



City of Arts & Innovation

REVISED

Date: 2-9-23
Item No.: 2

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: FEBRUARY 9, 2023
FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE WARDS: ALL
SUBJECT: BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

ISSUE:

Interview applicants for the Board of Ethics, Board of Public Utilities, and Planning Commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor and City Council:

1. Conduct interviews and appoint two applicants to Citywide seats on the Board of Ethics for terms ending March 1, 2027;
2. Conduct an interview and appoint an applicant to the Ward 4 seat on the Board of Ethics for term ending March 1, 2027;
3. Conduct interviews and appoint an applicant to the Citywide seat on the Board of Public Utilities for term ending March 1, 2025; and
4. Conduct interviews and appoint an applicant to the Citywide seat on the Planning Commission for term ending March 1, 2024.

BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

On March 1, 2023, numerous Commissioners on the various Boards and Commissions terms will expire. The City Council Rules of Procedure and Order of Business (Resolution No. 23618) Section XIV(A) provides that the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee (MNSC) review applications submitted and identify applicants for an interview with the Mayor and City Council for vacancies on the Community Police Review Commission, Board of Ethics, Planning Commission, and Board of Public Utilities.

The City Clerk's Office conducted citywide recruitment and received applications from individuals wishing to serve on the various Board and Commissions. In addition, some commissioners concluding their first term expressed a desire to be reappointed.

On January 10, 2023, the MNSC consisting of Chair Lock Dawson and Members Cervantes, Conder, and Perry considered the applications submitted and referred the following for interviews by the Mayor and City Council:

Board of Ethics – Two Citywide seats through 2027

Beth M. Hill-Skinner
Gustavo Garcia Jr.
Kelechi E. Azubuike
Alycia M. Benson
Sandy R. Tarmo

Board of Ethics – Ward 4 seat through 2027

Natalie M. Gomez

Board of Public Utilities – Citywide seat through 2025

Brian D. Siana
Kerry M. Hanson
Ronald T. Brees

Planning Commission – Citywide seat through 2024

Launa K. Wilson
Thomas H. Safford
Mark D. Berg
Tina Patel
Robin C. Treen

Councilmember Edwards referred Sandra Polichetti for interview by the Mayor and City Council to the Board of Public Utilities.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

The Mayor and City Council conducting interviews for the board and commission annual recruitment contributes to the City Council's Envision 2025 Strategic Plan Priority and Goal:

High Performing Government - Provide world-class public service that is efficient, accessible, and responsible to all, and the following goal:

Goal 5.3 - Enhance communication and collaboration with community members to improve transparency, build public trust, and encourage shared decision-making.

The appointment to a board and commission aligns with the Envision 2025 Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – Riverside is transparent makes decisions through sound policy, inclusive community engagement, involvement of City Boards and Commissions, and timely and reliable information. The City's involvement with the interview process is transparent and serves the public interest, as these interviews are conducted in a public meeting.
2. **Equity** – Riverside residents are encouraged to apply to all City Boards and Commissions. The City supports racial, ethnic, religious, sexual orientation, identity, geographic, and other diversity attributes and is committed to advancing equity through fair treatment and recognition of rights. The demographics section is removed on the application when selecting applicants for interviews, allowing for an unbiased selection process.

3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Riverside is a prudent steward of public funds and ensures responsible management of the City's financial resources while providing quality public services to all. Boards and commissions ensure quality services are provided to all with fiscal responsibility as a priority. The City Clerk's Office annual budget includes funding to support and maintain Boards and Commissions processes.
4. **Innovation** – Through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes, board and commission interviews allow new members to bring innovative ideas to meet the community's changing needs and prepare for the future.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Riverside is committed to meeting the present needs without compromising the needs of the future and ensuring the City's capacity to persevere, adapt and grow during fluctuating times alike. It is essential to keep boards and commissions active and engaged in maintaining sustainable and resilient programs and services and monitoring and promoting innovation for a more sustainable future.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Recruitment and appointment costs are funded in the City Clerk's Office budget.

Prepared by: Donesia Gause, City Clerk
Approved as to form: Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Concurs with:



Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson, Chair
Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee

Attachments: Interview Schedule
Board of Ethics Roster
Board of Ethics Applications
Board of Public Utilities Roster
Board of Public Utilities Applications
Planning Commission Roster
Planning Commission Applications