

Other Business

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 23, 2018

Subject: Appointments to the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) District A and all nine At-Large

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.127

Staff Prepared/Presented: Alene Tchourumoff, Chair

Division/Department: Chair's Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointments to the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC):

District A – Aarica Coleman

At Large – David Ketroser

At Large – Sonya Lewis

At Large – Samantha Pree-Stinson

At Large – Anthony Sanneh

At Large – Tommearun “Tommy” Sar

At Large – Mohamed Sheikh

At Large – Nelima Sitati Munene

At Large – Linda Soderstrom

At Large – Miah Ulysse

That the Metropolitan Council approve Nelima Sitati Munene to serve as co-chair.

Background

The Equity Advisory Committee was established by the Metropolitan Council pursuant to MN Statute 473.127. The purpose of the Equity Advisory Committee is to advise the Metropolitan Council in its work to advance equity in the metropolitan region and meet the Council's equity commitments in Thrive MSP 2040. The Equity Advisory Committee is comprised of 21 members, including 4 Council Members, 8 community members from geographic districts (A-H), and 9 community members who serve at-large.

Rationale

Terms for all nine At-Large positions expired January 1, 2018. The members for Districts A and H resigned in 2017. A news release was issued on October 30, 2017 seeking applicants for the EAC openings. Nearly 50 applications were received for the 11 positions and all applicants were invited to interview. The selection included Council Member Edward Reynoso, Council Member Wendy Wulff, Council Member Jennifer Munt, Suyapa Miranda of the American Heart Association, and Shauen Pearce of Mayor Frey's office. Interviews took place over the course of four evenings throughout April. Following the interviews, the panel reviewed the application materials and interview notes, and made appointment recommendations for the Chair's consideration. The selection panel did not recommend anyone to fill the mid-term vacancy in District H and chose to reopen the application for that seat. The Chair's final recommendations are as noted above. If approved, the District A appointment would serve the remainder of the original four-year vacated term ending on January 1, 2020, and the At-Large appointments would serve four-year

terms ending on January 1, 2022. Each member may continue to serve on the EAC until a successor is appointed to his or her seat.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Appointing members to EAC is necessary to keep the committee functioning. The committee is critical to the Council's work towards advancing all regional outcomes, including equity.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.