



## Board Report

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### OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

**SUBJECT: MEMBERSHIP ON METRO'S SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SERVICE COUNCIL**

**ACTION: APPROVE RECOMMENDATION**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

APPROVE nominee for membership on Metro's San Gabriel Valley Service Council.

#### **ISSUE**

Each Metro Service Council (MSC) is comprised of nine representatives that serve terms of three years; terms are staggered so that the terms of three of each Council's nine members expire annually on June 30. Incumbent Representatives can serve additional terms if re-nominated by the nominating authority and confirmed by the Metro Board.

The San Gabriel Valley Service Council has one vacancy that was not filled when the seat's term expired on June 30, 2022. The term of this now-vacant seat is July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Metro Service Councils were created in 2002 as community-based bodies tasked with improving bus service and promoting service coordination with municipal and local transit providers. The MSC bylaws specify that representatives should live in, work in, or represent the region; have a basic working knowledge of public transit service within their region, and have an understanding of passenger transit needs. To do so, each Representative is expected to ride at least one transit service per month.

The MSC is responsible for convening public hearings to receive community input on proposed service modifications, and rendering decisions on proposed bus route changes considering staff's recommendations and public comments. All route and major service changes that are approved by the MSC will be brought to the Metro Board of Directors as an information item. Should the Metro Board decide to move an MSC-approved service change to an Action Item, the MSC will be notified of this change prior to the next Service Council monthly meeting.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The individual listed below has been nominated to fill the vacant seat on the San Gabriel Valley Service Council by the seat’s nominating authorities. If approved by the Board, this appointment will serve out the remainder of the vacant seat’s three-year term. A brief listing of the nominee’s qualifications (Attachment A) and the nomination letter from the nominating authorities (Attachment B) are provided.

San Gabriel Valley

- A. Salvador Melendez, San Gabriel Valley Service Council, New Appointment  
 Nominated by: Cities of Montebello, Monterey Park, and Rosemead  
 Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025

**DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT**

Maintaining the full complement of representatives on each Service Council to represent each service area is important. As each representative is to be a regular user of public transit, and each Council is composed of people from diverse areas and backgrounds, this enables each Council to better understand the needs of transit consumers, including the need for the safe operation of transit service and safe location of bus stops.

**EQUITY PLATFORM**

Metro seeks to appoint Service Council members that represent the diverse needs and priorities reflective of the demographics of each respective region.

In alignment with Metro’s Equity Platform, when there is a vacancy on any of the Service Councils, Metro shares the demographics of the Council region, the region’s transit riders, and the Council’s current membership with the nominating authority. They are strongly encouraged to consider nominating candidates that are reflective of the ridership of their regions. Service Council bylaws provide guidance on this process in which Metro Board Members confirm and appoint representatives of Service Councils based on nominations submitted through the locally adopted process by the designated nominating authorities.

For reference, the 2020 American Community Survey demographics and 2019 Metro Ridership Survey demographics for the region are compared to the membership.

Should this nominee be appointed, the San Gabriel Valley (SGV) Service Council membership will compare to the region and the region’s ridership as follows:

<b>SGV Region Demographics</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Asian/ Pacific Isl</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>American Ind/ Alaska Native</b>	<b>Other</b>
Council Region	49.7%	16.8%	28.0%	3.0%	0.2%	2.3%
Region Ridership	63%	13%	9%	9%	1%	5%
Membership/No.	5 (55%)	3 (33%)	1 (11%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

The gender makeup of the SGV Service Council will be as follows:

Gender	SGV Membership/No.*	Los Angeles County
Male	77.7% / 7	49.7%
Female	22.2% / 2	50.3%

**IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

Approval of this recommendation supports the following Metro Strategic Plan Goal: 30 Enhance communities and lives through mobility and access to opportunity.

**ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

The alternative to approving this appointment would be for this nominee to not be approved for an appointment. To do so would result in reduced effectiveness of the Service Councils, as it would increase the difficulty of obtaining the quorum necessary to allow the Service Council to formulate and submit recommendations to the Board. It would also result in the Service Council having a less diverse representation of their respective service areas.

**NEXT STEPS**

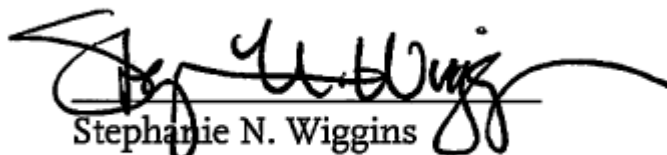
Staff will continue to monitor the quality of bus service from the customer’s perspective, and share that information with the Service Councils for use in their work to plan and implement and improve bus service in their areas and the customer experience.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachment A - Listing of Nominee’s Qualifications
- Attachment B - Nomination Letter

Prepared by: Dolores Ramos, Manager, Regional Service Councils, (213) 598-9715  
Lilia Montoya, Deputy Chief Operations Officer, Admin & Development, (213) 922-4061

Reviewed by: Conan Cheung, Chief Operations Officer, (213) 418-3034



Stephanie N. Wiggins  
Chief Executive Officer

**NEW APPOINTEE BIOGRAPHY AND QUALIFICATIONS**

**Salvador Melendez, Nominee for San Gabriel Valley Service Council**



Salvador Melendez was elected to Montebello City Council in November 2018 as the youngest elected council member in Montebello's history.

Mr. Melendez is a longtime resident in the City of Montebello and a product of Montebello Unified School District, graduating from Montebello High School (Class of 2008). After High School, he earned an Associate's Degree in Social Sciences Rio Hondo College, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with an emphasis in Global Relations from CSULA, and a Doctor of Law from the University of La Verne College of Law. He

currently works as a Senior Policy Analyst for AltaMed Health Services and is involved in many organizations related to law and service, including the Latino Law Association. He also volunteers at legal associations dedicated to offering free legal aid to those in need.

APPOINTING AUTHORITY NOMINATION LETTER

San Gabriel Valley Service Council



*City of Montebello*

August 9, 2022

Ms. Dolores Ramos  
Manager  
Metro Regional Service Councils  
One Gateway Plaza MS 99-7-1  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Ramos,

This letter serves as the nomination to appoint Salvador Melendez, Councilmember, to serve as the representative for the Cities of Montebello, Monterey Park, and Rosemead on the San Gabriel Valley Service Council for the term of July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025.

The City of Montebello has conferred with the Cities of Monterey Park and Rosemead; they both support to our nomination of Salvador Melendez, and we are confident that Salvador Melendez's knowledge and experience will serve the San Gabriel Valley Service Council well.

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'René Bobadilla'.

René Bobadilla  
City Manager