, RI

*Bachelor of Arts, Honors American Civilization and English & American Literature*

1994-1998

- Brown University Sailing Team: All-American (1997, 1998); Women's National Champion (1998); Most Valuable Player (1998)

**ACTIVITIES & INTERESTS**

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- Former Candidate for State Representative District 4 in Providence, Rhode Island 2014
- Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island: Corporation Member
- New York Yacht Club: Long Range Planning and Arts Committee Member
- The Moses Brown School: Board Member and Budget & Finance Committee Member
- Leadership Rhode Island ETAII Class, 2011

**HONORS & AWARDS**

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- Providence Business News "Forty Under Forty", 2012
- Providence Monthly, "Top Ten to Watch", 2011



Heather Tow-Yick &lt;heatherty@gmail.com&gt;

**FW: Heather Tow-Yick Appointment**

1 message

**Christopher J. Marsella** <chris@marselladevelopment.com>

Thu, Feb 12, 2015 at 4:18 PM

To: "Heather Tow-Yick (heatherty@gmail.com)" &lt;heatherty@gmail.com&gt;

**From:** Christopher J. Marsella**Sent:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 4:18 PM**To:** 'Ward7@providenceri.com'**Cc:** 'ward12@providenceri.com'; 'ward3@providenceri.com'; 'ward15@providenceri.com';

'ward9@providenceri.com'

**Subject:** Heather Tow-Yick Appointment

Dear Councilman Igliazzi,

I wanted to take the opportunity to show my support for the nomination of Heather Tow-Yick for membership on the City Plan Commission. I have known Heather for several years and know she will make an ideal representative to ensure that the vision set forth by the City, is adhered to. The Commission is undoubtedly an important one and requires its members to think beyond basic real estate assumptions and to think ahead for future generations about the way a street corner, block, neighborhood or entire district will look and feel for years to come. Heather and I have enjoyed many conversations about the importance of such boards and how the very fabric of what makes Providence so unique, is thankfully protected by these engaged citizens.

While I am proud to wear my developer's hat and recognize the impact my firm has had and continues to have on face of the capital city, I myself sit on the Downtown Design Review Commission and understand well the important positive force these boards can have. Additionally, as Vice President of the Providence Preservation Society, I am extremely mindful of protecting and enhancing our built environment and respect what sets Providence apart from so many other cities around the world. We have been conscious of our history here and the City Plan Commission will continue to carry that responsibility moving forward. I have no doubt of Heather's commitment to these ideals, to the City of Providence and to the future livability of our great city for decades to come.

She's one of the smartest and most committed people I've had the honor to meet here in Rhode Island. The City would be crazy to not engage her and make her a partner in our collective future!

Sincerely,

## Hagen, Lori

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**From:** heatherty@gmail.com on behalf of Heather Tow-Yick <htow-yick@sloan.mit.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 3:02 PM  
**To:** Hagen, Lori  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Letter of Support for Heather Tow-Yick for City Plan Commission appointment

Lori -

Please find the below email sent in for my support, to be shared with the full Council.

Best,  
Heather

**From:** [milligan.aw@gmail.com](mailto:milligan.aw@gmail.com) [<mailto:milligan.aw@gmail.com>] **On Behalf Of** Drew Milligan  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 19, 2015 1:28 PM  
**To:** [Ward13@providenceri.com](mailto:Ward13@providenceri.com)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Heather Tow-Yick for City Plan Commission appointment

Councilman Salvatore,

My name is Andrew Milligan and I reside in your Ward at 43 Venice St. I'm writing you directly to express my support for Heather Tow-Yick's nomination to the City Plan Commission.

I work for the Rhode Island Department of Education and prior to that was a biology teacher at Juanita Sanchez in Providence.

Heather and I have worked side-by-side on education and social justice issues in Providence and Rhode Island for nearly five years. In that time, my experiences with Heather have revealed to me several outstanding characteristics that I believe merit consideration at this time.

First, Heather is an incredibly thoughtful and analytic individual. She possesses an uncanny intellect and expertise in many fields including but not limited to business, policy, advocacy, development, and education. When she makes decisions, she always makes sure she has all the necessary information and has thought through all implications of these decisions to their logical conclusions.

Second, Heather is unusually capable of rendering objective judgments. Where opinions or approaches diverge, she dispassionately weighs all sides. She is an impressive communicator capable both of clearly articulating rationale for decisions made, but more importantly, is a truly gifted listener.

Lastly, and most importantly, Heather has an unwavering commitment to the city of Providence and it's future. Through her work she has consistently demonstrated a passionate investment in the thoughtful development of our city and all of its neighborhoods.

For all these reasons, I enthusiastically recommend Heather for an appointment to the City Plan Commission.

Sincerely,

Andrew Milligan

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Heather Tow-Yick  
401-556-3556

State of Rhode Island  
and  
Providence Plantations

THE CITY OF

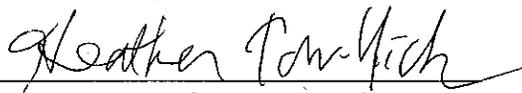


PROVIDENCE

*I, Heather Tow-Yick, do solemnly swear that  
I will support the Constitution of the United States of America  
and that of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations,  
in addition to the Providence Home Rule Charter,  
and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of*

*City Plan Commission*

*for a term to expire on December 31, 2016,  
to the best of my ability.*

  
Heather Tow-Yick

*I, Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor of Providence, do hereby certify that  
on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February A.D. 2015,  
I did administer unto Heather Tow-Yick  
- duly appointed to the City Plan Commission -  
the above subscribed oath.*

  
Jorge O. Elorza, Mayor of Providence