

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING THE) RESOLUTION NO. 19-4990
APPONMENTS OF DERRON COLES AND)
KELLY STEVENS TO THE METRO CENTRAL) Introduced by Councilor Sam Chase
STATION COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT
COMMITTEE (MCSCEC)

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.030, "Membership of the Advisory Committees," states that all members and alternate members of all Metro Advisory Committees shall be appointed by the Council President and shall be subject to confirmation by the Council; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.120, "Metro Central Station Community Enhancement Committee (MCSCEC)," provides for the MCSCEC; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.120(b)(1) sets forth representation criteria for membership on the committee; and

WHEREAS, vacancies have occurred in representation of the Linnton Neighborhood and Northwest Business Community on the MCSCEC; and

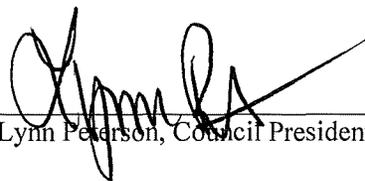
WHEREAS, the Council President has appointed Derron Coles, a small business owner who operates within the enhancement boundary, Kelly Stevens, a resident of the Linnton Neighborhood, subject to confirmation by the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.030 states that advisory committee members are limited to two consecutive two-year terms; and

WHEREAS, Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens are members in good standing and their appointment is supported by the Committee Chair; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council confirms the appointments of Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens to Metro's Metro Central Station Community Enhancement Committee

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 2nd day of May 2019.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Nathan Sykes, Metro Attorney

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENTS OF DERRON COLES AND KELLY STEVENS TO THE METRO CENTRAL STATION COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE (MCSCEC)

Date: April 18, 2019
Department: Property and Environmental Services
Meeting Date: May 2, 2019

Prepared by: Rob Nathan, 503-797-1691
Presenter(s): Councilor Sam Chase and Rob Nathan
Length: Consent

ISSUE STATEMENT

Two vacancies have occurred in the Metro Central Station Community Enhancement Committee (hereinafter referred to as MCSCEC) membership. These vacancies in the MCSCEC membership currently exist due to the end of a term for members representing the Linnton Neighborhood and Northwest Business Owners.

ACTION REQUESTED

Lynn Peterson, Council President, and Councilor Sam Chase, chair of the MCSCEC recommend adoption of this resolution to confirm the appointment of Mr. Coles and Ms. Stevens to serve on the MCSCEC.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

With adoption of this resolution, Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens will be appointed to one, two-year, term on the MCSCEC with the option to serve a second two-year term.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends adoption of this resolution to appoint Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens to the MCSCEC. Their interest forms articulate their passion for community enhancement and their connectedness to the communities they work and live in. In addition, their experiences in equity and environmental work with the greater Portland area's most vulnerable populations make them especially well-positioned candidates for the MCSCEC.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- How does this advance Metro's racial equity goals?
This engagement approach for recruiting committee members and the appointment of one of these members supports Goal B/Objective 2: Increase participation of communities of color in metro decision-making.
- How does this advance Metro's climate action goals?
Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens are actively engaged in improving the health of our natural environment in both their professional and personal lives. Their environmental stewardship work and residency in the Linnton Neighborhood makes them uniquely suited to address the diverse geography

of the Enhancement Grant boundary and promote community-based solutions to the environmental issues of their communities.

- Known Opposition/Support/Community Feedback
There is no known opposition to appointment of Derron Coles or Kelly Stevens to the MCSCEC
- Explicit list of stakeholder groups and individuals who have been involved in policy development.
Sam Chase, Metro Councilor District 5
Rob Nathan, Metro Community Enhancement Grant Manager
- Legal Antecedents
Chapter 2.19 of the Metro Code Relating to Advisory Committees; Section 2.19.120 provides for a Metro Central Station Community Enhancement Committee and sets forth guidelines for representation.
- Anticipated Effects
Adoption of this resolution would confirm the appointment of Derron Coles and Kelly Stevens to the MCSCEC.

BACKGROUND

The MCSCEC is charged with helping develop plans to administer grant funds, solicit and review grant applications, and select for funding improvement projects that benefit the area directly affected by the Metro Central transfer station, including portions of Northwest and North Portland.

Sam Chase, Councilor of Metro district 5, chairs the seven-member committee. Members are required to reside within the boundaries of their respective neighborhood associations. The business and environmental representatives have no residency requirement but must maintain interest in the enhancement boundary. This requirement does not apply to the Metro Councilor appointed to the committee.

A recruitment to fill the positions began in December of 2018, seeking replacement to represent three openings on the MCSCEC (Forest Park, Linnton, and a business representative). Metro staff engaged community partners who service historically marginalized communities to within the enhancement boundary in attempt to recruit members. We ended up with multiple referrals and had conversations with four different residents who qualified and met the requirements for the vacant seats. Two residents decided to submit interest forms and staff recommended both of these individuals for the Linnton Neighborhood seat and business community seat.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Derron Coles MCSCEC interest form
- Attachment 2 – Kelly Stevens MCSCEC interest form



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Portland, OR 97232-2736
oregonmetro.gov

Metro Central Community Enhancement Program Committee interest form

Please return completed two-page application to:

Metro Regional Center
Attn: Rob Nathan
Email: rob.nathan@oregonmetro.gov
Questions? Call 503-797-1691

Information

Name: Derron Coles

Organization or business (optional): DRC Learning Solutions

Mailing address: 8802 NW Shepherd Street

City: Portland State: Oregon Zip: 97231

Preferred phone: (541) 908-1594 Email: derron@drcLearningSolutions.com

Residential address: 8802 NW Shepherd Street

Check one:

- Forest Park Neighborhood Association
- Friends of Cathedral Park
- Linnton Neighborhood Association
- Northwest District Neighborhood Association
- Northwest Business Owner

*Metro strives for membership on its committee that reflects the diversity of the Portland metro region.
The following demographic information is optional:*

Gender: Male Age: 40 Race or ethnicity: African American

Briefly describe your interest in the Metro Central Enhancement Committee and why you would like to serve.

My interest in serving derives from my identity as a Black environmental steward. I have devoted my career to diversifying the green sector, while correcting the environmental injustices placed on low-income residents and communities of color. I continue to accomplish this goal through nonprofit workforce development programming (The Blueprint Foundation) and for-profit JEDI (justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion) assessment and training for green sector companies (DRC Learning Solutions). My work for both entities occurs in or near the project area and encompasses the community needs outlined as justification for the MCE grants; namely, community enhancement and wildlife area restoration, environmental literacy education and improving access to nature-based activities. Given this



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alignment of goals, I look forward to contributing to the successful launch of similar efforts that can add to our collective impact.

Members of the Metro Central Enhancement Committee offer a wide variety of complementary skills and experiences. Please describe your relevant knowledge and experience.

I would describe myself as a learning strategist with over 18 years of experience designing learner-focused competency development training. My curriculum design portfolio is wide-ranging, running the gamut from learning solutions for technical topics, like a globally utilized online training on river system analysis, to interpersonal skills training, such as his award-winning cultural competency curriculum.

I have a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a masters and doctorate in civil engineering with a water resources focus from Oregon State University. For the last 5 years, I have been executive director of the Blueprint Foundation, where I implement extracurricular programming for environmental science and green building that uses a model for student development called **WISE** (Witness, investigate, solve, educate), where students witness the beauty and benefits of nature, investigate environmental issues in their neighborhood and watershed, contribute to a solution (e.g., building a bioswale), then educate their community about what they learned. All programming is culturally responsive and takes into account the inequitable environmental burden placed on Black, Brown Indigenous and low-income communities.

Please explain how you keep informed and aware of the community's diverse needs and priorities. Summarize any relevant experience working with people of varied backgrounds

The Blueprint Foundation is, at its core, built upon relationships. These relationships are interwoven between TBF staff, the mentors we employ, the organizations and community members we partner with, and most importantly, the youth and their families that we serve. A key component of nurturing and strengthening these relationships is to give voice and agency to those we serve by formally and informally soliciting their feedback. This is done directly during group and one-on-one discussion sessions, via written pre/post assessments of learning and service activities, as well as routine surveys and questionnaires through the web-based Survey Monkey software. Feedback and data from these inquiries gauge impact and effectiveness of our learning activities, as well as identify activities, skills, and knowledge most valued by program participants.

I also learn of community needs and priorities through DRC Learning Solutions, as I provide program evaluation and strategic planning consulting to various community-based organizations, governmental entities, and private businesses. The focus of my company is JEDI; consequently, the goal of my assessments and planning assignments is usually determining the needs of historically marginalized communities and people.

Do you anticipate any conflicts of interest that might require you to excuse yourself from the review of any potential project? For example, do you or an immediate family member staff or sit on the board of an organization that might seek a grant from this program? Are you a consultant that might be interested in submitting a proposal for the type of work that this program funds? Please explain.

The Blueprint Foundation does have work that aligns with this program. We have not previously sought out funds from this grant program. If we decide to do so in future, I would excuse myself from the scoring and discussion of that project. Similarly, I would do so if one of our partner organizations applies. I have previously served on a Metro grant selection committee where the latter has occurred.



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Metro Central Community Enhancement Program Committee interest form

Please return completed two-page application to:

Metro Regional Center
Attn: Rob Nathan
Email: rob.nathan@oregonmetro.gov
Questions? Call 503-797-1691

Information

Name: Kelly Stevens

Organization or business (optional): ReBuilding Center

Mailing address: 8919 NW Mills Street

City: Portland State: OR Zip: 97231

Preferred phone: 541.968.4416 Email: kboreing@gmail.com

Residential address: 8919 NW Mills Street

Check one:

- Forest Park Neighborhood Association
- Friends of Cathedral Park
- Linnton Neighborhood Association
- Northwest District Neighborhood Association
- Northwest Industrial area (NINA)

*Metro strives for membership on its committee that reflects the diversity of the Portland metro region.
The following demographic information is optional:*

Gender: Female Age: 32 Race or ethnicity: White (Non-Hispanic)

Briefly describe your interest in the Metro Central Enhancement Committee and why you would like to serve.

I am passionate about working and volunteering for initiatives that improve the health of our natural environment and foster equity. As part of the Linnton neighborhood since 2017, I see joining the Metro Central Enhancement Committee as a way to bridge my skills and passion while supporting vital projects in my closest community. The Linnton community has a rich cultural history and a unique geography where forest meets heavy industry and river—and with that, environmental and justice concerns.



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Members of the Metro Central Enhancement Committee offer a wide variety of complementary skills and experiences. Please describe your relevant knowledge and experience.

I currently work as the Deputy Director at the ReBuilding Center where we are dedicated to making a material difference by building equitable, sustainable, and vibrant communities through reuse. Before that, I spent five years helping to mobilize “agents of change” at the Center for Earth Leadership as Associate Director. I also served as Interim Director of Senior Advocates for Generational Equity.

I know the sustainability community in the greater Portland area well. My personal skills and experience in this realm have largely focused on working on the behind-the-scenes operational details to ensure that organizations run efficiently and stay focused on mission-based work. I am eager to take on difficult challenges and work collaboratively to bring out the best in team members and programs.

Please explain how you keep informed and aware of the community’s diverse needs and priorities. Summarize any relevant experience working with people of varied backgrounds

At the ReBuilding Center, we work to ensure that people and building materials—specifically those perceived as liabilities and cast off by society—are valued and activated as community assets. We offer DIY Education classes, enhance environmental and community health through our reuse operations, and open employment pathways in the green trades for marginalized populations. We are a community-driven organization that continues to adapt and serve community needs as defined by the communities we serve.

Open to all, our priority is creating pathways to engage those experiencing disparities in our programs and services—including people of color, disadvantaged youth, the formerly incarcerated, people with disabilities, immigrants and refugees, people who have been priced out or are at risk of displacement, the LGBTQ+ community, women, the houseless, and low-income individuals. I thrive on serving my colleagues to carry out this work as well as those we directly serve. I am eager to activate my skills, resources, and passion to serve my community and the environment.

Do you anticipate any conflicts of interest that might require you to excuse yourself from the review of any potential project? For example, do you or an immediate family member staff or sit on the board of an organization that might seek a grant from this program? Are you a consultant that might be interested in submitting a proposal for the type of work that this program funds? Please explain.

I don’t anticipate any conflicts of interest. The ReBuilding Center is unlikely to seek a grant from the program given its geographic focus.
