

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING NEW)	RESOLUTION NO. 20-5134
APPOINTMENTS TO THE METRO)	
COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY)	Introduced by Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, in compliance with Metro’s Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (“Strategic Plan”) the Metro Council created the Committee on Racial Equity (“CORE”), approved its charter and confirmed the appointment of its two founding co-chairs on March 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, by a fair and open process, Metro has recruited applicants for the CORE and the Metro Council President has appointed selected applicants consisting of members of the public who have a commitment to advancing racial equity and the skills, knowledge and lived experience to assist Metro Council and staff on the implementation and evaluation of the Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.030 requires that the Metro Council confirm appointments made by the Council President to Metro’s Advisory Committees; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the appointments by the Metro Council President to the CORE are hereby confirmed to serve for one two-year term, effective immediately, in the form attached as Exhibit A.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 29th day of October, 2020.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

Exhibit A to Resolution No. 20-5134, For the Purpose of Confirming New Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Appointments to Metro's Committee on Racial Equity

October 15th, 2020

Table 1. Individuals recommended for appointment to Metro's Committee on Racial Equity.

Name	County
Jamila Dozier	Multnomah
Rebecca Descombes	Washington
Nabin Dhimal	Multnomah
Anthony Deloney	Multnomah

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-5134, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING
NEW APOINTMENTS TO THE METRO COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY

Date: Thursday, October 15 2020
Department: Office of the COO – Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion
Meeting Date: Thursday, October 29 2020

Prepared by: Sebrina Owens-Wilson, 503-797-
1774,
Presenter(s) (if applicable): N/A
Length: N/A

ISSUE STATEMENT

Resolution No. 20-5134 requests the appointment of four new members to Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity (CORE). This ensures the CORE can continue to fill their chartered role in advising Metro council and staff on the implementation of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.

ACTION REQUESTED

The Metro Council appoints four new members of Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity for two-year terms.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

This ensures the CORE can continue to fill their chartered role in advising Metro council and staff on the implementation of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Furthermore, the appointment of these four members supports CORE’s wide geographic representation, representation of diverse lived experiences, and inclusion of an array of relevant skills and knowledge that will support CORE in its mission.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

N/A

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Metro Council appoint four new members of Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity for two-year terms. The members recommended for appointment, and their county of residence, are detailed in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 20-5134.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

N/A

BACKGROUND

The CORE is a committee that was created and chartered by the Metro Council in 2017 to advise the Council and staff in advancing racial equity to fulfill the purpose of good government, which is to serve all people effectively and create greater opportunities for people of color to thrive in the region. The CORE is an ongoing, standing Metro committee, whose main purpose is to:

- provide input and advice for the successful implementation of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Strategic Plan);
- provide community oversight and opportunities for Metro to have greater accountability to the community on the implementation of the Strategic Plan;
- communicate Metro's progress in implementing the Strategic Plan, and
- assist Metro staff in the creation and implementation of the Strategic Plan evaluation.

In August 2020 DEI Program staff started the process to solicit applications from members of the public to serve on the CORE. Twenty two (22) complete applications were submitted by community members interested in serving on the CORE. Two community members (two current CORE members) and four Metro staff reviewed and assessed the applications received using the criteria for committee membership set forth in the CORE charter. This group presents four applicants recommended for appointment to the CORE. These community members (Tristan Penn and Karla Hernandez) and Metro staff (Raahi Reddy, Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Molly Cooney-Mesker and Ina Zucker) met on September 30, 2020 to identify the roster of recommended appointments. After thoughtful consideration and deliberation, they agreed on the four names to recommend for appointment, which are listed in Exhibit A to Resolution 20-5134

ATTACHMENTS

Short biographies for members recommended for appointment are included in Exhibit A to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 20-5134.

Exhibit A to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 20-5134, For the Purpose of Confirming New Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Committee on Racial Equity

Member appointment – member biographies

Jamila Aurora Dozier

Affiliation:

Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Multnomah County

About: “As a person holding multiple sociocultural marginalized identities, the pursuit of racial equity is vital to my very existence and overall survival. Racial equity matters as every human being deserves the right to self agency, housing, food, wellness, joy, community, safety, and radical imagination. For the past 2 years, I have served on the Human Rights Commission for the City of Portland, working collectively to provide policy recommendations to address houselessness, racist policing structures, and racial and gender discrimination. In a professional sense, I serve as the East Portland Policy Coordinator for the Portland Housing Bureau, working toward creating housing stabilization for Portlanders who have been displaced, and implementing preventative programs to prevent further displacement.”

Rebecca Descombes

Affiliation: Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)

Pronouns: she/her/hers

County of residence: Washington County

About: “I am Inupiaq Eskimo from Utqiagvik, Alaska, a very remote town located at the top of Alaska. As remote as Utqiagvik is, I grew up in a pretty diverse community. Racial Equity to me means that all voices can and will be heard in a safe and open environment for the collective good. My Grandfather, Eben Hopson, paved the way for many Alaskan Native / Native American communities throughout Alaska's territories in the 60s-80s. The biggest lesson I learned from him is the importance of having a voice and to speak up for or against systems of oppression that doesn't generally support Native voices. Times have changed since then yet there are still communities that still have no representation and/or voices to be heard on policies that directly impact them. I was raised and taught to continue to fight for Native communities wherever I may live as I have found a home right here in Washington County.”

Nabin Dhimal

Affiliation: Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO)

Pronouns: he/him/his

County of residence: Multnomah County

About: “As a refugee and, a person of color with my lived experience, racial equity work is very personal and close to my heart. Racial equity concedes us to recognize and acknowledge the historical perpetual systems of oppression and exclusion. Currently, I am working at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization as a program coordinator in IRCO's School Linked Youth Academic Programs overseeing the program's vision and assuring it aligns with best practices in the field. Specifically, with Restorative Justice, culturally responsive teaching, social and emotional learning.”

Anthony Deloney

Affiliation: Self Enhancement, Inc. (SEI)

Pronouns: he/him/his

County of residence: Multnomah County

About: "I am a 47 year native of Portland. Specifically, Northeast Portland. I have dedicated my entire professional life to serving my community and I'm currently in my 25th year at Self Enhancement, Inc. I am a father, husband, coach, mentor, teacher and servant to those around me and I believe I have a lot to offer this committee. Racial equality has always come down to a simple belief for me, "If you are not at the table, you're on the menu". Black and brown people have been left out of the conversation on far too many decisions in our city, county, state and country. There has been a racial reckoning across our country, and I'm excited to play my part in being a loud voice for the people I represent."