

**DEPARTMENT:** Office of the City Clerk

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** Debbie Racca-Sittre

**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** Citywide

**SUBJECT:**

Consideration of (4) At-Large appointments to the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Trustees.

**SUMMARY:**

The Governance City Council Committee will interview four Trustees appointed on the VIA Metropolitan Transit Authority Board of Trustees to consider their reappointments as they have remained in holdover status.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

VIA manages and operates the Metropolitan Transit Authority within Bexar County, Texas. VIA is governed by a Board of Trustees with 11 appointees, five appointed by the San Antonio City Council; three appointed by the Bexar County Commissioners Court; two appointed by Suburban Mayors; and the Chair of the Board is elected by the Board Members. Board members serve staggered two-year terms and may serve up to four terms. Members must be qualified voters residing within the VIA Metropolitan Transit service area.

The current composition of the Board of Trustees is as follows:

- At-Large - Laura Cabanilla
- At-Large - Robert L. Comeaux (ineligible for reappointment due to term limit)
- At-Large - Athalie D. Malone (Transportation Disadvantaged Category)
- At-Large - Javier Paredes
- At-Large - Melanie Aranda Tawil

On January 14, 2021, Laura Cabanilla was appointed as a VIA Trustee for the remainder of an unexpired term of office ending December 31, 2022. Ms. Cabanilla is now seeking reappointment for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

On January 14, 2021, Robert Comeaux was appointed as a VIA Trustee for the remainder of an unexpired term of office ending December 31, 2022. Mr. Comeaux is not seeking reappointment. He represents the Central Labor Council and recommendation for a replacement is pending action by the Central Labor Council. Mr. Comeaux will remain in holdover until a replacement is appointed by City Council.

On September 12, 2019, Athalie D. Malone was appointed as a VIA Trustee for the remainder of an unexpired term of office ending December 31, 2023. Ms. Malone is now seeking reappointment for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

On January 14, 2021, Javier Paredes was appointed as a VIA Trustee for the remainder of an unexpired term of office ending December 31, 2022. Mr. Paredes is now seeking reappointment for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

On January 14, 2021, Melanie Aranda Tawil was appointed as a VIA Trustee for the remainder of an unexpired term of office ending December 31, 2022. Mrs. Tawil is now seeking reappointment for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

#### **ISSUE:**

Board appointments require full City Council approval. The applicants to be considered by the full committee as follows:

At-Large – 4 seats available

- Laura Cabanilla – *Seeking Reappointment*
- Athalie D. Malone – *Seeking Reappointment*
- Javier Paredes – *Seeking Reappointment*
- Melanie Aranda Tawil – *Seeking Reappointment*

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The Committee can reject applicant(s). If applicant(s) are rejected, additional applications may be sought.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Clerk recommends forwarding the Governance Council Committee selections for approval by the full City Council at the next available A Session.