

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



Committee Meeting Date: 3/18/2025

For the Metropolitan Council: April 23, 2025

Business Item: 2025-112

Appointment of new Equity Advisory Co-Chair

District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.127
Staff Prepared/Presented: Charles Zelle, Chair
Division/Department: Chair's Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the following appointments to the Equity Advisory Committee geographic member or at large member Co-Chair Seat:

Carmeann Foster (At-Large)

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 Council Members, community members from geographic districts (A-H), and community members who serve at-large.

Rationale

The Equity Advisory Committee bylaws state the Council Chair will recommend to the Council for its approval the appointment of two Committee Co-Chairs to the Committee. One of the Co-Chairs will be a Council member serving on the Committee and one Co-Chair will be a geographic member or an at-large member serving on the Committee. The term of each Co-Chair is two years. After which each of the Co-Chairs may be eligible to serve as the Co-chair for one additional consecutive two-year term. The Co-Chairs shall preside at all meetings of the Committee and shall have such duties and responsibilities as are normally attendant upon such an office including, but not limited to:

1. Providing leadership and presiding over Committee meetings; and
2. Serving as a Committee liaison to the Council.

The term of the current community co-chair expired in January 1, 2025 but continued to serve until a new action for co-chair was approved. The Equity Advisory Committee members have recommended a new geographic or an at-large co-chair at the March 18, 2025 meeting. Carmeann Foster(At-Large) was recommended by the committee.

Thrive Lens Analysis

On Feb.12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. The impact of the Equity Advisory Committee is in alignment with the Thrive 2040 equity outcomes. A new co-chair to the 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

Small Business Inclusion

n/a

