

Metro Public Safety Advisory Committee

General Committee Meeting #30

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, July 6th, 2022

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

a. **Zoom Meeting Protocols**

- i. Facilitator Thomson Dryjanski called the meeting to order. Facilitator Cuevas-Flores announced that Spanish and American Sign Language interpretation services would be available during the meeting.

b. **Agenda**

- i. Facilitator Dryjanski reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

c. **Roll Call**

Present: Ashley Ajayi, Darryl Goodus, Glenda Murrell, James Wen, Jose Raigoza, Maricela de Rivera, Chauncey Smith, Mohammad Tajsar, Esteban Gallardo, Ma'ayan Dembo, Sabrina Howard, Scarlett de Leon, Clarence Davis, Constance Strickland, Florence Annang

Absent: Andrea Urmanita, Charles Hammerstein, Raul Gomez, Jessica Kellogg, Glenda Murrell

d. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for 06/15/22**

- i. Committee members voted to approve the meeting minutes for the June 15th, 2022, meeting.
- ii. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

II. General Public Comment

The facilitators opened public comments. There were no public comments from meeting participants.

III. Discussion Items

PSAC Recruitment and Outreach

Committee members discussed recruitment and outreach strategies Metro could employ for future PSAC terms. This feedback will help Metro staff further develop their report back to the Board that lays out PSAC's next steps in detail.

- a. **Context setting:** Facilitator Dryjanski shared the status of the outside evaluation of PSAC's progress. After the Board's initial review, they requested an increased level of detail as to how Metro staff will develop the next term of PSAC. One key area where PSAC can inform the report is providing feedback on how Metro recruits future committee members.

b. First-Term PSAC Cohort Outreach Presentation: Metro staff provided an overview of the outreach efforts conducted in Fall 2020 to assemble the current PSAC membership. Outreach methods included creating a centralized website and application portal, distributing physical flyers, advertising on social media, and conducting presentations at community meetings.

i. **Term Limits:** Member Davis asked if current PSAC members' terms will be limited to one year.

1. Metro staff responded that the committee charter states one year but the Board decided to extend the term until September to finalize the review of the external evaluation.
2. Member Smith shared that he feels it is unfortunate that members would be replaced after such a brief period. He indicated that it would be useful for future PSAC committees to retain some of the experience that has been built up over the past year.

a. Metro staff responded that the Board has not made a final decision on term limits for members.

c. Mentimeter Exercise: Facilitator Dryjanski led the committee through a Mentimeter polling exercise to inform outreach and recruitment for future PSAC terms. The results from the meeting's Mentimeter exercise can be found [at this link](#).

i. **Key Constituencies for Recruitment**

1. **Unhoused Representatives:** Member Smith suggested including committee members who are currently or formerly unhoused to have representation from the unhoused community. He also suggests including representatives from service organizations serving the unhoused community.
2. **Youth Outreach:** Member Davis shared that it is important that Metro's public safety education efforts reach children and teenagers in the community.
3. **Selection Criteria:** Member De Rivera shared concerns about outing members' personal details as part of the process of ensuring a diverse committee. She cautioned Metro to not require potential applicants to reveal personal details as part of the application process.
 - a. Member de Leon echoed Member De Rivera's comment and added that throughout the PSAC process, it feels like members must constantly prove their credentials to sit on the committee.
 - b. Member Garcia shared an opposing opinion, stating that it is important to explicitly state diverse identities – when members feel comfortable – to demonstrate that different groups are being

represented.

- c. Member Smith added that the current composition of PSAC members covers most of the committee's suggestions for key constituencies.
4. **Bios:** Member Annang suggested including pictures and bios of PSAC members to share members' stories and qualifications online.
5. **Intersectionality:** Member Howard recommended recruiting members who are already involved with other issues that intersect with transit, such as housing and public health.

ii. Outreach Methods

1. **Events:** Member Davis suggested Metro perform outreach during public events such as fairs, sporting events, and holidays. He emphasized these events as important opportunities to connect with low-income Metro riders.
2. **Previous Committee Involvement:** Member de Leon suggested reaching out to previous PSAC applicants who were not accepted and the committee's mailing list.
 - a. Member Dembo also suggested reaching out to meeting participants who gave public comments throughout the process.

iii. Barriers to Participation

1. **Emotional Labor:** Member De Rivera highlighted the emotional labor that goes into sharing one's experience in public meetings.
 - a. She also added that Metro should set clear expectations regarding the level of outside work required for members early in the application process.
2. **Increased Public Engagement:** Member de Leon suggested using surveys and focus groups to engage the public who are interested in participating but cannot be committee members.
3. **Institutional Knowledge:** Member Goodus shared that there should be some continuity between PSAC terms to ensure the current committee's experience and knowledge can aid new members.
4. **Metro Documents:** Member Davis stated that there should be more accessibility to Metro Board documents. He cited the accessibility of document language and ease of digital access as barriers.

iv. Application and Interview Process

1. **TAP Card System:** Member Davis recommended increasing outreach by sharing committee opportunities through the TAP Card system.

2. **Healing Framework:** Member Ajayi encouraged Metro to consider PSAC a source of income and trauma support for Metro riders who have experienced harm in the system.
3. **Students:** Member Davis suggested having student-aged PSAC members.

b. Next Steps

- i. The facilitation team will draft a document that synthesizes the comments and recommendations for Metro staff review.

IV. General Public Comment

The facilitation team took public comments from meeting participants.

- a. Commentor – who has a vision disability – shared the difficulties they have had following along with visual-heavy meetings and accessing materials on Google documents. He suggested linking any Google docs in the agenda and providing meeting materials ahead of time.

V. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

VI. Next Steps

- a. The committee will reconvene on 07/20/22.