

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 18-4860, FOR PURPOSE OF
CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENTS OF MARIA HERNANDEZ, EMILY LAI, AND
BEVERLY DROTTAR AS COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE

Date: December 7, 2018

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BACKGROUND

The Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) provides technical advice to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and the Metro Council regarding transportation planning and policy. TPAC has 21 members: 15 technical staff from governments in the region and 6 interested community members. The community members represent various areas of transportation expertise, parts of the region and community perspectives. As a focus for this cycle of appointments, the selection committee sought applicants with expertise in the following areas as they relate to transportation planning:

- the economic needs of underrepresented residents such as people of color, people with low income, people with disabilities, seniors and youth.
- public health and safety issues related to transportation

Currently TPAC has three vacant community member positions, each for 2-year terms. All three nominees responded to an extensive recruitment outreach and were interviewed by the panel as a part of the public recruitment process in Fall 2017.

Community members nominated for the vacant positions are:

- **Maria Hernandez** - Maria is the Advocacy Coordinator for OPAL, a grassroots non-profit that serves as a hub for Oregon's environmental justice movement. She has also been involved in a range of civic efforts over the past few years, notably as board member for the Oregon Latino Agenda and with the youth-led Latinos Unidos Siempre as an organizer and educator. She has also worked with a non-profit focused on protections for farmworkers that traces to her roots growing up in Woodburn. Maria lives in Northeast Portland.
- **Emily Lai** - Emily is currently the Director of Programs and Advocacy at Momentum Alliance, a youth-led non-profit whose mission is to inspire young people and mentor future social justice leaders. She is also deeply involved in community organizing through her work, and has served in a number of professional and volunteer positions centered on community-based organizing. Emily has been transit-dependent in her life and is very committed to a transportation system that equitable and affordable to all those who live in our region. Emily lives in North Portland and works in Northeast Portland.

- **Beverly Drott** - Beverly is a retired Family Medicine physician who has long been engaged as a volunteer, mostly in the conservation and outdoor communities. Her interest in serving on TPAC is the need to continue retrofitting areas built without adequate sidewalks and bikeways to truly take advantage of the main streets and centers that are planned across our region, and to provide for active living for residents of all ages. Beverly lives in the West Slope area, and manages to walk extensively, despite major barriers in the built environment.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition:** None.
2. **Legal Antecedents:** Metro Code Sections 2.19.030 (a) and (b) and 2.19.180 (b)(6); Metro TPAC Bylaws.
3. **Anticipated Effects:** Approval fills all vacancies for community members on TPAC.
4. **Budget Impacts:** None.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the adoption of Resolution No. 18-4860.