



Board Report

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OPERATIONS, SAFETY AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE JULY 20, 2023

SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP ON METRO'S REGIONAL SERVICE COUNCILS

ACTION: APPROVE NOMINATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

APPROVE nominees for membership on Metro's Gateway Cities and San Fernando Valley Service Councils.

ISSUE

Each Metro Service Council (MSC) is comprised of nine Representatives that 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 serve additional terms if re-nominated by the nominating authority and confirmed by the Metro Board.

The Gateway Cities and San Fernando Valley Service Councils have vacancies created by Councilmembers who recently resigned or whose seats were not filled at the end of their terms.

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; 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 MSC are responsible for convening public hearings to receive community input on proposed service modifications and rendering decisions on proposed bus route changes considering staff's recommendations and public comments. All route and major service changes that are approved by the MSC 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 MSC will be notified of this change prior to the next Service Council monthly meeting.

DISCUSSION

The individuals listed below have been nominated to serve by the Councils' appointing authorities. If approved by the Board, these appointments will serve for the remainder of the three-year terms specified below. A brief listing of qualifications for the new nominees and the nomination letters from the nominating authorities are provided in Attachments A and B.

For your reference, the 2021 American Community Survey demographics and 2019 Metro Ridership Survey demographics for each region are compared to the membership, should these nominees be appointed, for each region.

Gateway Cities

- A. Jose Muñoz Guevara, New Appointment
 Nominated by: Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025

Should this nominee be appointed, the Gateway Cities (GWC) Service Council membership will compare to the region and the region's ridership as follows:

Region Demographics	Hispanic	White	Asian & PI	Black	Native Amer	Other
GWC Council Region	65.6%	14.6%	9.4%	7.9%	0.2%	2.2%
GWC Region Ridership	66%	6%	3%%	21%	0%	4%
GWC Membership/No.	77.7% / 7	11.1% / 1	0% / 0	0% / 0	0% / 0	11% / 1

The gender makeup of the GWC Service Council will be as follows:

Gender	GWC Membership/No.	Los Angeles County
Male	55.5% / 5	49.7%
Female	44.4% / 4	50.3%

San Fernando Valley

- B. Antoinette Scully, New Appointment
 Nominated by: Third District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
 Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025

Should this nominee be appointed, the San Fernando Valley (SFV) Service Council membership will compare to the region and the region's ridership as follows:

Region Demographics	Hispanic	White	Asian & PI	Black	Native Amer	Other
SFV Council Region	41.3%	40.1%	11.0%	3.7%	0.1%	3.7%
SFV Region Ridership	63%	13%	9%	9%	1%	5%

SFV Membership/No.*	44.4% / 4	37.5% / 3	0% / 0	22.2% / 2	0% / 0	0% / 0
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The gender makeup of the SFV Service Council with the above listed nominee will be as follows:

Gender	SFV Membership/No.*	Los Angeles County
Male	66.6% / 6	49.7%
Female	33.3% / 3	50.3%

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Maintaining the full complement of representatives on each Service Council to represent each service area is important. As each representative is to be a regular user of 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 consumers including the need for safe operation of transit service and safe location of bus stops.

EQUITY PLATFORM

Metro seeks to appoint Service Council members that represent the diverse needs and priorities reflective of the demographics of each respective region. To encourage nominating authorities to nominate individuals that will closely reflect the region and its ridership, staff shares regional ridership demographics, regional resident demographics and Service Council membership race/ethnicity and gender demographics with each request for a nomination to the Service Councils. This practice has resulted in the Service Councils becoming much more diverse in terms of both race/ethnicity and gender over the last several years. However, approximately half of LA County residents and Metro riders are women; there is work to be done to achieve gender equity on some of the Service Councils. Staff will continue to share demographic information and encourage nominating authorities to give weight to gender equity when considering individuals for nomination.

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 approving these appointments 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 the Service Councils 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

Two vacant seats on the Westside Central Service Council remain. Staff will continue to work with the nominating authorities to fill the outstanding vacancies.

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 and to implement and improve bus service in their areas and the customer experience using our bus service.

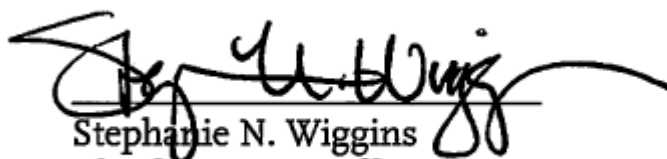
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - New Appointee Biography Qualifications

Attachment B - Appointing Authority Nomination Letters

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