

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENTS OF ANDRÉ LIGHTSEY WALKER, BILL BEAMER, DANIELLE MAILLARD, INDIGO (INDI) NAMKOONG, JASIA MOSLEY AND LEE HELFEND AS COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE.

) RESOLUTION NO. 23-5316
)
) Introduced by: Chief Operating Officer
Marissa Madrigal in concurrence with
Council President Lynn Peterson

WHEREAS, Metro Code Sections 2.19.030(b) and 2.19.180(b)(6), and the Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) bylaws, provide that the Metro Council President shall appoint community members of TPAC, subject to confirmation by the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, TPAC coordinates and guides the regional transportation planning program and makes recommendations to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) in accordance with the policy of the Metro Council; and

WHEREAS, TPAC has six vacant regular seats for community representatives for the 2023-25 term and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council President has made the following appointments to fill the TPAC vacancies:

Appointment, TPAC Community Members 2023-25 Three-Year Term:

1. André Lightsey Walker (The Street Trust representative) André is the Policy Transformation Manager at The Street Trust. André is a transportation planning professional who is working in communities across the greater Portland region.
2. Danielle Maillard (Oregon Walks representative) is the Walking Programs Manager at Oregon Walks. At Oregon Walks she hosts a variety of programs including Dementia Walks, to support older adults with Alzheimer’s and Black to Nature, a walking series focused on Black Portlanders reclaiming recreational spaces while connecting with nature.
3. Lee Helfend (OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon) Lee is the Executive Director of OPAL. OPAL works primarily with transit dependent community members across greater Portland.

Appointment, TPAC Community Members 2023-24 Two-Year Term:

1. Bill Beamer (Community member at large) Bill is a community-focused entrepreneur with extensive experience in public health and climate justice.
2. Indigo (Indi) Namkoong (Verde representative) is the Transportation Justice Coordinator at Verde. Verde works with people with low incomes and communities of color to develop creative solutions to addressing energy, transportation and climate issues that draw from community members’ lived experiences.
3. Jasia Mosley (Community member at large) Jasia has experience in Political Organization training with Oregon AFSCME and serving as a civic action organizer at NextUp Oregon. At NextUp Oregon her focus is on community engagement and youth development.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Metro Council hereby confirms the Metro Council President's appointment of the foregoing individuals to serve as TPAC community members, for the terms noted above.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 23rd day of February 2023.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

Resolution No. 23-5316



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Memo

Date: January 18, 2023
 To: Metro Council President Peterson
 From: Margi Bradway, Deputy Director, Planning, Development and Research Dept.
 Subject: Recommendation for Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC)

Introduction

In May 2022, Metro Council approved a new approach to recruiting TPAC community representatives (see Attachment A). This approach, based on feedback from past community representatives and in consultation with Metro's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Communications staff, is aimed at increasing community member participation in TPAC. Metro recruited for six community member representatives with the expectation (but not a requirement) that they represent a community-based organization that aims to improve equitable outcomes, transportation, land use or livability within the greater Portland region. The following is staff's recommendation for six community representatives.

Recruitment

Metro opened the TPAC community-member recruitment in October 2022. It was posted to the Metro website, newsfeed and distributed to Metro's TPAC, MTAC and JPACT interested parties lists as well as fifty-seven local community-based organizations (see Attachment B).

Nine applicants responded to Metro's first round of recruitment. The recruitment was re-opened with additional outreach to increase awareness of the opportunity, especially among business, land use and environmental organizations. Metro received two additional applications through the second round of recruitment. Although, there is a small applicant pool, the applicants bring a depth and diversity of knowledge and experiences that will strengthen the committee.

Recommended community member representatives

Staff is recommending the following six community representatives to serve on TPAC during 2023 to 2026. Four of the six recommended representatives are staff at community based organizations. Three of these representatives will serve for two years and another three will serve for three years, based both on availability and the strength of their applications.

André Lightsey Walker (The Street Trust representative) André is the Policy Transformation Manager at The Street Trust. André is a transportation planning professional who is working in communities across the greater Portland region. The Street Trust partners with community based organizations to understand barriers to accessing transportation and to deliver transportation programming. André would bring to TPAC perspectives from the marginalized communities that The Street Trust is focused on engaging which includes, Black, Indigenous and People of Color, people who are LGBTQIA2S+ and people with low incomes. André is recommended for a three-year appointment.

Bill Beamer (Community member at large) Bill is a community-focused entrepreneur with extensive experience in public health and climate justice. Since coming to Portland from Washington DC twenty years ago, Bill has worked as the communications director at the African American Health Coalition, at the Multnomah County Health Department on the Department's Health Equity Initiative and at the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, connecting Black, Indigenous and People of Color community organizations to the bureau's climate action work. He is

now working to create wealth-building opportunities for communities of color, via climate action. Bill would bring to TPAC deep knowledge of environmental justice issues, strong community relationships and an interest in advancing “safe, affordable, efficient, accessible, low-carbon transportation options for BIPOC and low-income communities and other people who do not see themselves represented in ‘the environmental community.’” Bill is recommended for a 2-year appointment.

Danielle Maillard (Oregon Walks representative) is the Walking Programs Manager at Oregon Walks. In her role at Oregon Walks she hosts a variety of programs including Dementia Walks, to support older adults with Alzheimer’s and Black to Nature, a walking series focused on Black Portlanders reclaiming recreational spaces while connecting with nature. Danielle will bring to TPAC the diverse experiences of the community members she works with to inform TPAC’s discussions and decisions. In addition to bringing community perspectives to TPAC, Danielle is committed to sharing the issues and decisions discussed at TPAC with community members. Danielle is recommended for a 3-year appointment.

Indigo (Indi) Namkoong (Verde representative) is the Transportation Justice Coordinator at Verde. Verde works with people with low incomes and communities of color to develop creative solutions to addressing energy, transportation and climate issues that draw from community members’ lived experiences. In addition to bringing the perspectives of Verde community members, Indi will bring her experience in clean energy and climate justice to TPAC. She has a deep understanding of the connections between housing affordability and transportation for the communities Verde serves. Indi is recommended for a 2-year appointment.

Jasia Mosely (Community member at large) Jasia has worked with employees across the greater Portland region, as a political organizer trainee with Oregon AFSCME. She is knowledgeable about worker needs and priorities and has experience in community outreach and story collection on issues related to transportation and racial and economic inequality. Jasia is a Civic Action Organizer at Next Up. She is active in her communities, which includes Gresham and the greater region. She volunteers with community organizations to address the climate crisis, houselessness and infrastructure investments. She would bring a unique perspective developed through her professional, volunteer and lived experience. Jasia is an up-and-coming community leader who is eager to both contribute to and learn from TPAC. Jasia is recommended for a 2-year appointment.

Lee Helfend (OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon) Lee is the Executive Director of OPAL. OPAL works primarily with transit dependent community members across greater Portland. Lee will bring to TPAC the perspective of community members for whom affordable and safe transportation are daily concerns and people who have been displaced from areas with transit service. Additionally, Lee will bring the issues and topics at the TPAC table back to OPAL members who advocate in their communities for transportation, housing and environmental justice, among other issues. OPAL’s diverse membership includes people with disabilities, youth, refugees and immigrants among other under-represented community members. Lee is recommended for a 3-year appointment.

Recommend for other Metro involvement

The five other candidates who applied to serve as community representatives on TPAC will be encouraged to become involved with Metro in other ways that align with their interests, with the support of community engagement staff.