

#1

CF 313936

# City of Seattle



FILED  
CITY OF SEATTLE  
2014 JUL 25 AM 11:22  
CITY CLERK

## Director Department of Finance and Administrative Services

Confirmation Packet  
July 25, 2014

**Fred Podesta**



**City of Seattle**  
Edward B. Murray  
Mayor

July 25, 2014

The Honorable Tim Burgess  
President, Seattle City Council  
Seattle City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Council President Burgess:

I am pleased to transmit to the City Council the following confirmation packet for my re-appointment of Fred Podesta as the Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services. The materials in this packet contain Fred Podesta's appointment and oath of office forms, his resume, and the press release announcing his re-appointment. His background check is on file from original appointment.

Fred Podesta has served the City of Seattle for 20 years, beginning as a Systems Manager in City Light. In 2007 he was confirmed as the Director of the Department of Executive Administration and when the Department of Finance and Administrative Services was created in 2010 through a multidepartment reorganization, Fred was confirmed as its first Director. During the past four years, Fred has successfully overseen the merger of those departments, transitioning FAS into an efficient, well-organized and excellent department with a large, diverse body of work serving both internal and external customers. I urge you to reconfirm him as the Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services.

If you have any questions about the attached materials or need additional information, please contact Chris Gregorich of my office, at 206-386-1251, or via e-mail, at [chris.gregorich@seattle.gov](mailto:chris.gregorich@seattle.gov).

Sincerely,

Edward B. Murray  
Mayor, City of Seattle

Office of the Mayor  
Seattle City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
600 Fourth Avenue  
PO Box 94749  
Seattle, Washington 98124-4749

Tel (206) 684-4000  
Fax: (206) 684-5360  
Hearing Impaired use the Washington Relay Service (7-1-1)  
[www.seattle.gov/mayor](http://www.seattle.gov/mayor)



**City of Seattle**  
Edward B. Murray  
Mayor

July 25, 2014

Fred Podesta  
700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Floor 52  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Fred,

It gives me great pleasure to re-appoint you to the position of Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services. All conditions of your Director's appointment continue into your next term.

Your term of office is four years and you serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. Your re-appointment as Director is subject to City Council confirmation. Therefore, you will need to attend the confirmation hearings of the full City Council.

I thank you for your service to date and look forward to working with you in your role as Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services.

Sincerely,

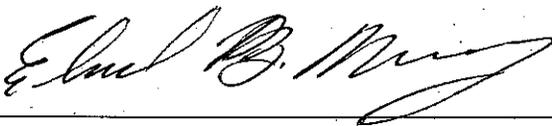
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward B. Murray".

Edward B. Murray  
Mayor of Seattle

cc: Human Resources

# City of Seattle

## Notice of Appointment

<b>Name:</b>  <b>Fred Podesta</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Executive Appointment</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Legislative Appointment</b>
<b>Appointed to:</b>  <b>Director, Department of Finance and Administrative Services</b>	<b>Date of Appointment:</b>  <b>7/25/2014</b>
<b>Authority (Ord., Res.):</b> SMC 3.04.020	<b>Term of Office</b> <b>From:</b> City Council Confirmation  <b>To:</b> July 25, 2018
<b>Comments:</b> Fred Podesta has served the City of Seattle for 20 years, beginning as a Systems Manager in City Light. In 2007 he was confirmed as the Director of the Department of Executive Administration and when the Department of Finance and Administrative Services was created in 2010 through a multidepartment reorganization, Fred was confirmed as its first Director. During the past four years, Fred has successfully overseen the merger of those departments, transitioning FAS into an efficient, well-organized and excellent department with a large, diverse body of work serving both internal and external customers.	
<b>Authorizing Signature:</b>  	<b>Name and Title of Officer Making Appointment:</b>  <b>Edward B. Murray, Mayor</b>



**CITY OF SEATTLE - STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OATH OF OFFICE**

**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

**COUNTY OF KING**

**I, Fred Podesta, swear or affirm that I possess all the qualifications prescribed in the Seattle City Charter and the Seattle Municipal Code for the position of Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services; that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Washington, and the Charter and Ordinances of the City of Seattle; and that I will faithfully conduct myself as *Director of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Fred Podesta**

**Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014**

(affix seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk**

# FRED PODESTA

---

## SUMMARY

More than 25 years of professional experience in:

- Executive leadership, program administration, policy development, business regulation and oversight, and financial operations management.
- Strategic planning, consulting, and project management.
- Technology development and management for government and corporate clients.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*January 2010 to Present – Department Director*

*Seattle Department of Finance and Administrative Services – Seattle, Washington*

Serve as a member of the mayor's cabinet and direct all aspects of the Department of Finance and Administrative Services, which was created in 2010 by merging the Fleets and Facilities Department, the Department of Executive Administration, and portions of the Department of Finance and Department of Neighborhoods. With close to 600 employees represented by 16 different unions, the department has the most diverse set of responsibilities of any City department, providing a wide variety of services to the public and other City departments. These operations touch on four categories, with much overlap among them:

- Customer service, including operating the City's centralized information line and neighborhood-based walk-in service centers, and overseeing consumer protection and animal welfare services;
- Business regulation and oversight, including administering business licenses, performing tax audits, centrally coordinating City contracting and purchasing services, and setting policies and procedures around City-funded construction projects;
- Financial services, including managing the City's debt, investments, insurance, central accounting, and payroll and treasury services; and
- Operational services, including managing the City's downtown civic campus and more than 100 other City facilities; overseeing the City's fleet services, composed of more than 4,000 vehicles and heavy equipment; developing the City's Green Fleet Plan in support of a healthier environment; and, maintaining critical enterprise business technology systems, including the City's financial and payroll systems, along with other critical technology applications.

*January 2007 to 2009 – Department Director*

*Seattle Department of Executive Administration – Seattle, Washington*

Served as a member of the mayor's cabinet and directed all aspects of the Department of Executive Administration (DEA), providing a wide variety of services to the public and other City departments. These operations included consumer protection; public safety; animal welfare; business and pet licensing; tax auditing and enforcement; and processing of payments, fines, and taxes. DEA also provided internal administrative services to City departments, such as accounting, treasury services, purchasing, contracting, payroll, risk management, and enterprise information systems management.

*June 2005 to January 2007 – Director, Business Technology*

*Seattle Department of Executive Administration – Seattle, Washington*

Directed the development and operations of information systems responsible for many of the City of Seattle's enterprise business functions including accounting, accounts payable, billing, accounts receivable, project costing, payroll, human resource information management, purchasing, treasury, tax management, business licensing, risk management, and animal control.

*February 1999 to June 2005 – Director of Information Technology*

*Seattle City Light – Seattle, Washington*

Directed all aspects of planning, implementation, and operation of information technology for Seattle City Light, a public electric utility serving a population of 700,000 people in Seattle and nine adjoining suburban areas. Led the utility's Y2K program, which coordinated remediation and preparation activities for both information technology and power system operations.

*November 1994 to February 1999 – Geographic Information Systems Manager, Energy Management System Manager  
Seattle City Light – Seattle, Washington*

Managed application development and operations for Seattle City Light's geographic information systems (GIS) and energy management system (EMS) units. Developed and managed capital and operations work programs of more than \$10 million, managing a staff of more than 25 application developers, EMS/SCADA engineers, and systems analysts.

*February 1998 to January 1999 – Software Development Engineer  
Microsoft Corporation – Redmond, Washington*

Part-time consulting engagement to design and program automated quality assurance applications to validate accuracy and completeness of transportation data used in Microsoft's consumer mapping and trip-planning software products.

*March 1994 to November 1994 – Geographic Information Systems Analyst  
METRO /King County Department of Assessments – Seattle, Washington*

Managed application development, database administration, and system administration to enable the King County Department of Assessments to begin automation of land records.

*August 1991 to March 1994 – Geographic Information Systems Consultant  
Roy F. Weston, Inc. – Seattle, Washington*

Provided project management, consulting, application development, and database design, to a variety of corporate, federal, and regional government clients, including Seattle City Light, the Seattle Water Department, Snohomish County Public Utility District, Port of Tacoma, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

*April 1990 to July 1991 – Geographic Information Systems Consultant  
Lockheed Engineering & Sciences Co. – Las Vegas, Nevada*

Provided project management, consulting, analysis, and application programming for a variety of client and corporate projects, including Lockheed's Corporate Environmental Safety, and Health Departments; Clark County, Nevada's Assessor's Office, and Fire Dispatch Office; and Las Vegas' Valley Water District, and McCarran International Airport.

*September 1989 to April 1990 – Director of Geographic Information Systems  
GIS Southwest – Phoenix, Arizona*

Managed all technical projects and applications development for a GIS consulting firm serving clients in the public and private sectors.

*September 1986 to September 1989 – Programmer Analyst, Geographic Information Systems  
Arizona Department of Water Resources – Phoenix, Arizona*

*Arizona State Land Department, Forestry Division – Phoenix, Arizona*

Developed and programmed systems to manipulate and query large data sets, primarily using GIS and image processing software. Utilized GIS to forecast ground water withdrawal in the Phoenix metropolitan area based upon projected urbanization patterns through 2035.

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Washington in geography, with an emphasis in geographic information systems and computer cartography.



City of Seattle  
Edward B. Murray, Mayor

## **NEWS RELEASE** **FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Contact:** Megan Coppersmith, Mayor's Office Press Secretary, 206-684-8379

### **Mayor Murray names new acting Human Services Department head**

**SEATTLE** (July 23, 2014) – Seattle Mayor Ed Murray today announced John Okamoto as the new acting Director for the city's Human Services Department (HSD). Okamoto will replace current HSD interim Director Catherine Lester, who will remain with HSD and assist Okamoto in his transition.

"I want to extend my gratitude to Catherine Lester for the great work that she has done since 2011, first as deputy director and then interim director," said Murray. "As the interim director, Catherine successfully led the department through a period of significant change and uncertainty, prospering in many areas. I'm confident John will build upon Catherine's great work as we continue looking for a permanent director."

Okamoto served as Executive Director of the Washington Education Association from 2008 – 2012. He has a long track record of successful leadership positions, and is well known by community, public and business leaders. His extensive management experience includes leadership positions with the Port of Seattle, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and as Director of the former Department of Engineering and former Director of Personnel for the City. [Read his resume here.](#)

"I started my 'calling' in public service in the Human Services Department many decades ago when I was a summer youth worker job developer and counselor. Coming back to HSD is a full circle for me," said Okamoto.

"My family has deep history in elder care programs with the creation of Keiro nursing home, the Midori senior housing and Nikkei Manor assisted living facility. I volunteer with homeless meal and housing programs at Operation Nightwatch and Lord's table," continued Okamoto. "I am deeply passionate about social justice, equity, and inclusion, but I don't have an extensive background in human services, housing, and homelessness issues. It's going to be very important

for me to reach out to our nonprofit service provider community and to other external stakeholders and make sure my leadership is informed by their insights and perspectives.”

Paul Lambros, Executive Director of Plymouth Housing Group, served as Co-Chair of the HSD Search Committee along with Co-Chair Dorothy Mann, a retired public health expert who was Regional Health Administrator, Region X, U.S. Public Health Service from 1979 – 1993. Mann also served two years in the office of Mayor Norman B. Rice as Co-Director of the Mayor's Violence Prevention Project.

“We have tremendous opportunities under Mayor Murray and his administration to have Seattle leading the way across the country in providing innovative social services and in ending homelessness. John will add value by bringing his strategic understanding of systems, diagnosing challenges and new opportunities, and strengthening relationships,” said Lambros.

Estela Ortega, Executive Director of El Centro de la Raza, added, “I’ve known John for many years and know him to be a honest broker who is deeply committed to our immigrant/refugee communities and someone who understands the importance of culturally competent services. I am confident that John’s steady leadership will help the department continue to meet its mission while working collaboratively with our community-based organizations.”

In appointing Okamoto to this interim role, Murray has tasked him to identify where the department can refine its focus, to strengthen partnerships and alignment with other funders, service providers, and stakeholders, and to lay the foundation for transformational change for the next permanent director.

Okamoto’s interim assignment will start on August 1, 2014, with an annualized salary of \$151,000. Lester has agreed to stay on and help with the transition. The search process for the permanent HSD Director will be placed on hold until early 2015, with a goal of identifying a new permanent Director by the middle of next year. Similar to the current process, next year’s search process will also include extensive outreach to service providers and community stakeholders for their input and guidance.

The Human Services Department funds and operates programs and services that meet the basic needs of the most vulnerable people in our community - families and individuals with low incomes, children, domestic violence and sexual assault victims, homeless people, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

Murray also announced the reappointment of Fred Podesta as the Director of the Finance and Administrative Services Department and Glen Lee as Finance Director. Podesta’s annual salary will be \$157,300 and Lee’s annual salary will be \$152,700.

-MoS-