

## STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENTS OF IDRIS IBRAHIM, GLADYS ALVARADO, AND DONOVAN SMITH AS COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AND TAREN EVANS, YOUSIF BRAHIM AND WILSON MUNOZ AS ALTERNATE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE.

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Date: November 27, 2019  
Department: Planning & Development  
Meeting Date: December 12, 2019

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## BACKGROUND

### *General Considerations in Making These Recommendations*

Metro's Transportation Policy Alternatives Committee (TPAC) is a 21-member technical committee that advises the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPACT) on transportation policy and funding matters. TPAC consists mostly of local and state government representatives, but also includes six community representatives recruited at large. Community members serve in overlapping 2-year terms and are appointed by the Council. Each year, Metro reaches out to the community to fill three 2-year seats on the committee. From this recruitment, the Council President recommends a final slate of candidates to the Council to complete the appointment process.

Metro's overriding objective in recent appointments is to bring diversity to TPAC, a committee that is a predominately white space. This effort is consistent with the Metro's diversity, equity and inclusion plan and the Planning and Development Department's strategy for implement the plan in our planning-related activities. This was a focus of our current recruitment, and we had an excellent response from communities of color. All six of the recommended candidates for the coming 2-year term are from communities of color, as are the three candidates recommended as alternates for the TPAC community seats.

Geographic representation is also a consideration in order to bring community perspectives from around the region. While we experienced a light response from Clackamas County in this round, two of our current mid-term community representatives are from this part of the region, ensuring that two of the six sitting members will continue to bring a Clackamas perspective. The six recommended candidates for the three open seats and three alternative positions are from East Portland and Washington County, providing perspectives from across the region.

Two youth candidates are also included in this recommendation, one as a regular member and one as an alternate. Both youth candidates are high school students, but confirmed their ability to attend TPAC meetings during the day and will bring a new dimension to the committee on topics like climate change that have generational implications.

***Recommended as TPAC Community Members for 2020-21 Term***

**Idris Ibrahim** - Idris is a dynamic, high-energy youth from an immigrant Somali family in the Tigard area. He has a deep interest in transit and social justice, in part spurred by his family's experiences with racial and religious harassment while using public transit. Idris has been involved with Momentum Alliance and has extensive community networks in his hometown of Tigard and within the local Muslim community.

**Gladys Alvarado** - Gladys is a Portland native who is deeply rooted in the Latino community of East Portland, including past professional experience with La Hacienda and Providence Health Systems. Gladys now works for the Latino Network and brings outstanding insights into the connections between health and transportation.

**Donovan Smith** - Donovan is an area native who has experienced living around the region in his young life and has personally witnessed gentrification and displacement as a member of the African American community. Donovan has been a social activist on many fronts, including the Portland Harbor cleanup, writing for the Scanner and Observer and originating the *Gentrification is Weird* project.

***Recommended as TPAC Alternates for 2020-21 Term***

**Taren Evans** - Trained with an urban planning degree, Taren has devoted her career to social and environmental justice and the social impact of the climate crisis. Taren works for the Coalition of Communities of Color.

**Yousif Brahim** - Yousif is a high-impact youth candidate dedicated to social justice. Yousif was involved in the Southwest Corridor planning as part of Unite Oregon and continues to be an influential community advocate who sees transit as a critical tool for achieving social justice.

**Wilson Muñoz** - Immigrated to Portland from Central America in the 1990s with a young family, and has worked in goods transport and logistics across the region. Wilson is now with the City of Beaverton where he serves on the city's Inclusion and Equity Team.

## **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. 19-5057.

