ITEM NO.: DRPA-18-083  SUBJECT: Approval of Citizens Advisory Committee Membership Nominations – Alan Becker, Martin King, and Pamela Mack-Brooks

COMMITTEE: Audit

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: September 5, 2018

BOARD ACTION DATE: September 20, 2018

PROPOSAL: That the Board approve the nomination made by the Citizens Advisory Committee (“CAC”) to fill three (3) vacancies on the Committee.

PURPOSE: To fill vacancies on the CAC.

BACKGROUND: On September 15, 2010, the Board of Commissioners of the Delaware River Port Authority and the Board of Directors of the Port Authority Transit Corporation voted to create a Citizens Advisory Committee comprised of an equal number of residents of Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Those interested in becoming CAC members must complete and submit an application. Applications are available on DRPA’s website, drpa.org, and also in One Port Center’s lobby, at all four bridges, and at all PATCO stations. Applicants may not be related to any commissioner, officer, or Authority employee. No vendors or employees of companies doing business with DRPA or PATCO are eligible.

The CAC was formed and adopted its own bylaws, which provide that a Nominating Committee of the CAC will review applications from Pennsylvania and New Jersey residents submitted to the DRPA and recommend new members.

When a CAC opening becomes available, the CAC’s Nominating Committee selects candidates for recommendation to the Audit Committee. Before the CAC will advance a candidate to the Audit Committee for consideration, the Committee requires potential members to attend three (3) meetings to familiarize themselves with Authority issues, become acquainted with CAC members, and to enable the CAC to assess whether the potential new member would be
an appropriate fit for such service. The CAC’s Nominating Committee selected three (3) new members for recommendation to the Board. Audit Committee members are then invited to interview both candidates. Commissioners Murphy, Nelson, and Fentress participated in the interviews, as did Chief Administrative Officer Toni P. Brown. Two individual Audit Committee interview conference call interviews occurred on July 16 with Alan Becker and Pamela Mack-Brooks (Commissioners Murphy and Fentress and CAO Brown), and Martin King was interviewed by Commissioners Murphy, Nelson and CAO Brown on July 17, 2018. All three (3) candidates were advanced to the full Audit Committee for review and consideration. Summaries of the interviews follow:

- **Alan Becker of Voorhees, NJ**

  Alan Becker is a frequent PATCO user, who also crosses Ben Franklin and Walt Whitman bridges. In addition, Mr. Becker is a PATCO neighbor and lives close to the Ashland Station. His interest in the Citizens Advisory Committee was sparked by an advertisement he saw on one of the electronic message boards while riding PATCO. As an engineer, Mr. Becker is interested in safety concerns at the bridges and PATCO. He also wants to be a voice for community, sharing any concerns and needs they may have. He has attended at least three (3) CAC meetings. He has been impressed that members of the DRPA and PATCO administration attend the meetings and are receptive to the feedback and concerns the CAC members provide. Mr. Becker will be able to attend regular CAC meetings unless he has a work conflict. There are no apparent conflicts of interest with him serving on the committee.

- **Martin King of Cherry Hill, NJ**

  Martin King is a frequent PATCO rider, utilizing Haddonfield, Westmont, and Philadelphia stations most often. He also crosses over the Ben Franklin Bridge. Mr. King saw a CAC advertisement poster at one of the stations while riding PATCO. Now that his youngest child is almost out of college, he has extra time to devote to volunteering. Mr. King has served on committees such as the Pool Board in his community. On the Pool Board, he served as Membership Chair, and will be able to bring his experience to serve the CAC. As a regular PATCO rider, he would like to see it meet the user’s needs, including reliability, rider comfort and rider safety. He has attended at least three
SUMMARY STATEMENT

Audit – 9/11/2018

Approval of Citizen Advisory Committee

Membership Nominations: Alan Becker, Martin King and Pamela Mack-Brooks

(3) CAC meetings. Mr. King sees no reason why he would not be able to attend CAC meetings on a regular basis. There are no apparent conflicts of interest with him serving on the committee.

- Pamela Mack-Books of Sicklerville, NJ

Pamela Mack-Books lives in NJ and works in Philadelphia, so she is a frequent PATCO rider and commuter. She rides PATCO between the Lindenwold, 8th & Market, and 15th-16th and Locust stations. She also drives over the Ben Franklin and Walt Whitman bridges. She learned about the CAC from the posters and electronic boards at the PATCO stations. Ms. Mack-Brooks wants to join the CAC because it is an “awesome opportunity”. She has extensive community outreach and leadership experience and would like to serve the CAC in any capacity. Ms. Mack-Brooks is also interested in the bridge and train operations and speaking with DRPA and PATCO management. She has attended four (4) CAC meetings and has found them very interesting. Ms. Mack-Brooks will have no issues attending CAC meetings on a regular basis. There are no apparent conflicts of interest with her serving on the committee.

The candidates will be presented to the Audit Committee on September 5, 2018, and, if approved, will be presented to the Board on September 20, 2018. There are currently eight (8) members from NJ and another eight (8) from PA, with four (4) vacancies in each state. If these three (3) nominees are approved by the Board, there will be 11 members with one (1) vacancy on the NJ side and eight (8) members from PA with four (4) vacancies. Staff will continue to advertise the CAC in the hopes of attracting more applicants from both NJ and PA.

Current recruitment efforts include public outreach and making the CAC application accessible to interested community members. Public outreach occurs in the form of social media postings, news releases, and PATCO station signage which make the public more aware of the CAC and membership. The last news release was sent out on February 23, 2018 to the media. A copy of the CAC application, along with more information on the Committee, is posted on both Authority websites (drpa.org and ridepatco.org). There are signs advertising the CAC at every PA PATCO station. Membership opportunities for the CAC are advertised on variable screens in the PATCO stations. Potential members can also pick up copies of the CAC application at all the Authority’s public facilities - One Port Center, Ben Franklin Bridge, Walt Whitman Bridge, Betsy Ross Bridge, Commodore Barry Bridge, and at every station along the PATCO High Speedline. The applications are monitored by DRPA and PATCO staff and replenished.
often as needed, so they are always available to potential CAC members.

SUMMARY:
Amount: N/A
Source of Funds: N/A
Capital Project #: N/A
Operating Budget: N/A
Master Plan Status: N/A
Other Fund Sources: N/A
Duration of Contract: N/A
Other Parties Involved: N/A
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board approve the appointments of Alan Becker of Voorhees, NJ, Martin King of Cherry Hill, NJ, and Pamela Mack-Brooks of Sicklerville, NJ to serve as members of the Citizens Advisory Committee.

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Amount: N/A  
Source of Funds: N/A  
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