

## Other Business

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 11, 2016

**Subject:** Appointments to the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) Districts A – D and Chair

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minnesota Statute 473.375 9a.

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Adam Duininck, Chair

**Division/Department:** Chair's Office

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointments to the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee: **Sam Jasmine** – District A; **Christopher Bates** – District B; **Elizabeth (Lisa) Childs** – District C; **Ken Rodgers** – District D; **Kjensmo Walker** – Chair.

### Background

The Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee (TAAC) was established by the Metropolitan Council pursuant to MN Statute 473.375 9a. The TAAC's purpose is to advise the Council on "the development and management of policies regarding accessibility of all aspects of fixed regular route and special transportation services for persons with disabilities." The TAAC also advises the Council "on long-range plans to meet the accessible transportation needs of the disability community." The TAAC is a 16-member board which includes people who are elderly, have a disability, use special transportation, and represent appropriate agencies for people who are elderly or have a disability. The Metropolitan Council appoints eight members and the Chair. The remaining seven members are appointed by the Minnesota State Council on Disability (2), the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (2), the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging (2), and the Minnesota state AARP office (1).

### Rationale

Terms for the District E, F, G, and H and Chair positions expired January 1, 2017. A news release was issued on November 8, 2016 seeking applicants for those five openings. Eleven applications were received for the five positions and all applicants were invited to interview. Council members Munt, Dorfman, Barber and Letofsky served as the interview panel and all applicants participated in the interviews which were held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016. The applicants represented a very strong, highly qualified pool of candidates. Following the interviews, the panel reviewed the application materials, interview notes and input from other Council members. The panel consulted with Chair Duininck and their appointment recommendations are noted above. If appointed, each individual will serve a two-year term ending January 1, 2019.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

Appointing members to TAAC is necessary to keep the committee functioning. TAAC's perspective and work is critical to ensuring transit services serve all people, regardless of ability. This influences all Thrive Outcomes, especially equity and livability.

### Funding

N/A

**Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.