

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



Committee Meeting Date: 8/19/2025

For the Metropolitan Council: August 13, 2025

Business Item: 2025-197

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:

Astrid Benedetto (At-Large)

Markeya Knight (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 Four Council members, one each from the Council's Community Development, Environment, Transportation, and Management committees. Eight geographic members, one each from the following Districts throughout our Metropolitan area.

Nine at-large members, each of whom must be a resident of the seven-county metropolitan area as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.121. Of the geographic and at-large members, to ensure diversity of perspective the Council will strive to have at least one representative from the following groups: African American, Asian American, American Indian, Latino, immigrant, people who experience socio-economic and wealth disparities, and people with disabilities. Providing leadership and presiding over Committee meetings; and

2. Serving as a Committee liaison to the Council.

Committee members will serve four-year staggered terms. Committee members may be eligible for reappointment for one additional four-year term up to a total of eight years. Notwithstanding the expiration of a committee member's term, the member will continue to serve until a successor is appointed by the Council. Committee members serve at the pleasure of the Council and may be removed by the Council at any time.

Funding

n/a

