



## Metropolitan Council Office of the Vice Mayor

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Metro Council Members  
**FROM:** Vice Mayor Angie Emery Henderson  
**DATE:** April 25, 2024  
**RE:** NOTICE OF HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION VACANCIES

Notice is hereby given of six vacancies on the Human Relations Commission of the Metropolitan Government which, pursuant to [Substitute Ordinance No. BL2022-1528](#), adopted January 3, 2023, are to be filled by Metropolitan Council election. Five vacancies are the result of the expirations of the terms of Human Relations Commission members – Deaconess Garlinda Burton, Mr. Pratik Dash, Ms. Ariel Safdie, Dr. Ben Tran, and Mr. Irwin Venick – as of April 18, 2024. One vacancy is the result of the resignation of Human Relations Commission member Mr. Jorge Salles Diaz on January 14, 2024. Members of the Human Relations Commission must be residents of Davidson County for at least one year prior to appointment and must continue to be residents of Davidson County as long as they serve as a member of the commission. Members of the Human Relations Commission serve terms lasting three years. Commission members are not eligible for reappointment or reelection to the commission if they have served more than one half of a three-year term and a consecutive complete three-year term. For example, outgoing member Mr. Venick, began his service on June 4, 2019, and having served for five years, is not eligible to serve another term.

The procedure for filling vacancies on this commission is set forth in Council Rule No. 50. The timeframe for this process will be as follows:

- This memorandum shall constitute notice to all members of the Metropolitan Council of six vacancies.
- **Members of the Council will be called upon to make nominations at the regular Council meeting on May 7, 2024, to fill the vacancies.**
- Nominees will be notified to meet with the Council's Rules, Confirmations, and Public Elections Committee on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Any nominee who does not appear before the Rules Committee on May 21, 2024, shall be deemed to have withdrawn their name from nomination. An election to fill the vacancies will be conducted at the June 4, 2024 Council meeting.

Should you have any questions regarding the procedure for filling this vacancy, please contact Margaret Darby.

cc: Marjorie Pomeroy-Wallace, Office of Mayor Freddie O'Connell  
Kathy Floyd-Buggs, Office of Mayor Freddie O'Connell  
Austin Kyle, Metropolitan Clerk  
Davie Tucker, Executive Director, Human Relations Commission  
Maryam Abolfazli, Chair, Human Relations Commission  
Crystal Cockrill, Human Relations Commission