SUMMARY STATEMENT

ITEM NO.: DRPA-19-140

SUBJECT: Approval of Citizens Advisory Committee Membership Nomination – Strasso Jovanovski

COMMITTEE: Audit

COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: November 27, 2019

BOARD ACTION DATE: December 11, 2019

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

PURPOSE: To fill one (1) New Jersey 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. Members who have served in the past on the CAC, left the CAC in good standing, submitted an updated membership application and attend at least three (3) CAC meetings, can be reconsidered for membership to the CAC by following the below process.

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. As per process, Audit Committee
members are then invited to interview the candidates. These interviews
are usually in the form of a conference call. An accommodation was
made to provide frequently asked written questions from the Audit
Committee to Mr. Jovanovski. Mr. Jovanovski provided his answers in
writing for Audit Committee member review. Commissioners Murphy
and Nelson reviewed the candidate's written answers on September 5,
2019, as did Chief Administrative Officer Toni P. Brown. The one (1)
candidate was advanced to the full Audit Committee for review and
consideration. A summary of the written interview answers from Mr.
Jovanovski follows:

- Strasso Jovanovski of Camden, NJ

Mr. Jovanovski said he is a frequent user of PATCO and the Ben
Franklin Bridge, including as a cyclist. He is associated with Rutgers
University- Camden in the field of urban and regional planning, and
said he wants to be a voice for the campus community and, ‘shape the
future trajectory’ of DRPA/PATCO assets. He said he sees this
Rutgers/DRPA/PATCO connection as, ‘one of his most powerful
contributions to the CAC,’ serving as a connection to the Rutgers
Camden campus. He cites the, ‘steady reduction of the availability of
parking for students,’ and sees the Rutgers-Camden campus remaining
predominantly a commuter campus. He says the role of PATCO in
moving people in and out of the area, ‘is most vital to the well-being of
the university community.’

He would like to see an integrated planning approach involving
PATCO, SEPTA and NJ Transit for ‘streamlined transit solutions.’
Mr. Jovanovski indicated he is also an avid bicyclist and wants to,
‘encourage bicyclists transit needs.’ He favors the development of a
mobile app to make the PATCO experience, ‘more rider-friendly.’ He
feels PATCO should increase its footprint on social media and be ‘more
responsive to concerns, ideas and questions’ raised on social media.

He has attended many CAC meetings already, including the minimum
three (3) meetings to be considered for membership and 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 one (1) candidate will be presented to the Audit Committee on
November 27, 2019, and, if approved, will be presented to the Board on
December 11, 2019. There are currently nine (9) CAC members from NJ and another nine (9) from PA, with three (3) vacancies in NJ and three (3) vacancies in PA. If this NJ nominee is approved by the Board, there will be 10 members from NJ with two (2) vacancies on the NJ side, and nine (9) members from PA with three (3) vacancies on the PA side. 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 May 28, 2019 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.

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<td>Other Parties Involved:</td>
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<td>Estimated Number of Jobs Supported:</td>
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RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Board approve the appointment of Strasso Jovanovski of Camden, NJ to serve as members 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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