SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-18-133  
SUBJECT: Approval of Citizens Advisory Committee Membership  
Nomination – Reggie Haynes

COMMITTEE: Audit

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: November 28, 2018

BOARD ACTION DATE: December 5, 2018

PROPOSAL: That the Board approve the nomination made by the Citizens Advisory Committee (“CAC”) to fill one (1) vacancy on the Committee.

PURPOSE: To fill one (1) vacancy 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, in One Port Center’s lobby, at all four (4) 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 one (1) new member for recommendation to the Board. Audit Committee members are then invited to interview both candidates. Commissioners Murphy and Nelson participated in the interview with Reggie Haynes on October 29, 2018, as did Chief Administrative Officer Toni P. Brown. The one (1) candidates was advanced to the full Audit Committee for review and consideration. A summary of the interview follows:

- **Reggie Haynes of Winslow, NJ**

Reggie Haynes is a regular PATCO user who also crosses the Ben Franklin Bridge. For 15 years from Mt. Laurel to NYC, he was a regular commuter and ‘Commuter Advocate’ with the Greyhound bus company. This experience left him with an opportunity to carefully consider areas in need of improvement on the bus route. As a lead commuter advocate, he recommended alternate pick up locations in the event of an emergency and worked on a ‘Disability Recovery Plan’. With his IT background, he also designed a robust communication system to help bus drivers navigate their way to and from the City when there were detours, etc.

If approved for membership to the CAC, Mr. Haynes said he would like to see better, more timely communication to passengers, especially on service issues. He would like to see improvements made to the public address system at some stations.

He favors public meetings where officials come to PATCO stations and have roundtable discussions with the public, updating them on the status of projects for increased visibility and transparency.

He has attended at least five (5) CAC meetings. He said he appreciates the level of detail and timeline about capital projects from DRPA and PATCO staff. He noted the level of communication from staff with the CAC has been ‘excellent’ and ‘very transparent’. Mr. Haynes 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.

The candidate will be presented to the Audit Committee on November 28, 2018, and, if approved, will be presented to the Board on December 5, 2018. There are currently 11 members from NJ and another eight (8) from PA, with one (1) vacancy in NJ and four (4) vacancies in PA. If
this one (1) nominee is approved by the Board, there will be 12 members with no vacancies 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 PA in particular.

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  
Estimated Number of Jobs Supported: N/A
RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board approve the appointment of Reggie Haynes of Winslow, NJ to serve as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED: The Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer must approve and are hereby authorized to approve and execute all necessary agreements, contracts, or other documents on behalf of the DRPA. If such agreements, contracts, or other documents have been approved by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and if thereafter either the Chairman or Vice Chairman is absent or unavailable, the remaining Officer may execute the said document(s) on behalf of DRPA along with the Chief Executive Officer. If both the Chairman and Vice Chairman are absent or unavailable, and if it is necessary to execute the said document(s) while they are absent or unavailable, then the Chief Executive Officer shall execute such documents on behalf of DRPA.

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