



Board Report

File #: 2020-0572, **File Type:** Informational Report

Agenda Number: 25.

**OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 17, 2020**

**SUBJECT: REPORT BACK ON COMMUNITY SAFETY APPROACH TO SYSTEM SECURITY
AND LAW ENFORCEMENT**

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION

RECEIVE AND FILE Report on a Community Safety Approach to System Security and Law Enforcement.

ISSUE

At the June 2020 Regular Board meeting, Board Directors Bonin, Garcetti, Hahn, Dupont-Walker, and Solis filed motion 37, requesting System Security and Law Enforcement, the Executive Officer for Equity and Race, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, and the Office of Civil Rights, to report back in 90 days with recommendations on implementing a community approach to System Security and Law Enforcement.

BACKGROUND

In the recent months, there has been nationwide demonstrations for racial justice and a conversation about the appropriate role of police in our society. Community leaders are demanding a shift in how agencies deliver public safety at every level of government. This includes reforming police practices as well as reallocating resources typically devoted to policing to other community safety initiatives.

DISCUSSION

In an effort to take a community-centered approach to safety, Metro is to establish a Transit Public Safety Advisory Committee to re-envision transit safety and explore community-based approaches to policing leading up to and as part of the 2022 renewal of the multiagency police contract that was approved in 2017. Staff referenced the City of Santa Monica and BART as they've recently launched similar efforts.

To ensure the committee is comprised of diverse perspectives and reflects Metro's ridership, staff proposes the following membership, criteria, and selection process:

Membership

- 15-member committee and 3 alternates
- Representation from the existing Community Safety and Security Working Group led by the Executive Officer for Equity and Race
- Representation from diverse perspectives, including racial, cultural, gender, sexual orientation, income, geography, immigration status, housing status, persons with disabilities, union groups

Criteria

- Individuals who regularly ride Metro's system, have knowledge and expertise as advocates for racial justice, equitable transportation, and/or public safety reform, law enforcement experts, mental health providers or experts, and/or social service providers or experts
- Membership commitment required until June 2022

Selection Process

- Application - see Attachment A
 - Three-week application window: October 12, 2020 - November 6, 2020
 - Applications will be made available online on Metro's System Security and Law Enforcement webpage and at Metro Headquarters
 - Will partner with Communications to advertise across Metro's networks
 - Phone line will be made available for support
 - Applications can be submitted via email or mail
- Applications will be reviewed by the Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer, Chief Civil Rights Officer, Executive Officer for Equity and Race, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, and Chief of Staff

Staff anticipate notifying selected and non-selected applicants by early December and having its kick-off meeting in January 2021. One of the initial tasks for the committee will be to develop a governing charter to guide its purpose, functions, and bylaws.

The Committee will be supported by Metro staff representatives consisting of the following: Chief of Civil Rights, Executive Officer for Equity and Race, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, Chief of Staff, Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer. In addition, a non-Metro facilitator will be solicited to help guide the discussions of the Committee and support with meeting coordination. Staff is currently conducting market research for these services.

Metro staff and PSAC will review data and hold discussions to support development of a community-based approach to public safety. Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to, the following topics, as detailed in motion #37:

- Development of a Transit Ambassador Program
- Alternatives to armed law enforcement response to nonviolent crimes
- Greater community stewardship of transit spaces
- Universal Blue Light Program

- Education on fare discount programs
- Outreach and services for unhoused individuals
- Curtailing behaviors and conditions that adversely affect the health and safety of other riders
- Review of Metro's Customer Code of Conduct
- Develop a definition, mission, and values statement for transit safety
- Reallocation of resources to the above strategies

In addition, System Security and Law Enforcement staff will work with the committee members to launch its Community-Oriented Policing Plan, review best practices for public safety, like the 21st Century Policing Standards, and launch a systemwide public safety survey of customers and front-line employees. The survey will help determine recommendations and serve as a baseline to track the effectiveness of public safety initiatives that are implemented.

Lastly, Metro will consult with PSAC members when developing the new multi-agency police contract.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Impact to Budget

At this moment, the recommendations outlined do not have a financial impact. The members of the Committee will serve on a voluntary basis. The facilitator, support for meetings, and the business of the Committee will be handled based on available resources from the supporting Metro departments.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

This recommendation supports strategic plan goal 2.1 of improving security.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will report back with an update at the January 2021 Regular Board meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A PSAC Application

Prepared by:

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Aaron Weinstein, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, (213) 922-3028

KeAndra Cylear Dodds, Executive Officer for Equity and Race, (213) 922-4850

Imelda Hernandez, Chief Administrative Analyst, (213) 922-4848

Reviewed by:

Bob Green, Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer, (213) 922-4811

Jonaura Wisdom, Chief Civil Rights Officer, (213) 418-3168



Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer



Metro

Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

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**Transit Public Safety Advisory Committee
(PSAC)
Membership Application**

Thank you for your interest in Metro’s **Transit Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)**. We are looking for individuals who regularly ride Metro’s system, and who are committed to ensuring that Metro follows best practices for providing a service by which its customers feel and are safe. Advisory Committee members should bring relevant knowledge and expertise as residents, advocates for racial justice and/or public safety reform, law enforcement experts, mental health providers or experts, and/or social services providers or experts. The committee will help facilitate a community-based approach to public safety on Metro’s transit system. *Please note, members serving on the PSAC are not required to be U.S. citizens.*

We appreciate your willingness to give of your time and expertise to this important work and thank you for being a part of the movement to continually ensure that Metro provides a world-class transportation for all.



Metro™

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. Which of the following best describes you? Check all that apply.

Ethnicity:

- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black/African American
- Caucasian
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Native American
- Other

Age:

- 16-24
- 25-39
- 40-60
- 60+

Gender:

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary

Annual Income:

- Less than \$30,000
- \$30,000 to \$60,000
- More than \$60,000

Housing Status:

- Homeowner
- Unhoused
- Renter
- Other

Are you a person with a disability(s)?

- Yes
- No

Sexual Orientation:

- Heterosexual or straight
- Gay or lesbian
- Bisexual
- Other

2. Are you affiliated with any organizations or unions?

- No
- Yes, please provide name: _____



Metro™

3. In 2019, on average, how often did you ride Metro buses or trains?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Every day or most days | <input type="checkbox"/> A few times per year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At least once a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a year or less |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At least once a month | <input type="checkbox"/> Never |

4. Do you have any relationships (professional, financial, or otherwise) that may present a potential conflict of interest in working with Metro or the Public Safety Advisory Committee?

5. Experience and Interest

a. Please select the area(s) of interest or experience.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Racial justice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Social services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public transit and/or Equitable transit | <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Primary Transit User (Transit Dependent or Carless) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

b. Describe the experience, knowledge, technical skills, and/or education, professional or otherwise which you possess regarding the area(s) selected above. Please feel free to attach a resume.



Metro

6. Are you a current or former member of any other Metro advisory committees? If yes, please describe:

7. Please state your reason(s) for applying to the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

8. How can you contribute to the mission of the Public Safety Advisory Committee?

9. What are your top goals for your tenure on the Public Safety Advisory Committee if your application is accepted?



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Los Angeles County
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952

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10. Being a part of the committee means attending regular meetings at least until June 2022. Are you available to participate at this level?

11. Please provide any additional information you think will support your selection to serve on Metro’s Public Safety Advisory Committee.

For any of the above questions, please feel free to attach additional page(s) if needed.

Note: It is important that you complete all parts of the application. If your application is incomplete, your application may not be accepted.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Return this form and relevant attachments to:

Imelda Hernandez, One Gateway Plaza, Mail Stop 99-25-1, Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952 or email to PSAC@metro.net. Feel free to call (213) 922.4848 with any questions.

Application period closes Friday, November 6, 2020

A large crowd of people is walking along a covered walkway. In the foreground, a white bus is visible, with the word "ATLANTIC" on its destination sign. The scene is outdoors, with palm trees and buildings in the background. The overall atmosphere is busy and public.

Reimagining Public Safety

Community Safety Approach to Policing

Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee


2020-0572

Board Motion #37: Community Safety Approach to Policing

- A. Establish a Transit Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)
- B. In partnership with PSAC, develop a community-based approach to public safety, including Motion items (i.e., Ambassador Program, Blue Light Program) and:
 - Community Policing Plan
 - Public Safety Survey
- C. Consult with PSAC when developing the new multi-agency police contract

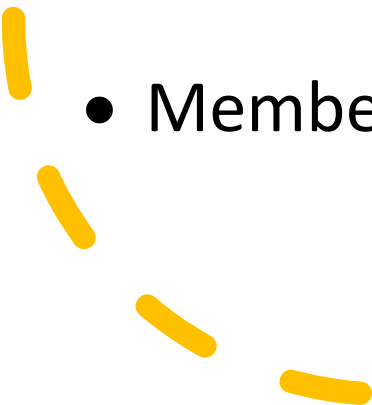


PSAC - Membership

- 15-member committee, 3 alternates
 - Representation from the existing Community Safety and Security Working Group
 - Representation from diverse perspectives, including racial, cultural, gender, sexual orientation, income, geography, immigration status, housing status, persons with disabilities, union groups
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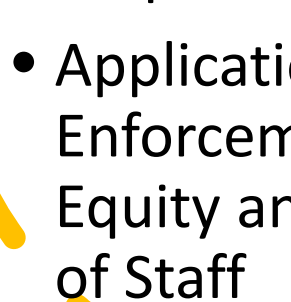


PSAC - Criteria

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 - Membership commitment required until June 2022
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PSAC – Selection Process

- 3-week application window: October 12 - November 6
 - Applications will be made available online on Metro's SSLE landing page and at Metro HQ; can be submitted via email or mail
 - Partner with Communications to advertise across Metro's networks
 - Help line will be made available for applicant inquiries
 - Applications will be reviewed by the Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer, Chief Civil Rights Officer, Executive Officer for Equity and Race, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, and Chief of Staff
- 

Milestone Timeline



External Facilitator

Conduct research and begin solicitation process in September



Advertise

Begin advertising Call for Applications the week of October 5th



Application Window

October 19 – November 6



Review Applications

November 9th – November 20th



Notifications


Send notification letters first week of December



Kick- Off Meeting

Hold first meeting mid-January





Reimagining Public Safety

Community Safety Approach to Policing

Operations, Safety, and Customer Experience Committee


2020-0572

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- Membership commitment required until June 2022

PSAC – Selection Process

- 4-week application window: October 12 - November 13
- Applications will be made available online on Metro's SSLE landing page and at Metro HQ; can be submitted via email or mail
- Partner with Communications to advertise across Metro's networks
- Help line will be made available for applicant inquiries
- Applications will be reviewed by a 7-member panel: Chief System Security and Law Enforcement Officer, Chief Civil Rights Officer, Chief of Staff, Chief Communications Officer, Executive Officer for Equity and Race, Executive Officer for Customer Experience, and Deputy Executive Officer of Community Relations

Milestone Timeline



External Facilitator

Conduct research and begin solicitation process in September



Advertise

Begin advertising Call for Applications the week of October 5th



Application Window

October 19th – November 13th



Review Applications

November 16th – November 20th



Notifications

Send notification letters first week of December



Kick- Off Meeting

Hold first meeting mid-January