

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

**FROM:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** September 17, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Report on PR 23-359, the “Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 23-359, the “Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

CONTENTS

I.	Background and Need .....	1
II.	Legislative Chronology .....	2
III.	Position of the Executive .....	3
IV.	Comments of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions .....	3
V.	Summary of Testimony .....	3
VI.	Impact on Existing Law .....	3
VII.	Fiscal Impact .....	3
VIII.	Section-by-Section Analysis .....	3
IX.	Committee Action .....	4
X.	Attachments .....	4

**I. BACKGROUND AND NEED**

Proposed Resolution 23-359, the “Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor on June 7, 2019 and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The purpose of PR 23-359 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Mr. Brian Cooper for appointment to the Board of Industrial Trades, to serve for a term to end on June 26, 2022.

The Board of Industrial Trades was established to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the District by ensuring that individuals engaged in industrial trades have the specialized skills and training required to perform such activities for the public. The Board governs asbestos workers, plumbers, electricians, refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics, steam and operating engineers, and those in the elevator trades. The Board may establish bonding and insurance requirements, subcategories of licensure, education and experience requirements for licensure, and impose other requirements.

The Board is comprised of 15 tradespersons who are appointed by the Mayor and licensed in the District: three plumbers, two electricians, two refrigeration and air conditioning mechanics, two steam engineers, two asbestos workers, one elevator mechanic, one elevator inspector, one elevator contractor, and one consumer member.

<b>Council Resolution</b>	<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Trade</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>
<b><i>PR 23-359</i></b>	<b><i>Brian Cooper</i></b>	<b><i>Elevator contractor (Pending)</i></b>	<b><i>June 26, 2022</i></b>
PR 22-249	Richard Jackson	Master plumber	June 26, 2020
PR 22-113	Khidhar Abdulshakur	Asbestos worker	June 26, 2020
PR 23-15	Michael Dalton	Consumer	June 26, 2021
PR 23-358	Petrick Washington	Elevator mechanic (Pending)	June 26, 2022*
PR 22-247	Constantin Rodousakis	Master electrician	June 26, 2020
PR 22-50	Terrence Hughes	Master plumber	June 26, 2020
PR 23-23	Michael Johnson	Master plumber	April 16, 2020
PR 22-248	Garth Grannum	Master refrigeration mechanic	June 26, 2020
PR 23-360	Alvin Venson, Sr.	Master refrigeration mechanic (Pending)	June 26, 2022*
PR 22-48	Alex Lemu	Steam engineer	June 26, 2020
PR 23-334	Tanya Lewis	Master electrician	June 26, 2021
R. 23-112	Shawn Ellis	Steam engineer	June 26, 2021
R. 23-113	Courtney Braxton	Asbestos worker	June 26, 2022

\*Expiration date is 2022 if appointed; nominations are pending at the Council.

Mr. Cooper is currently the President of the Potomac Elevator Company, a company he founded in 2005. Mr. Cooper has been in the elevator industry for 25 years, starting with his tenure at Otis Elevator Company. Potomac Elevator Company provides maintenance, upgrades, repairs, new equipment installation, and modernization of elevator equipment in the greater DC and Baltimore areas. Mr. Cooper meets the qualifications for appointment, and he has expressed a commitment to serve. Accordingly, the Committee recommends confirmation.

## II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- June 7, 2019 PR 23-359, the “Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.
- June 18, 2019 PR 23-359 is “read” at a Committee of the Whole meeting; on this date the referral of the PR to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 45-day period for Council review begins. If this measure is not acted upon by the Council before July 13, PR 23-359 will be deemed approved.
- June 21, 2019 Notice of Intent to Act on PR 23-359 is published in the *DC Register*.
- July 5, 2019 Notice of the public roundtable is published in the *DC Register*.
- July 10, 2019 The Committee of the Whole holds a public roundtable on PR 23-359.

September 17, 2019 The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 23-359.

### III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Cooper is the Mayor's nominee for appointment to the Board of Industrial Trades.

### IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 23-359.

### V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public hearing on PR 23-359 on Wednesday, July 10, 2019. The testimony summarized below is from that hearing. Submitted copies of testimony are attached to this report.

*Brian Cooper* testified before the Committee that his goal for the Board is to develop guidelines to sanction unlicensed work, and to have those guidelines become common knowledge in the trades.

### VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

The Board of Industrial Trades is established pursuant to D.C. Code § 47-2853.06(d). PR 23-359 is an exercise of the Council's discretion to approve or disapprove Mayoral nominations to Boards and Commissions, pursuant to the Confirmation Act of 1978 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Code § 1-523.01).

### VII. FISCAL IMPACT

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer indicates that a Fiscal Impact Statement is not needed for a confirmation. Board members are not compensated for their service.

### VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 23-359.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Mr. Brian Cooper to the Board of Industrial Trades to serve the remainder of an unexpired term to end June 26, 2022.
<u>Section 3</u>	Provides that PR 23-359 shall take effect immediately.

## **IX. COMMITTEE ACTION**

### **X. ATTACHMENTS**

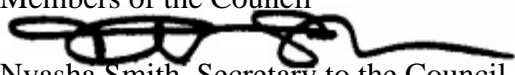
1. PR 23-359 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing and post-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony and Comments.
4. Legal Sufficiency Review.
5. Committee Print for PR 23-359.

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington D.C. 20004**

Memorandum

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To : Members of the Council

From :   
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

Date : June 18, 2019

Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Friday, June 7, 2019. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019", PR23-0359

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed approved on Saturday, October 5, 2019 without Council action.

Attachment

cc: General Counsel  
Budget Director  
Legislative Services



2019 JUN -7 PM 4:13  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY

MURIEL BOWSER  
MAYOR

JUN - 7 2019

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to the Second Omnibus Regulatory Reform Amendment Act of 1998, effective April 20, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-261; D.C. Official Code § 47-2853.06(d)), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

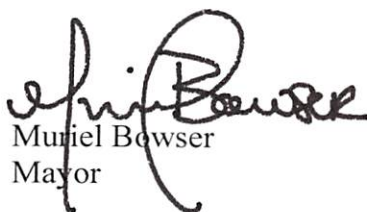
Mr. Brian Cooper  
4118 49<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
(Ward 3)

for appointment as an elevator contractor member licensed in the District member of the Board of Industrial Trades, to serve a term to end June 26, 2022.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of Mr. Cooper, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Muriel Bowser  
Mayor



Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,  
which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

To confirm the reappointment of Mr. Brian Cooper to the Board of Industrial Trades.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation Resolution of 2019".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the reappointment of:

Mr. Brian Cooper  
4118 49th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
(Ward 3)

as a Licensed Elevator Contractor member of the Board of Industrial Trades, pursuant to section 1002(b) of the Second Omnibus Regulatory Reform Amendment Act of 1998, effective April 20, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-261; D.C. Official Code §47-2853.06(d), and to serve for a term to end June 26, 2022.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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# Brian Cooper

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## Experience

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August 2005- Present                      Potomac Elevator Company                      Washington, D.C.

### President

- Provided general management to commercial elevator company. Complete responsibility for profit & loss, business development, field operations, staffing, union relations, field safety program, and supervision of staff.
- Developed sound business structure, accounting system, job costing and estimating systems.
- Grew sales revenue from \$0 in 2006 to average of \$4.5M (2008-2010).

Jan 2002-Aug 2005                      Otis Elevator Company (Bermuda) Ltd.                      Pembroke, Bermuda

### General Manager

- Provided general management to \$2.7M (2004) commercial elevator operation. Complete responsibility for profit & loss, business development, field operations, staffing, local union relations including contract negotiations, field safety program, and all interaction with island's government and local ownership.
- Met or exceeded business plans, with year over year profit growth, each year in this position. Had zero lost time accidents and best safety incident record in Northeast Region of Otis Elevator each year in this position.
- Grew sales revenue 36% in four years from \$2.2M (2002) to \$3.0M (2005).
- Grew net profit 20% in four years from \$575K (2002) to \$691K (2005).

Dec 2000- Jan 2002                      Otis Elevator Company                      Washington, D.C.

### Senior Account Manager New Equipment

- Provided cost estimates and project management for 120 hydraulic and traction elevator installations in the metropolitan D.C. area.
- Responsible for specifying Otis products with architects and developers during building design phase.
- Responsible for providing accurate proposals, and efficient project management throughout project.

March 1999- Dec 2000                      Otis Elevator Company                      Washington, D.C.

### Senior Account Manager Service

- Managed established territory of 650 units under service agreements.
- Responsible for account management, service, maintenance, and modernization sales, account collections and cancellation prevention.
- Sold \$1.3M in service, \$1.0M in modernization.
- Responsible for sale of significant maintenance contracts at 1500 K St. NW, 1400 Eye St. NW, Barr Building & Washington Harbor.



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## **Brian Cooper**

### **Education**

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Sept. 1986- June 1990

Allegheny College

Meadville, PA

#### **Bachelor of Arts in History**

- Course work includes successful completion of Calculus I-III, Physics I-III, and Chemistry I-III

September 1990- May 1994

University of Pittsburgh, School of Engineering Pittsburgh, PA

#### **Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering**

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Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments  
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

## Brian Cooper



Mr. Brian Cooper is the president and sole owner of Potomac Elevator Company L.L.C. located in Washington D.C., and current member of the Board of Industrial Trades.

He founded Potomac Elevator Company to service the metropolitan area's building owners and property managers. Mr. Cooper's extensive sales and management experience extends over 11 years for the industry's largest in the world, Otis Elevator Company.

A Ward 3 resident, Mr. Cooper received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the School of Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.



## **Brian F. Cooper- DC City Council Board of Industrial Trades Committee of the Whole Questions**

### **Responses:**

- 1)** No Financial Disclosure Statement has been filed.
- 2)** None
- 3)** None
- 4)** None
- 5)** None
- 6)** 4118 49<sup>th</sup> St. NW (personal private residence)
- 7)** None
- 8)** National Association of Elevator Contractors (NAEC)  
Property Management Association (PMA)  
Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM) Chapter 92
- 9)** Board of Industrial Trades
- 10)** None
- 11)** Yes- Federal Taxes 2018 on payment plan with Internal Revenue Service
- 12)** No
- 13)** None
- 14)** No
- 15)** As Chairman I will provide organization and support for the Board to set and achieve stated goals within a scheduled timeframe. I will work with board members to establish goals that will allow the Board to function in an effective and efficient manner, in accordance with the needs and requirements of the District of Columbia.
- 16)** Please see testimony provided.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**Board of Industrial Trades**



Public Roundtable on  
PR23-0359, the “Board of Industrial Trades Brian Cooper  
Confirmation Resolution of 2019”

Testimony of  
**Brian Cooper**  
Nominee for reappointment to the Board of Industrial Trades

Before the  
Committee of the Whole  
Council of the District of Columbia  
The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairperson

John A. Wilson Building  
Room 120  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Hello Chairman Mendelson and District of Columbia Councilmembers. Thank you for holding this hearing and providing me with the opportunity to testify regarding my appointment to be a member of the Board of Industrial Trades. I would also like to thank Mayor Bowser for reappointing me to another term.

I have been in the elevator business for 25 years, starting with Otis Elevator Company in Pittsburgh, PA as an Account Manager. I then moved to the Glover Park neighborhood of Washington, DC in 1999 to run Otis Elevator's service sales operations in the Downtown DC core. In 2001, I was promoted to Otis' new equipment sales department, selling new elevators throughout the metropolitan area. In 2002, I moved to Bermuda to run Otis Elevator Bermuda LTD's operations. In 2005 my family returned to the District and I started Potomac Elevator Company to provide high quality elevator services for properties in Washington, DC and the surrounding area. Potomac Elevator Company has grown into a significant, highly regarded, provider of elevators and elevator services in the DC and Baltimore metropolitan areas over the last 14 years.

I am very interested and dedicated to the Board of Industrial Trades and its success. I feel strongly about the effects of unlicensed trade work and its impact on public safety and fair competition. My experience working with a major multinational company and my own independent elevator company gives me a unique perspective from the management and ownership side of the elevator industry that is important for the Board of Industrial Trades. I strongly believe that my management and organizational skills will help move the Board forward, and set and achieve goals, so that it is an effective and consequential body providing a framework for safe and licensed trade work throughout the city.

My goal for the Board of Industrial trades is to see it progress in an efficient, effective, and organized way. The Board now has a consistent quorum, and a number of subcommittees have been formed to address reoccurring or specific Board initiatives. One of the most important goals of the Board is providing an avenue for trades and their workers to become licensed in a streamlined manner. To this end, the Board is employing endorsement and reciprocity with other jurisdictions to expedite licensing while upholding the requirements of the District.

It is also a goal of mine to have the Board develop guidelines to sanction unlicensed work and to have those guidelines become common knowledge for the trades. This is the most effective way to ensure the trades become properly licensed and maintain their licenses as required.

In closing, I believe the Board of Industrial trades has the potential to become a very effective and highly functioning board as it performs its important work of setting licensing standards and regulating unlicensed work throughout the District of Columbia.

Thank you for holding this hearing and, I welcome any questions that you may have.

1 **COMMITTEE PRINT**  
2 Committee of the Whole  
3 September 17, 2019  
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5  
6 **A PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

7  
8 23-359  
9

10 **IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
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12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13  
14

15 To confirm the appointment of Mr. Brian Cooper as a member of the Board of Industrial Trades.  
16

17 **RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,** That this  
18 resolution may be cited as the “Board of Industrial Trades Mr. Brian Cooper Confirmation  
19 Resolution of 2019”.

20  
21 **Sec. 2.** The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

22 **Mr. Brian Cooper**  
23 **49<sup>th</sup> Street, NW**  
24 **Washington, DC 20016**  
25 **(Ward 3)**  
26

27 as a licensed Elevator Contractor member of the Board of Industrial Trades, in accordance with  
28 section 1002 of the Second Omnibus Regulatory Reform Amendment Act of 1998, effective  
29 April 20, 1999 (D.C. Law 12-261; D.C. Official Code § 47-2853.06(d)), and pursuant to section  
30 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official  
31 Code § 1-523.01), to serve for a term to end June 26, 2022.

32 **Sec. 3.** The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,  
33 upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

34 **Sec. 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.