



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development**

Date: January 24, 2005

TO: Council Member Barbara Johnson, Ways and Means Committee

Prepared by Name: Elizabeth Held Phone: 673-5017
Presenters in Committee Name: Jonathan Palmer Title: Director, Empowerment
Zone

Approved by Mike Christenson, Director, Strategic Partnerships _____

Subject:

Recommendation for City Council appointments to the Minneapolis Empowerment Zone Governance Board.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Empowerment Zone Executive Committee recommends the City Council appoint the following applicants to the Empowerment Zone Governance Board for terms to expire 9-20-07:

EZ resident representatives:

Jeff Washburn, Ward 9 EZ resident, Director for the City of Lakes Community Land Trust and the EZ representative on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Osman Sahardeed, Ward 6 EZ resident and Executive Director for the Somali Community of Minnesota

EZ business representatives:

Theresa Carr, Executive Director of the American Indian Neighborhood Development Corporation

Xang Vang, Board Member and former Executive Director of the Hmong American Mutual Assistance Association

Previous Directives:

None

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Background/Supporting Information

The Empowerment Zone Governance Board consists of 30 members serving 3 year staggered terms, with 1/3 of the Board terms expiring each year.

Membership composition and appointments are made as follows:

- The Mayor or designee and 5 members appointed by the Mayor
- The Council President or designee and 5 members appointed by the Council President
- The EZ Director approves 5 agency representatives selected one each from the Metropolitan Council, Minneapolis Community and Technical College, University of Minnesota, Hennepin County and an organization representing a City wide or Metropolitan business area
- The City Council appoints 13 members, 7 are EZ residents and 6 represent EZ businesses.

The seven attached applications were received and considered for four open City Council appointments, 2 of which are EZ resident and 2 of which are EZ business representative positions. The representatives currently serving were among those applicants and also bring an expertise from the areas of business development, affordable housing and the Somali and Asian communities; on October 14, 2004 the Empowerment Zone Executive Committee approved a recommendation for their appointment to the Empowerment Zone Governance Board by the City Council.