

**From:** [Oliver Orjiako](#)  
**To:** [Stan Freidberg](#)  
**Cc:** [Jenna Kay](#); [Sonja Wiser](#)  
**Subject:** RE: For your consideration  
**Date:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 12:01:58 PM

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Good morning Dr. Freidberg:

Thank you for your email and your recommendation of Mr. Brian Nelson's interest in serving on the Technical Advisory Team that is going to be formed to advise the county on the climate change bill. Clark County will be sending out a press release in the near future for interested individuals to apply. I will encourage Mr. Brain Nelson to apply when the press release is issued. Thank you for your interest.

Best,

Oliver

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**From:** Stan Freidberg <stan.f@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 4:24 PM  
**To:** Oliver Orjiako <Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov>  
**Subject:** For your consideration

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Dear Community Planning Director Orjiako,

I read with interest the Columbian article of 6/28 about the Clark County Council discussing the growth plan and climate change. I appreciated your comments and your plan to appoint a technical advisory team from outside organizations. I would like to recommend an individual for that team — Brian Nelson, the Sustainability Manager at Peace Health Southwest Medical Center (PHSW).

Just to introduce myself, I'm a retired cardiologist and internist from the Vancouver Clinic (1966-2003), a former volunteer doctor and board member at The Free Clinic of SW Washington and a former medical center board member and foundation board member, currently emeritus on the PHSW Foundation. I'm a founding member of the PHSW Green Team (2019) which has been working to reduce the disproportionately high green gas emissions from the healthcare sector. With financial assistance from the foundation, we were able to hire Brian Nelson as Sustainability Manager in Feb. 2021, a position he had previously held at the U of North Carolina Medical Center. The foundation also funded our membership in Practice Green Health, an organization of around 1,500 medical centers and hospital systems that collaborate to lower their carbon footprint in multiple ways.

Brian has had an impact at PHSW from his first day on the job. He worked with our anesthesiologists to significantly reduce the high toxicity of anesthetic agents in the operating rooms, a practice that he has persuaded the 9 other northwest hospitals in the PeaceHealth Systems to adopt. He has led our pursuit of greener buildings and leaner energy usage throughout the PHSW hospital and clinics;

reduced toxic food waste going to the landfill with a food digester; encouraged the use of electric vehicles by hospital staff with the placement of EV chargers on the grounds; has accomplished a reduction of tons of plastics going to the landfill by promoting recycling efforts throughout the medical center; he has worked with a Clark Public Utilities consortium to conserve energy with significant cost savings. The list goes on.

Thanks to Brian, PHSW has been recognized as the Green Big Business of the Year in Clark County and received the award for 2023 Recycler of the Year from the Washington State Recycling Association. This June, out of 80 candidates from the 10 Peace Health hospitals, he received the overall Mission and Values Award. His ability to collaborate and lead others was acknowledged. He has joined the Watershed Alliance Board and the Heritage Farm Advisory Board in the community, in addition to reaching out to Clark College and the Clark County Public Health for possible future collaborative efforts.

I hope you'll consider Brian for the technical advisory team. I think his experience and suggestions would contribute a lot. I've been a friend and colleague of Dr. Alan Melnick for many years, since we served together on the Free Clinic Board and Executive Committee. I imagine he is a colleague of yours. It's fine with me if you want to share with him my recommendation. I suspect he will be in the forefront of county efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. Please let me know if you have questions or need more information. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Stan Freidberg M.D.