



Board Report

File #: 2023-0196, File Type: Appointment

Agenda Number: 13.

**FINANCE, BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE
APRIL 19, 2023**

SUBJECT: MEASURE M INDEPENDENT TAXPAYER OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SELECTION

ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE Stephen Heaney, the recommended nominee for the Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee for the area of expertise B, a professional from the field of municipal/public finance and/or budgeting.

ISSUE

The Measure M Committee consists of seven members representing various areas of expertise. In July 2020, the professional in the Area of expertise B - professional from the field of municipal/public finance and/or budgeting resigned due to a change in residence. This action seeks to fill the resulting vacancy.

BACKGROUND

The Measure M Ordinance (Ordinance), approved by voters in November 2016, requires the establishment of a Measure M Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee of Metro (“Committee”) to provide an enhanced level of accountability for expenditures of sales tax revenues made under the Expenditure Plan. The Committee carries out the responsibilities laid out in the Ordinance. It plays a valuable and constructive role in the ongoing improvement and enhancement of project delivery contemplated under the Measure M Ordinance. See Attachment A for Committee requirements.

The Committee is comprised of seven members representing the following areas of expertise:

- A. A retired Federal or State judge;
- B. A professional from the field of municipal/public finance and/or budgeting with a minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience;
- C. A transit professional with a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in senior-level decision making in transit operations and labor practices;
- D. A professional with a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in management and administration of financial policies, performance measurements, and reviews;

- E. A professional with demonstrated experience of ten (10) years or more in the management of large-scale construction projects;
- F. A licensed architect or engineer with appropriate credentials in the field of transportation project design or construction and a minimum of ten (10) years of relevant experience; and
- G. A regional association of business representative with at least ten (10) years of senior-level decision making experience in the private sector.

The Measure M Ordinance states that the Selection Panel consisting of Metro's Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair or their designees shall select the Committee Members for approval. The Selection Panel developed guidelines to solicit, collect, and review applications of potential candidates for membership on the Committee.

The Metro Board shall approve the recommended candidates for Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee Membership by a simple majority per the selection panel guidelines (Attachment B).

DISCUSSION

As stipulated in the guidelines, in January 2023, staff presented the candidate to the Selection Panel for review and approval. The Selection Panel reviewed the candidate's qualifications and recommended that the candidate be approved for the Committee. The candidate is a public finance professional serving in various roles in banking as well as municipal securities. The candidate has focused on development-related financings, as well as directing issues for transportation, utilities, schools, and local government. See Attachment C for additional details on the candidate's qualifications and background.

Currently, there are two vacant positions on the Committee. Approval of the staff recommendation will result in only one vacancy. Staff will continue efforts to fill the remaining vacancy in specialty area A, retired federal or state judge.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item will not negatively impact the safety of Metro's patrons or employees.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approving the recommended action has no financial impact to the agency.

EQUITY PLATFORM

Responsible and transparent stewardship of taxpayer dollars is an important component of equitable governance. This action will fill a vacant position on this oversight committee. There is no adverse equity impact anticipated with this action.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Approval of this item supports Metro Vision 2028 Goal #5: Provide responsive, accountable, and trustworthy governance within the Metro organization as the Committee was established to ensure that Metro and local sub-recipients comply with the terms of the Ordinance.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board could choose not to approve the recommended member for the Committee and re-solicit applications. This is not recommended as it would limit the number of members on the Committee and increase the likelihood of not obtaining the quorum necessary to review and discuss important Measure M matters. This may impact the ability to provide an enhanced level of accountability for expenditures of sales tax revenues made under the Expenditure Plan.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval, staff will schedule an orientation session for the selected member. In addition, staff will continue recruitment efforts to fill the remaining vacancy in the area of expertise A, a retired federal or state judge.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Committee Membership Requirements

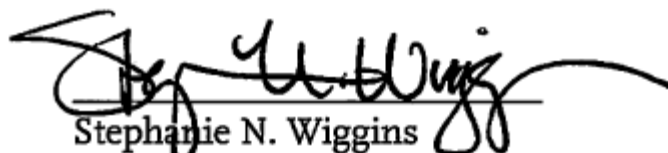
Attachment B - Selection Panel Guidelines

Attachment C - Candidate Bio

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