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Players in place for the Green-ing of City Hall

Bloomberg would stick with Rudy aides

BY PHILIP LENTZ

Democratic mayoral candidate Mark Green plans to move quickly, if he wins Tuesday's election, to select the deputy mayors who would oversee his administration.

Husbanding a narrow lead heading into the campaign's final days, Green aides have been preparing for a transition to power for some time, and the candidate himself acknowledges that he has been thinking about the makeup of his City Hall staff.

"I have a lot of names in my head, and they're now going to get on paper," the Democratic candidate told a *Crain's* breakfast two weeks ago.

GOP mayoral candidate Michael Bloomberg has been more closemouthed about his transition plans, though he is widely expected to retain many of Mayor Rudy Giuliani's top aides and commissioners if he wins the mayoralty. "Unlike Mark Green, we're not measuring the drapes for Gracie Mansion," observes a Bloomberg spokesman.

Mr. Green's aides say he has yet to talk to them about who would be offered major positions in a new administration. But those close to the campaign say top aides and advisers—including campaign manager Richard Schrader, public advocate chief of staff David Eichenthal and former Police Commissioner Bill Bratton—are the most obvious candidates to fill top slots in a Green City Hall.

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At Mr. Green's request, Mr. Eichenthal has begun planning for a transition. Six working groups have been set up to examine policies on economic development, fiscal issues, health care, education, public safety and social services. These groups will likely turn into transition task forces if Mr. Green wins on Tuesday.

"He's asked me to begin thinking about how we would go about planning a transition," Mr. Eichenthal says, though he adds that no official transition apparatus has

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Green eyes players; Bloomberg's a keeper

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been created. "Those are all things that will come about further along down the line," he says.

As part of their preparations, aides are approaching policy experts for ideas on overhauling city agencies and asking supporters for names of possible candidates for both top-level and midlevel positions in a new administration.

"All transitions are difficult, but this one is going to be extraordinarily difficult in light of the economic impact and the ongoing rebuilding," says Joe DePlasco, Mr. Green's press secretary. "We've institutionalized advisory panels because we need to have something in place if Mark is the mayor-elect, so we can start immediately."

If Mr. Green wins, his first important decisions will be over what roles his top aides would play in a new administration.

Much speculation has centered on whether Mr. Schrader would move into City Hall. A close aide to Mr. Green for most of the last decade, Mr. Schrader is a major architect of Mr. Green's centrist mayoral campaign and a key contact with Democratic politicians, labor leaders and liberal activist groups. Many are already lobbying Mr. Green to name Mr. Schrader to a top post in his government.

A health question

But Mr. Schrader suffered a major heart attack in September 2000, raising doubts as to whether he would want to take on grueling City Hall responsibilities after a tough campaign. Insiders say Mr. Schrader is thinking of setting up a political consulting practice that could take advantage of his Green campaign experience.

If Mr. Schrader does join the government, he and Mr. Eichenthal are likely to be Mr. Green's

GREEN TEAM

Listed below are some of the names mentioned as possible appointments if Mark Green is elected mayor.

Name	Current position	Possible City Hall position
Top staff		
Richard Schrader	Campaign manager	Deputy mayor
David Eichenthal	Public advocate chief of staff	Deputy mayor
Jeremy Ben Ami	Deputy campaign manager	Chief of staff
Joe DePlasco	Campaign press secretary	Communications director
Barry Ford	Senior policy adviser	Agency commissioner
Richard Ahorn	Criminal justice adviser	Top criminal justice aide
Policy advisers		
John Alschuler	Economic consultant	Deputy mayor
Michael Jacobson	Criminal justice professor, John Jay College	Deputy mayor or budget dir.
Anthony Sherris	Deputy schools chancellor	Deputy mayor or budget dir.
Lillian Barrios-Paoli	Senior VP, United Way	Deputy mayor
Bill Bratton	Law enforcement consultant	Police commissioner
Jerome Hauer	Managing director, Kroll Assoc.	Fire commissioner
Ben Chu	Senior associate dean, Columbia	Agency commissioner
Marilyn Gelber	Executive director, Independence Community Foundation	Agency commissioner
John Banks	Chief of staff to Peter Vallone	Budget dir. or top staff post
Experts		
Iris Weinshall	Transportation commissioner	Agency commissioner
Carl Weisbrod	President, downtown BID	Planning commission chairman

SOURCES: INSIDERS CLOSE TO GREEN CAMPAIGN

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top City Hall aides. It is unclear how Mr. Green would divide their responsibilities. But both could end up as deputy mayors, with Mr. Eichenthal possibly responsible for policy and Mr. Schrader overseeing intergovernmental relations.

Beyond his inner circle, Mr. Green is expected to focus his immediate attention on filling the rest of his roster of deputy mayors, who traditionally oversee all major city agencies. These posts will likely be filled within weeks of the election so the appointees can work closely with the transition teams in picking commissioners and their top aides.

Deputy mayors are the most visible appointments a mayor makes, and there is sure to be great pressure on Mr. Green to make these posts politically and ethnically diverse. In fact, Green aides have already been asking allies to suggest names of minorities who would be good deputy mayor candidates.

Working groups are preparing for transition; Green is likely to act quickly

Mr. Green is likely to reshuffle the duties of his deputy mayors so they would be organized differently than they are under Mr. Giuliani. He may also expand the number of deputy mayors beyond the four that currently advise the mayor. The existence of six working transition groups gives a hint as to how Mr. Green may organize his deputy mayors.

The identity of Green policy advisers leading the working groups suggests who could end up in top positions. For example, John Alschuler, an economic consultant who is in charge of the economic development working group, is a leading candidate to become deputy mayor for economic development.

Several other advisers are getting strong consideration for deputy mayor posts. Michael Jacobson, a professor at John Jay College, and Anthony Shorris, deputy schools chancellor, are leading candidates to be either deputy mayor for operations or budget director. And Lilliam Barrios-Paoli, a senior vice president at the United Way, is a candidate for deputy mayor of social services.

Bratton's role

Also, Mr. Bratton, who helped bolster Mr. Green's credibility on police issues, is widely expected to return to 1 Police Plaza as commissioner in a Green administration. Jerome Hauer, a Green adviser who was head of emergency operations under Mr. Giuliani, has been mentioned for fire commissioner.

Unlike Mr. Bloomberg, Mr. Green has little intention of keeping Mr. Giuliani's aides and commissioners. But there might be one exception: city Transportation Commissioner Iris Weinshall, though possibly as head of a different agency. Not only is Ms. Weinshall considered an excellent administrator, she is also the wife of Sen. Charles Schumer, giving her good political credentials for a new Democratic administration. ■

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