

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING)	RESOLUTION NO. 21-5226
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, the CORE is a Metro Advisory Committee under Metro Code Chapter 2.19.270; 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 and re-appointments made by the Council President to Metro’s Advisory Committees.

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

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 9th day of December, 2021.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

Exhibit A to Resolution No. 21-5226, For the Purpose of Confirming New Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Appointments to Metro's Committee on Racial Equity

December 6, 2021

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

Name	County	End of term
Ernesto Oliva	Multnomah	November, 2023
Wade Hopkins	Multnomah	November, 2023
Brandon Culbertson	Washington	November, 2023

Table 2. Individuals recommended for re-appointment to Metro's Committee on Racial Equity.

Name	County	Joined CORE	Second term length	End of term
Quincy Brown	Multnomah	2019	1 – year	November, 2022
Daniela Ortiz	Washington	2019	2 – years	November, 2023
Maria Magallon	Clackamas	2019	2 – years	November, 2023
Nura Elmagbari	Washington	2019	2 – years	November, 2023
Saara Hirsi	Multnomah	2019	1 – year	November, 2022
Tristan Penn	Multnomah	2019	2 – years	November, 2023

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 21-5226, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING
NEW APOINTMENTS TO THE METRO COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY

Date: Monday, November 22, 2021
Department: Office of the COO – Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion
Meeting Date: Thursday, December 6, 2021

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

ISSUE STATEMENT

Resolution No. 21-5226 requests the appointment of three new members to Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity (CORE) and the reappointment of six current members. 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 to Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity for two-year terms and reappoints six current members to Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity for one-year or two-year terms, according to the committee member’s preference.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

This action 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. There are currently five vacant seats on the committee. The appointment of the three new members supports CORE’s, representation of diverse lived experiences, and inclusion of an array of relevant skills and knowledge that will support CORE in its mission. The remaining two seats will reserved will we continue our efforts to recruit Clackamas County residents to support regional geographic representation on the committee.

For reappointments CORE members have the option of serving an additional one-year or two-year term for their second term on CORE. Reappointing CORE members to both one-year and two-year terms allows for overlap between existing and new members and supports the continuation of institutional knowledge and capacity. 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. It establishes staggering terms and allows the DEI team to create a new annual cycle of CORE recruitment and appointment that maintains an engaged and active committee.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

N/A

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Metro Council appoint three new members to Metro’s Committee on Racial Equity for two-year terms and reappoints six current members for one- or two-year terms. The members

recommended for appointment, county of residence and term end date are detailed in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 21-5226.

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. Further, the CORE was added to Metro Code as a permanent advisory committee in 2020. The CORE's purpose is to:

- Advising Metro Council on the implementation of the [Strategic Plan to Advance Racial, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) and other racial equity strategies and initiatives,
- Providing the opportunity to meaningfully engage powerful community advocates,
- Maintaining relationships and building trust with communities of color,
- Providing a concrete mechanism for keeping Metro accountable to its racial equity goals, and
- Playing a critical advisory role in fulfilling the agency's commitments to Black, Indigenous and people of color communities.

In August 2021 DEI Program staff started the process to solicit applications from members of the public to serve on the CORE. Seventeen (17) complete applications were submitted by community members interested in serving on the CORE. Two community members (two CORE co-chairs) and four Metro staff reviewed and assessed the applications received using the criteria for committee membership set forth in the CORE bylaws and charter. This group presents three applicants recommended for appointment to the CORE. These community members (Tristan Penn and Rebecca Descombes) and Metro staff (Raahi Reddy, Sebrina Owens-Wilson, Craig Beebe and Ramona Perrault) met on October 19, 2021 to identify the roster of recommended appointments. After thoughtful consideration and deliberation, they agreed on the three names to recommend for appointment, which are listed in Exhibit A to Resolution 21-5226.

During this round of recruitment we had a goal of adding two Clackamas County residents to the committee to support regional representation on the committee. Despite wide outreach and a number of application extension we did not receive any applications from Clackamas County residents. As a result the following adjustments are being made to the recruitment process: 1) reserving two of the five open seats for Clackamas County residents and continuing targeted outreach efforts, and 2) shifting to a year round application and recruitment process to encourage more applicants to apply, support our ability to fill vacant seats as they arise unexpectedly, and create the opportunity to connect community members to other opportunities at Metro.

ATTACHMENTS

Short biographies for members recommended for appointment are included in Exhibit A to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 21-5226.

Exhibit A to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 21-5226, For the Purpose of Confirming New Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Committee on Racial Equity

Member appointment biographies

Ernesto Oliva

Pronouns: he/him/el

Affiliation: Unite Oregon

County of residence: Multnomah

About: I am a product of hardworking immigrant farm workers born in a small border town near Yuma, Arizona. I identify as Queer-Latinx-first-generation (Mexican), and I am passionate about working with refugees, immigrants, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, at-risk youth, and low-income communities. As the Washington County Director for Unite Oregon, I focus on community-centered work, leadership development, grassroots fundraising, equitable strategic planning, and political advocacy. One of our many initiatives includes the economic involvement of community leaders who work to obtain pragmatic change, resources, and opportunities to ensure the wellness, sustainability, and safety of all marginalized communities. My goal is to empower diverse community leaders by providing them with the tools needed to enact change and the confidence to sit at the table with decision-makers who can uplift their voices in their community.

Wade Hopkins

Pronouns: he/him/they

Affiliation: Portland YouthBuilders and the NE Steam Coalition

County of residence: Multnomah

About: I grew up in Portland and have seen many waves of immigration and migration. Racial equity matters to me because there is beauty and strength in diversity. If we want to live in strength and beauty we must foster inclusion and equity across our community. I love the many eras of Portland and am committed to helping systems adopt equitable plans, policies and procedures. I do so with a confidence that anti-racism and racial equity help create the community we need to face the challenges of the 21st century.

Brandon Culbertson

Pronouns: he/him

Affiliation: Beaverton School District

County of residence: Washington

About: Brandon is from the Northern Arapaho Nation (WY) and Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes (MT). He is an alumnus of the University of Oregon & Wind River Tribal College. He has 15 years' experience working on and off reservation within Native Education. Currently he works as the Native Education Coordination and Development TOSA for the Beaverton School District. His work there involves implementing Tribal History/Shared History, tribal language(s) and Indigenous Science into curriculum, CTE and classrooms (K-12). Brandon has had success progressing institutional change in partnership with the board and staff to include disaggregating AI/AN Data, changing Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples' Day, recognizing Native American Heritage month, and renaming Timberland to Tumwater Middle School. He currently serves as the vice chair of the Oregon Department of Education

American Indian/Alaska Native Advisory committee and serves as a Sergeant within the Oregon National Guard.

Committee on Racial Equity

Member re-appointments biographies

Quincy Brown

Pronouns: he/him/his

Affiliation: We All Rise

County of residence: Multnomah

About: I grew up in Northeast always learning about structural and historical inequalities deeply nested within Portland's History. From an early age I wanted to challenge perspectives around school access, housing security, and environmental justice. My academic research focuses on the effects of gentrification and displacement on communities of color. I am the co-founder of We All Rise a Black and woman-led consulting firm developing strategic partnerships across sectors to advance the integrity of community development at state and local levels.

Daniela Ortiz

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Affiliation: Beaverton Sexual Assault Resource Center

County of residence: Washington

About: I grew up in a low-income community, first generation immigrant along with my parents. I had the wonderful opportunity of volunteering in different parts of our barrio, thanks to my mother who was always an active leader in the community. My brothers and I would volunteer at schools, churches, cultural centers, and even attend marches alongside my parents. I have seen what collaborative action from the people can do, and I'm excited to see what we will accomplish working together.

Maria Magallon

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Affiliation: Clackamas County

County of residence: Clackamas

About: I come from a migrant farmworker family; my parents are from small countryside villages in Mexico. I was born in Texas; my parents moved with the seasonal crops so I consider Mt. Angel Oregon my home town. I have been employed with Clackamas County for almost 25 years; for twenty years I worked in public health and social services providing direct case management to farmworker families and families who were houseless. For the past five years my focus has been on evaluating services, policies and procedures to assure they are equitable and there is meaningful community involvement for underrepresented populations.

Nura Elmagbari

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Affiliation: Portland Refugee Support Group

County of residence: Washington

About: I am a Muslim woman who arrived into this country as a refugee. I have been in this country since I was a child but not much has changed in terms of how people perceive me and what I can

accomplish. I want to change the perception about Muslim women as well as do my part to improve my community, all while encouraging other Muslim women to become more involved. I have years of 2 experience in community and system building, non-profit work, youth development, and working with minority groups. The experience and knowledge I would bring is how to communicate with different communities by developing relationships and taking the time to humbly learn about people, their needs, their struggles, and their desires to live in an inclusive community.

Saara Hirsi

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Affiliation: Advocacy Consulting Refugee Community

County of residence: Multnomah

About: I am a disabled immigrant/refugee community and person of color. I am a community organizer, mentor, and working as advocacy consulting for disabled refugee community. I was addressing racial equity barrier impact disabled refugee community during the course of my education, trainings, and volunteers. I had ability to create program and did awareness events support for disabled refugee community. I served on the Oregon Commission for the Blind and Portland Commission on Disability.

Tristan Penn

Pronouns: he/him/his

Affiliation: NTEN

Equity hashtag: #HowDoesRaceAffectThis

County of residence: Multnomah

About: My lived experience as a Diné (Navajo) Man, as well as a Black Man growing up in Central Kansas profoundly shaped my deep and unshakable relationship with racial equity. Indeed, my family, felt the impact of structural, systemic, and institutionalized racism throughout our lives. I began my professional DEI work with Pacific Educational Group's three-year cohort/professional development initiative "Beyond Diversity: Courageous Conversations I & II" while working for Boys & Girls Club and Lawrence Public Schools. Additionally, the work that I have most recently worked on in my current role at NTEN has been the implementation of Racial Affinity Spaces at the annual national conference my organization puts on, The Nonprofit Technology Conference; as well as the formation of a DEI committee on our organization's board.