

Citizen Oversight Panel:

Reforms to Increase Panel Diversity

Board of Directors

3/24/2022

Why we are here

- Provide an update on work undertaken to-date to improve panel recruitment
- Seek Board approval on Resolution No. R2022-05 to update the panel responsibilities and parameters and change the panel name to Community Oversight Panel

Work Done To-Date

Broaden outreach and improve application process

- Added 25 organizations and industry groups which serve diverse populations to recruitment outreach list.
- Included question about panelist's commitment to equity and inclusion.
- Added option for supporting documents beyond a resume/CV.
- Added voluntary self identification survey to application so the Board can better understand demographics of the applicant pool.

Past Board Actions

Motion 18 (1996)

- Established COP as an independent body, reviewing RTA performance to deliver services and facilities in Sound Move
- Selected policy areas for oversight

Selection Process for the COP (1996)

- Determined panel size and subarea representation
- Set requirements for panel members
- Established application and selection process

Motion No. M2002-87

- Established term lengths and term limits

Areas for Potential Reform

- Staff reviewed all past Board actions regarding the COP and identified three categories for potential reforms:
 - Candidate eligibility
 - Panel structure
 - Panel responsibilities

Candidate Eligibility

Changes the Board may want to consider Motion 1

- Allow residents not registered to vote to serve on panel so long as they work or live within the district.
- Must have experience, skills, *or insight* in areas identified as panel oversight responsibilities

Panel Structure

Changes the Board may want to consider

- Reduce term length to 3 years and allow new members to serve three terms (for a total of nine years)
- Require virtual meeting option
- Recommend that COP look for opportunities to accommodate applicant requests for meetings outside of normal business hours
- Report directly to the Board, not through the Finance and Audit Committee
- Change name to Community Oversight Panel

Panel Responsibilities

Current Requirements as identified in Motion 18

- Monitors:
 - public participation in plan implementation,
 - evaluation of project alternatives,
 - annual capital and operating budget and plan of finance,
 - regional fund management,
 - equity, subarea budgets and reporting,
 - schedule and budget adherence,
 - annual performance review audits.

Panel Responsibilities

Restructured responsibilities for consideration

- **Updated language for areas currently monitored by the COP:**
 - community engagement activities
 - project planning and alignment decisions (*required*)
 - budget and financial plan (*financial plan required*)
 - project schedule and budget adherence
 - agency performance audits (*required*)
- **Additional monitoring areas for consideration:**
 - social justice and equity
 - rider experience

Next Steps

- **Today** – Consider changes in Resolution No. R2022-05.
- **March 25th** – Staff begins recruitment effort under new requirements.
- **May Executive Committee** – Committee recommends candidates for Board appointment.
- **May Board Meeting** – Board considers appointments to open positions.

Thank you.



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