



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# City Council Memorandum

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: OCTOBER 5, 2021**

**FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE WARDS: ALL**

**SUBJECT: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES INTERVIEWS FOR WARD 2 SEAT**

**ISSUE:**

Interview applicants for the Board of Public Utilities Ward 2 seat.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Mayor and City Council interview applicants for the Ward 2 seat on the Board of Public Utilities for a term ending March 1, 2024.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

The Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee met on July 20, 2021, with Chair Lock-Dawson and Members Fierro and Conder present, and unanimously recommended that the City Council interview Rebeccah A. Goldware and Brian D. Siana for the Board of Public Utilities Ward 2 seat for a term through March 1, 2024. Additionally, Councilmember Cervantes selected Sergio A. Robles for an interview.

**BACKGROUND/LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

The City Council Rules of Procedure and Order of Business (Resolution No. 23618) Section XIV(A) provides that vacancies on the Community Police Review Commission, Board of Ethics, Planning Commission, and Board of Public Utilities, the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee review applications submitted and identify applicants for interview with the Mayor and City Council. The City Clerk notifies the Mayor and City Council of those selected for an interview.

The Mayor and each member of the City Council may add additional applicants for an interview if desired. The Mayor and City Council immediately vote on the appointments following the interviews. With a full quorum, five affirmative votes are required.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

The Mayor and City Council conducting interviews to fill vacancies 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 of a Board of Public Utilities board member 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 attributes of diversity and is committed to advancing equity through fair treatment and recognition of rights. The demographics section is redacted on the application when selecting applicants for interviews, allowing for a fair and 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. Board of Public Utilities ensures 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** – Board and Commission interviews allow for new members to bring innovative ideas to meet the community's changing needs and prepare for the future, through collaborative partnerships and adaptive processes.
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 an active and engaged Board of Public Utilities to maintain sustainable and resilient programs and services and monitor and promote 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:



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

Attachments: Interview Schedule  
Board of Public Utilities Roster and Applications