



Motion No. M2023-40

Community Oversight Panel Appointment

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Board	05/25/2023	Final action	Kathy Albert, Chief Strategic Business Officer Katie Flores, Deputy Executive Director, Board Administration

Proposed action

Appointing Donia Zaheri to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning June 1, 2023, and expiring May 31, 2026.

Key features summary

- In February 2023, Community Oversight Panel (COP) member Larry Sauvé's first of three available terms expired. He advised the panel that he did not intend to seek a second term, leaving a vacancy for representation of the North King County geographical subarea.
- Recruitment to fill the vacancy began in early 2023 when Mr. Sauvé stated his desire not to seek a second term on the panel.
- This would be the first term for Ms. Zaheri. If willing, she would be eligible to serve two additional three-year terms.
- Ms. Zaheri currently works and lives in the North King County subarea.

Background

The Sound Transit Community Oversight Panel is a 15-member advisory committee of community volunteers appointed by the Sound Transit Board to monitor and report on Sound Transit's performance in delivering on the commitments it made in Sound Move, ST2, and ST3. The COP is charged with an annual review of Sound Transit's performance and financial plan and provides reports and recommendations to the Board.

The current responsibilities include monitoring Sound Transit's performance in the following areas:

- Community engagement activities
- Project planning and alignment decisions
- Budget and financial plan
- Project schedule and budget adherence
- Agency performance audits
- Social justice and equity
- Passenger experience

In early 2023, staff began a recruiting effort to fill the upcoming vacancy of outgoing COP member Larry Sauvé representing the North King County geographical subarea. This action would fill that vacancy.

Candidate qualifications include:

- Residing and/or working in King County, Pierce County, or Snohomish County within the Sound Transit district boundary.
- Having experience, skills or insight in one or more of the Community Oversight Panel's responsibilities - community engagement activities, project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial plan, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, social justice and equity, and passenger experience.
- Being able to attend meetings once each month in the evening, either in person or via virtual meeting platform.

At its May 4, 2023 meeting, the Executive Committee received a nomination to appoint Ms. Donia Zaheri to serve on the panel representing the North King County subarea and asked that her appointment be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Ms. Zaheri is a data scientist and deputy project manager with WSP USA. She moved to the United States from Iran to pursue a master's degree in transportation engineering and then began a career in transportation engineering consultation. She is passionate about providing inclusive mobility and accessibility, and brings experience in community engagement, project planning and alignment decision, budgeting and financial planning, project schedule and budget adherence, social justice and equity, and passenger experience.

Fiscal information

Not applicable to this action.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

Not applicable to this action.

Time constraints

A one-month delay would not create a significant impact to the Community Oversight Panel.

Environmental review – KH 5/11/23

Legal review – DLM 5/19/2023



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A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority appointing Donia Zaheri to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning June 1, 2023, and expiring May 31, 2026.

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Motion

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that Donia Zaheri is appointed to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning June 1, 2023, and expiring May 31, 2026.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on May 25, 2023.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator