NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPOINT TO THE MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

At the regular meeting of Thursday, October 27, 2016, the Birmingham City Commission intends to appoint two alternate members to the Multi-Modal Transportation Board to serve three-year terms to expire October 27, 2019 and two regular members to serve the remainder of a three year term to expire March 24, 2017 and March 24, 2019.

Interested citizens may submit an application available at the city clerk's office or online at www.bhamgov.org/boardopportunities. Applications must be submitted to the city clerk's office on or before noon on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. These documents will appear in the public agenda for the regular meeting at which time the City Commission will discuss recommendations, and may make nominations and vote on appointments.

In so far as possible, the seven member committee shall be composed of the following: one pedestrian advocate member; one member with a mobility or vision impairment; one member with traffic-focused education and/or experience; one bicycle advocate member; one member with urban planning, architecture or design education and/or experience; and two members at large living in different geographical areas of the city. Applicants for these positions may or may not be electors or property owners in the City.

Duties of the Multi-modal Transportation Board

The purpose of the Multi-Modal Transportation Board shall be to assist in maintaining the safe and efficient movement of motorized and non-motorized vehicles and pedestrians on the streets and walkways of the city and to advise the city commission on the implementation of the Multi-Modal Transportation Plan, including reviewing project phasing and budgeting.

NOTE: All members of boards and commissions are subject to the provisions of City of Birmingham City Code Chapter 2, Article IX, Ethics and the filing of the Affidavit and Disclosure Statement.

Applicant(s) Presented For City Commission Consideration:

Applicant Name	**Criteria/Qualifications** In so far as possible, members shall represent, • one member with traffic-focused education and/or experience • one member with urban planning, architect, design experience Members may or may not be electors (registered voter) or property owners of the City of Birmingham.
Daniel Rontal (Interviewed on 10/10)	Registered Voter, 926 Bird
A. Harvey Bell IV (Interviewed on 10/10)	Registered Voter, 848 Pleasant
Padraic (Paddy) Mullin	Registered Voter, 1794 Bradford
Johanna Slanga	Engineer in automotive field, former member of MMTB

SUGGESTED ACTION:

To appoint _____ to the Multi-Modal Transportation Board to serve a three-year term to expire March 24, 2017.

To appoint _____ to the Multi-Modal Transportation Board to serve a three-year term to expire March 24, 2019.

To appoint _____, as an alternate member, to the Multi-Modal Transportation Board to serve a three-year term to expire October 27, 2019.

To appoint _____, as an alternate member, to the Multi-Modal Transportation Board to serve a three-year term to expire October 27, 2019.

MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Resolution No. 02-31-14 & 09-282-16

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In so far as possible, the seven member committee shall be composed of the following: one pedestrian advocate member; one member with a mobility or vision impairment; one member with traffic-focused education and/or experience; one bicycle advocate member; one member with urban planning, architecture or design education and/or experience; and two members at large living in different geographical areas of the city. At least five Board members shall be electors or property owners in the city. The remaining Board members may or may not be electors or property owners in the City.

Term: Three years.

Last Name Home Address	First Name	Home Business E-Mail	Appointed	Term Expires
Adams 2109 Dorchester Birmingham 48009	**Vionna**	(202) 423-7445 *vionnajones@gmail.com*	12/15/2014 Member at large from different geographical areas of the city.	3/24/2018
Edwards 1636 Bowers Birmingham 48009	**Lara**	(734) 717-8914 *lmedwards08@gmail.com*	4/28/2014 Member at large from different geographical areas of the city.	3/24/2017
Folberg 1580 Latham Birmingham 48009	**Amy**	(248) 890-9965 *amy.folberg@gmail.com*	12/14/2015 Member at large from different geographical areas of the city.	3/24/2017

Last Name	First Name	Home Business E-Mail	Appointed	Term Expires
Lawson 1351 E. Maple Birmingham 48009	**Andy**	(586) 944-6701 *andlawson@deloitte.com*	4/28/2014 Pedestrian Advocate Member	3/24/2018
Surnow 320 Martin St. #100 Birmingham 48009	**Michael**	(248) 865-3000 *michael@surnow.com*	4/13/2015 Bicycle Advocate Member	3/24/2019
VACANT			Alternate	10/27/2019
VACANT			Alternate	10/27/2019
VACANT			Urban Planning/Architecture/Design Member	3/24/2017
VACANT			Traffic-Focus Education/Experience Member	3/24/2019

MEMORANDUM

Planning Division

DATE: **October 17, 2016**

TO: **Joseph A. Valentine, City Manager**

FROM: **Jana Ecker, Planning Director**

SUBJECT: **Composition of the Multi-Modal Transportation Board**

At the City Commission meeting on October 10, 2016, the Commission discussed the required composition of the Multi-Modal Transportation Board ("MMTB"), ongoing board vacancies, as well as the addition of alternate members to assist the MMTB to achieve a quorum. The City Commission requested details on the required composition of the MMTB at this time to determine if any changes needed to be made to ensure that vacant positions can be filled.

The need for a reviewing board for all transportation related issues was first established in the Multi-Modal Transportation Plan ("MMTP") that was adopted by the City Commission in 2012. The MMTP recognized the need for oversight on transportation projects from multiple departments, as well as the need for public input from many different perspectives to improve the quality of the transportation system for all users, ages and abilities, thus improving the quality of life in the City. Chapter Two, Policy and Program Recommendations, section 2.1 Transportation Project Coordination & Public Input (page 22 of the MMTP), recommends a formal coordination procedure between the Engineering, Planning and Police Departments to ensure that all complete streets principles are incorporated and to allow design and planning input from all departments and the public at the early stages of a project (prior to the preparation of engineering drawings). The MMTP specifically recommended the implementation of a standing committee that has representation from people with a diverse range of travel mode experience, people of different age groups and people with mobility issues.

The MMTP recommended that multi-modal transportation standing committee be comprised of representation from the following perspectives:

- School District Representative (school board member or district employee)
- Business Representative
- Pedestrian Representative
- Bicycle Representative
- Transit Rider Representative
- Representatives of the elderly/mobility/vision impaired community

- Representative under 35 years of age
- Traffic Representative
- Planning Representative

At the City Commission meeting on January 27, 2014, the City Commission discussed the creation of a standing Multi-Modal Transportation Committee, and recognized that some of the duties of a new board may overlap with those of existing boards, such as the Traffic and Safety Board (for regulatory sign requests or residential permit parking), the Planning Board (for bicycle improvements, wayfinding or ordinance amendments), and the Architectural Review Committee (for design review of public projects). Accordingly, staff was directed to analyze the existing review process for transportation-related projects and to make recommendations for consolidation of duties through the creation of a standing Multi-Modal Transportation Committee. The City Commission discussed the suggested membership for a new board, and did not see the need for a school district, transit rider or under 35 millennial representatives. There were differing opinions stated as to whether the board should be overstaffed with board members with no formal training in related areas, or whether board members should represent different areas of expertise.

On February 10, 2014, the City Commission approved amendments to Chapter 110, Transportation Systems, to create the MMTB to review all transportation and transportation-related projects with reference to the MMTP, the 2010 Highway Capacity Manual, the MDOT Complete Streets Policy 2012 and other related traffic, bicycle, pedestrian or transit guidelines in effect, and to provide formal recommendations to the Planning Board and/or City Commission. On October 10, 2016, the City Commission amended the MMTB composition to allow up two members who are not electors or property owners within the City, and to provide for two alternate MMTB members.

Chapter 110, Transportation Systems, Article II, Multi-Modal Transportation Board, Section 110-26 of the City Code states:

> The multi-modal transportation board shall consist of nonvoting ex officio members and seven members appointed by the city commission. The nonvoting ex officio members shall be appointed by the city manager. They may include the city engineer, city planner, police chief, or their designated representative, or other representatives as the city manager deems appropriate. Insofar as possible, the city commission shall appoint members as follows:
>
> **(1) One pedestrian advocate member;**
> **(2) One member with a mobility or vision impairment;**
> **(3) One member with traffic-focused education and/or experience;**
> **(4) One bicycle advocate member;**

(5) One member with urban planning, architecture or design education and/or experience; and
(6) Two members at large from different geographical areas of the city.

At least five (5) Board members shall be electors or property owners in the city. The remaining Board members may or may not be electors or property owners in the City.

Section 110-26 provides the requirements for the composition of the MMTB, and specifically designates experience and/or education in a variety of modes of transportation and areas of expertise.

Walking, bicycling and driving in automobiles are three modes of transportation that are specifically represented in the composition of the MMTB. The pedestrian advocate member is intended to include a person who frequently walks to local destinations and is interested in advocating for the enhancement of pedestrian facilities such as sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, benches and the like. The member with a traffic-focused education and/or experience is intended to include a person who has received training in designing, constructing or studying vehicular infrastructure. The bicycle advocate member is intended to include a person who is an avid cyclist interested in advocating for improved cycling conditions and infrastructure, such as designated bike lanes, shared lane markings, and bicycle parking.

Other key areas of expertise that are required to be represented on the MMTB include a mobility or vision impaired member who experiences daily challenges due to the inability to use one or more of his/her extremities, has visual or hearing impairments, or experiences a lack of strength to walk, grasp, or lift objects. Given the intention of the MMTP to provide transportation options to all people, across all modes, and of all ages and levels of physical ability, this position was intended to ensure that persons with all levels of ability are included in the decision making process. Another key area of expertise that is required to be represented on the MMTB include a planning or design professional to ensure that all transportation projects are context sensitive and will not detract from the desired character of the community.

Finally, two members of MMTB are required to be members at large from different geographical areas of the City. These positions were intended to ensure that regular citizens without a particular background in transportation planning and design would be represented on the MMTB to represent the community as a whole.

For the purpose of clarifying the intent of the designated classifications for MMTB members, the following summary may be helpful:

Insofar as possible, the city commission shall appoint members as follows:

(1) **One pedestrian advocate member** (a person who frequently walks to local destinations and is interested in advocating for the enhancement of pedestrian facilities);
(2) **One member with a mobility or vision impairment** (a person who experiences daily challenges due to the inability to use one or more of his/her extremities, has visual or hearing impairments, or experiences a lack of strength to walk, grasp, or lift objects);
(3) **One member with traffic-focused education and/or experience** (a person who has received training in designing, constructing or studying vehicular infrastructure);
(4) **One bicycle advocate member** (a person who is an avid cyclist interested in advocating for improved cycling conditions and infrastructure);
(5) **One member with urban planning, architecture or design education and/or experience**; and
(6) **Two members at large living in different geographical areas** of the city.

At the City Commission meeting on October 10, 2016, the City Commission requested the above details on the required composition of the MMTB to allow a discussion as to whether the composition requirements should be amended to make it easier to fill existing vacancies on the MMTB. Given the complex nature of the issues reviewed by the MMTB to date, the existing composition requirements for the board have ensured knowledgeable, diverse and detailed discussions representing Birmingham's community values and vision for the future.

Upon review of this additional information, should the City Commission wish to reconsider the composition of the MMTB or the required skillsets, further direction is requested.