



Board Report

File #: 2024-0233, **File Type:** Appointment

Agenda Number: 28.

**OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE
MAY 16, 2024**

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP ON METRO’S GATEWAY CITIES SERVICE COUNCIL

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE nominees for membership on Metro’s Gateway Cities Service Council.

ISSUE

Each Metro Service Council (MSC) is comprised of nine Representatives who serve terms of three years; terms are staggered so that the terms of three of each Council’s nine members expire annually on June 30. Incumbent Representatives can service additional terms if re-nominated by the nominating authority and confirmed by the Metro Board.

The Gateway Cities Service Council currently has two vacancies created by Councilmembers who have recently resigned.

BACKGROUND

Metro Service Councils were created in 2002 as community-based bodies tasked with improving bus service and promoting service coordination with municipal and local transit providers. The MSC bylaws specify that Representatives should live in, work in, or represent the region of their service council; have a basic working knowledge of public transit service within their region, and an understanding of passenger transit needs. To do so, each Representative is expected to ride at least one transit service per month.

The MSCs are responsible for convening public hearings to receive community input on proposed service modifications, rendering decisions on proposed bus route changes, and considering staff’s recommendations and public comments. All route and major service changes that are approved by the MSCs will be brought to the Metro Board of Directors as an information item. Should the Metro Board decide to move an MSC-approved service change to an Action Item, the MSCs will be notified of this change before the next Service Council monthly meeting.

DISCUSSION

The individuals listed have been nominated to serve on the Gateway Cities Service Council by this Council nominating authority to fill the vacancies left by recent resignations from the Council. If approved by the Board, these appointments will serve for the remainder of the three-year terms and the subsequent terms specified. A brief listing of qualifications and the nomination letter for the new nominees are provided in Attachments A and B.

Gateway Cities

- A. Danny Hom, Re-Appointment
 Nominated by: Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Term: Remainder of July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025 term and subsequent term of July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2028

- B. Jesse Flores, New Appointment
 Nominated by: Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Term: Remainder of July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024 term and subsequent term of July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027

- C. Priscilla Papias, New Appointment
 Nominated by: Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Term: Remainder of July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024 term and subsequent term of July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2027

For reference, the table below contracts the 2022 American Community Survey demographic and 2023 Metro Ridership Survey demographics data for the region with Service Council membership, should these nominees be appointed. Each Council has nine seats; one seat is equivalent to 11% of the Council’s membership.

Gateway Cities (GWC) Race/Ethnicity	Hispanic	White	Asian/ Pac Isl	Black	Native Amer	Other
GWC Region	65.9%	14.1%	9.6%	7.9%	0.2%	2.4%
GWC Ridership	51%	16%	10%	18%	1%	4%
GWC Current Membership/No.	88%/8	0%/0	0%/0	0%/0	0%/0	11%/1

Gateway Cities (GWC) Sex/Gender	Male/Man	Female/ Woman	Non-binary/ Non-conforming	Prefer to self-describe
Los Angeles County	49.6%	50.4%	*	*
GWC Ridership	51%	46%	2%	1%
GWC Current Membership/No	55% (5)	44% (4)	0%	0%

Note: Los Angeles County data taken from 2022 Census Quick Facts; Census data includes a question that intends to capture current sex; there are no questions about gender, sexual orientation, or sex at birth.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Maintaining a fully appointed service council of representatives for each service area is important, as each Representative is required to regularly use public transit, and each Council is composed of people from diverse areas and backgrounds. This enables each Council to better understand the needs of transit riders, including the need for safe operation of transit service and safe location of bus stops.

EQUITY PLATFORM

Metro seeks to appoint Service Council members who represent the diverse communities, needs, and priorities of each respective region. To encourage nominating authorities to nominate individuals who will closely reflect the region and its ridership, staff shares regional ridership, resident, and Service Council membership race/ethnicity and gender demographics with each nomination request. These practices will continue to be utilized in an effort to work towards Council composition that more closely matches the demographics of each region and its ridership. Staff will also continue to encourage nominating authorities to improve representative membership through their appointments as opportunities arise.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of this recommendation supports the following Metro Strategic Plan Goal: 30 Enhance communities and lives through mobility and access to opportunity.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The alternative to the recommendation would be for these nominees to not be approved for appointment. To do so would result in reduced effectiveness of the Service Councils, as it would increase the difficulty of obtaining the quorum necessary to allow this Service Council to formulate and submit their recommendations to the Board. It would also result in the Service Councils having a less diverse representation of their respective service areas.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will continue to monitor the major contributors to the quality of bus service from the customer's perspective and share that information with the Service Councils for use in their work to plan, implement, and improve bus service and the customer experience in their areas.

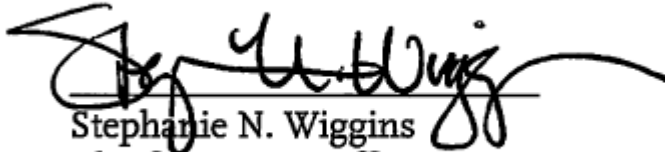
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Nomination Letter

Attachment B - New Nominees Biographies and Qualifications

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