

Board of Ethics  
c/o Michael Henry, Executive Director  
201 West Colfax Avenue  
Dept. 703  
Denver, CO 80202

Date: September 9, 2015

Re: Request for Advisory Opinion for Happy Haynes,

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Ethics of the City and County of Denver,

Please consider this communication my request for an Advisory Opinion from the Board of Ethics. Today, Mayor Hancock announced my appointment as the next Executive Director for Denver Parks and Recreation Department. Currently, I serve as an elected official on the Denver Public Schools Board ("School Board") as an At-Large Member. I am seeking re-election to a second four-year term and have been certified to appear on the November, 2015 ballot.

The particular advice I am seeking is whether there is any required action I must take under the Code of Ethics once I am sworn-in as the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation as it relates to my School Board service.

In anticipation of your Advisory Opinion, please consider the following. First, School Board members are uncompensated; members serve on a voluntary basis. Second, while the Parks and Recreation Department works with Denver Public Schools, any contracts between the School District and the City must be approved by the Denver City Council. It is unlikely that the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation would be considered to take Direct Official Action, as defined in the Ethics Code, over Denver Public Schools contracts or other matters.

Finally, the Board of Ethics may have recent precedent to consider as a part of its analysis. In particular, Kevin Patterson served concurrently as a Schools Board Member at the same time he was the Manager<sup>1</sup> of Parks and Recreation in 2008-2009 under Mayors Hickenlooper and Vidal. Additionally, James Mejia served on the Denver School Board from 1999-2003 while he was Manager of Parks and Recreation from 2001-2003 under Mayor Webb. Notably, the Board of Ethics opined on this very matter in *Board of Ethics Advisory Opinion, Case No. 01-18*.

Thank you in advance for your guidance. If you need additional information or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Allegra "Happy" Haynes

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<sup>1</sup> In November, 2013 the citizens of Denver passed Referred Amendment 2B granting the Mayor authority to use titles other than "Manager" to Department Heads. Beginning in 2014, the Mayor assigned the title "Executive Director" to the position at the head of the Department of Parks and Recreation.