

INTRODUCED: September 12, 2016

A RESOLUTION No. 2016-R062

To approve the Mayor's appointment of Unwana B. Dabney as a member of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority for a term commencing on the adoption of this resolution and expiring Jun. 30, 2018, succeeding Betty Jolly, resigned.

Patrons – All Members of Council

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 26 2016 AT 6 P.M.

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 33.2-2901 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council, is authorized to appoint five members of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority for terms of four years from the date of appointment; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has communicated his desire to appoint Unwana B. Dabney as a member of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority, to serve the unexpired portion of the term of Betty Jolly, resigned, effective upon adoption of this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE,

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: SEPT 26 2016 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

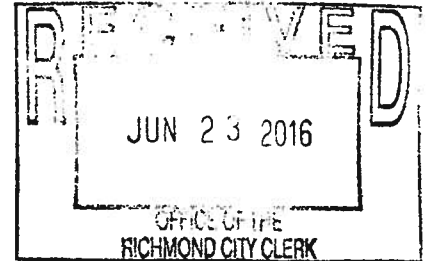
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND:

That the Mayor's appointment of Unwana B. Dabney as a member of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority for a term commencing upon adoption of this ordinance, and terminating June 30, 2018, succeeding Betty Jolly, resigned, is hereby approved in accordance with section 33.2-2901 of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended. However, such appointment shall not become effective until the appointee takes the requisite oath of office administered by the City Clerk.

City of Richmond



DWIGHT C. JONES
MAYOR



June 22, 2016

Jean Capel
City Clerk
City of Richmond
900 East Broad Street, Suite 200
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Ms. Capel:

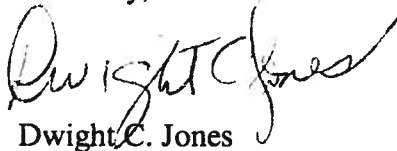
Pursuant to Section 33.2-2901 of the Code of Virginia, I am submitting to City Council for its approval the following City of Richmond nominees to the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority: Unwana Dabney, Brandon Powell, and Rodney D. Waller.

Dr. Dabney currently works as a planning and environment manager for Parsons Brinckerhoff, and she has extensive prior experience with the Federal Highway administration and the Virginia Department of Transportation. Mr. Powell currently works at Ziegler, the specialty investment bank, where his primary responsibility is to serve tax-exempt organizations. His 20-year career in investment banking includes experience at BB&T Capital Markets, UBS, and Wachovia. Dr. Waller serves as Senior Pastor of First African Baptist Church, the third-oldest African American church in the United States. He has served on a local planning commission and is the author of *Leadership Empowerment: A Paradigm in Administration and Leadership in the Urban Church in General and the Rural Church in Particular for the Twenty-First Century*.

I have attached their respective applications. I am sure that City Council will agree that these community leaders have impressive backgrounds, represent a diversity of perspectives, and will serve the City and the Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority well.

Thank you for your support of these candidates.

Sincerely,

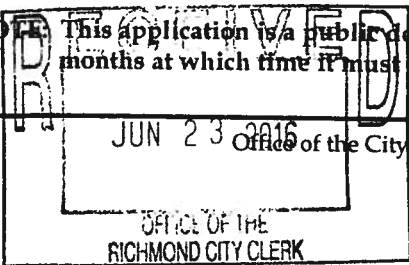

Dwight C. Jones

City of Richmond, Virginia
City Council
Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Task Forces Application

(Please Print or Type)

Name of Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force: Richmond Metropolitan Transportation Authority	
Title: Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	
Last Name: Dabney	First Name: Unwana
Home Street Address: 2911 Heather Ridge Drive	Home Telephone: 804-795-9143
Home City, Zip Code: Henrico, VA 23231	Home Fax: 757-373-1805 (mobile)
Personal E-Mail Address: ubdabney@gmail.com	
Employer: WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff	
Job Title: Virginia & WV Planning and Environment Manager	How Long? Since July 2014
Business Street Address: 3311 W. Broad Street	Business Telephone: 804-774-6012
Business City, Zip Code: Richmond, VA 23230	Business Fax: 804-783-0024
Business E-Mail Address: dabneyub@pbworld.com	
Is your place of employment located in the city of Richmond? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Is your place of employment located in the county? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, which county? _____	
Are you a city resident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, which City Council district? _____ Number of years? _____	
Do you or your employer have a contract, other than a contract of employment, either with the city of Richmond or with the entity to which you are seeking appointment? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, please provide information on the nature of the contract. 	
Please list your educational background and/or other expertise or qualifications you will bring to this authority, board, commission or task force: Proven transportation professional with 19 years of experience managing local, regional and statewide programs and projects. Ph.D., Public Policy and Administration, Virginia Commonwealth University; Master of Public Administration, Old Dominion University; B.S. Civil Engineering Technology, South Carolina State University	

NOTE: This application is a public document. Completed applications will remain on file for consideration for six (6) months at which time it must be updated.



Office of the City Clerk, 900 East Broad Street, Suite 200, Richmond, Virginia U.S.A. 23219
 Telephone: (804) 646-7955 • Fax: (804) 646-7736
www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk



**City of Richmond, Virginia
City Council
Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Task Forces Application**

List other city of Richmond authorities, boards, commissions or task forces you currently or have previously served on. Please give date(s) and office(s) held, if applicable. N/A

Entity: _____
Date(s) Served: _____ Office(s) Held: _____

Entity: _____
Date(s) Served: _____ Office(s) Held: _____

Entity: _____
Date(s) Served: _____ Office(s) Held: _____

Other community involvement:

Women in Transportation (Women's Transportation Seminar), Central Virginia Chapter
National Society of Black Engineers, Richmond Alumni Chapter
Richmond (VA) Chapter, The Links, Inc.
Upsilon Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
St. Philip's Episcopal Church

OPTIONAL

Please list additional information you would like considered, or you may attach your resume or other information.

See Attached Resume

Check this box if your resume is attached.

How did you hear about or who referred you to apply for appointment to this authority, board, commission or task force?

Signature: Umwonne B. Weibing Date: June 23, 2016

(By signing, forwarding or otherwise transmitting this form, you certify that all information submitted for consideration is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge)

NOTE: This application is a public document. Completed applications will remain on file for consideration for six (6) months at which time it must be updated.

Unwana B. Dabney, Ph.D.

2911 Heather Ridge Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23231

ubdabney@gmail.com |  [LinkedIn](#) | 757-373-1805

Education

**Doctor of Philosophy,
Public Policy and
Administration**
Virginia Commonwealth
University, Richmond, VA

**Master of Public
Administration**
Old Dominion University,
Norfolk, VA

**Bachelor of Science, Civil
Engineering Technology**
South Carolina State University,
Orangeburg, SC
Cum Laude Graduate

Honors & Honor Societies

USDOT Secretary's Award for
Excellence (Team)

Pi Alpha Alpha Global Honor
Society for Public Affairs &
Administration

Beta Gamma Sigma
International Honor Society for
Business

Professional Affiliations

Associate's Certificate in
Project Management, George
Washington University,
Washington, DC

Women's Transportation
Seminar

American Planning Association

SUMMARY

An accomplished and results-driven leader with extensive experience leading organizations and people to successful program and project implementation. A seasoned professional with a proven track record in transportation management in federal and state government and private industry. A strategic thinker and self-starter with extensive knowledge of highway transportation program processes, demonstrated skills in assessing critical business needs and developing solutions for improving organizational outcomes in a dynamic environment.

KEY PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Organizational Leadership

- Led multi-disciplinary teams in successful project and program delivery improving processes and leading to progressive outcomes for partners and clients.
- Planned and implemented change initiatives in several organizations resulting in reduced redundancy, enhanced efficiency and improved delivery of projects, programs and services.
- Managed technical, budgeting and administrative aspects of multiple projects and tasks. Ensured project deliverables were provided on time, within budget and met profit margins. Integrated state of the art techniques into the delivery of products, meeting client needs and highlighting innovative corporate services.

Strategic Decision-Making

- Led efforts to develop products that facilitated Virginia's inaugural statewide project prioritization process to invest limited tax dollars in projects that meet the most critical transportation needs in the Commonwealth.
- In a politically dynamic legislative environment, helped the North Carolina Department of Transportation develop the Strategic Prioritization Process, a data driven, performance based prioritization method for project selection.
- Collaborated with State leaders to develop the North Carolina "Policy to Projects" plan, a 10-year strategic plan focused on achieving long-term goals of safety, mobility and infrastructure health. This document lays out an approach for transportation decision-making that helps achieve long-range goals and investment decisions for a detailed, realistic and transparent work program.

Policy Integration

- Partnered with state and federal agencies in a politically sensitive environment to address environmental and weather related hazards to infrastructure. Developed strategies for addressing climate impacts to the natural and built environment. Co-authored a report endorsed by leadership of multiple agencies.
- Led planning and environmental integration efforts and the development of tools for integrating planning products into the NEPA process. Improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the NEPA process and reduced project delivery time.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff

Richmond, Virginia

Senior Supervising Planner

Planning and Environment Practice Leader, Virginia and West Virginia

July 2014 - Present

As a member of the Southeastern regional leadership team, lead business development initiatives in the planning and environmental markets in Virginia and West Virginia and direct planning and environmental staff in Richmond, Herndon and Virginia Beach offices. Manage transportation planning and policy projects throughout the Southeast. Build and manage relationships with existing and potential clients, identify multi-disciplinary opportunities for growth and communicate corporate commitment to the industry. Senior technical advisor for transit, rail and highway projects.

Accomplishments:

- Developed and implemented a multi-phased business plan to grow the Planning and Environment practice in Virginia and West Virginia and raise the firm's profile among key clients in the region. Leveraged relationships among local, regional and state transportation leaders to generate new business under existing contracts. Contributed to successfully winning new contracts worth over \$14 million.
- Supervise, develop and mentor planning and environment staff in multiple offices. Developed plans for low performing employees and monitored progress. Improved productivity and increased billability to over 80% for all staff.
- Led the integration of independent work units as a result of a corporate acquisition. Capitalized on the opportunity to co-locate business sectors which reduced operating costs and grew the Richmond office from a staff of 4 to an office of over 30 engineers, resulting in greater presence in the local market.
- Managed development of a web-based application used to facilitate Virginia's statewide project prioritization process. Directed staff in the analysis of project data and the comparison and evaluation of multiple projects using a set of scoring criteria. Collaborated with the office of the Virginia Secretary of Transportation and agency leaders to develop an innovative tool that provides a robust and dynamic user interface and generated documents that increased transparency of the decision making process. Final product allows decision makers to test various funding and project scenarios while visualizing project characteristics resulting in the development of a six-year, \$35 billion statewide multi-modal transportation program.
- Completed a research project for the Federal Highway Administration's INVEST tool, a web-based tool intended to help transportation practitioners evaluate programs and projects in environmental, social and economic sustainability. Directed staff in developing metrics and identifying program examples that associate a dollar value with the benefits of sustainability practices. Project resulted in a list of potential cost saving practices for transportation agencies that address the sustainability triple bottom line. Research products are being integrated into an updated version of INVEST and the Sustainable Highways Initiative.
- Collaborated with multiple work units to develop the North Carolina Public Engagement Toolkit, a web-based tool that helps evaluate public engagement techniques for use in all phases of project development. Conducted quantitative and qualitative research on over 100 public participation techniques. Worked with a team of consultants and agency leaders on website content development and alpha and beta testing of the toolkit. Presented final tool at statewide and national conferences.

Federal Highway Administration, North Carolina Division

Raleigh, North Carolina

Planning and Program Development Manager (Supervisory Community Planner)

July 2009 – July 2014

Oversaw the Planning and Program Development function in the North Carolina Division of the Federal Highway Administration. Supervised a multi-disciplinary team in delivering the planning, air quality, congestion management, research and intelligent transportation systems functions for the statewide Federal-aid Highway Program. Determined the adequacy and approval of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program that serves as the program control for nearly all Federal-aid highway project approval actions for the over \$1 Billion annual statewide program. Monitored Federal and State legislation, regulations, industry trends and policy changes that may impact the implementation of the Federal-aid Program.

Accomplishments:

- Advised top State officials, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and local officials on implementing statewide and metropolitan plans and programs. As the FHWA representative on several executive and management initiatives and committees, developed cooperative relationships with key partners and stakeholders. These relationships resulted in progressive and comprehensive programs that address federal, State and local needs.
- Oversaw multimodal systems operations planning, freight planning and the development of congestion management performance measures for statewide and regional transportation networks. Led the implementation of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) Transportation Performance Management initiatives for multiple disciplines, improving the link between transportation planning and system performance. Worked with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and regional planning agencies to incorporate the use of improved travel time metrics into statewide and metropolitan transportation planning and programming.
- Developed a Transportation Accountability Framework. Guided asset management, transportation planning and maintenance units in the transition to a performance driven program. Developed performance measures and metrics for the efficiency, connectivity, economic prosperity and livability of the transportation network. Researched practices for financial, environmental and economic sustainability in transportation planning, construction and operations.
- Provided policy analysis expertise on a national team to revise federal regulations for MAP-21 provisions for planning and environmental linkages. The team received the USDOT Secretary's Award for Excellence.
- Developed a tracking system for identifying and monitoring risks and responses for the Division's strategic planning process. Resulted in an efficient means of monitoring progress on tasks while providing a program-wide view of areas for improvement. Conducted risk assessments and led the development of tasks for the planning and programming function for the Division's Business Plan. Monitored performance and tracked progress on activities on a regular basis.
- Steered a peer group in the analysis of Division resources to reduce redundancy and create a leaner organization aligned with agency goals. Resulted in the reorganization of Division staff and the integration of planning, pre-construction and operational functions.
- In response to a decline in scores in employee satisfaction surveys, conducted interviews with staff. Refined division-wide efforts to improve employee morale and motivation. Led to a 3 point increase in survey scores and a significant improvement in office morale and a renewed drive and commitment in program delivery.
- Oversaw research and innovation initiatives. Increased awareness of agency programs such as Every Day Counts and the Strategic Highway Research Program. Identified opportunities to advance the programs of partner agencies and supported the implementation of several program solutions and technologies.

**Federal Highway Administration, Massachusetts Division
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Acting Assistant Division Administrator**

June 2013 – September 2013

As the Division's Chief Operating Officer, promoted and administered the Federal-aid Highway Program in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Exercised broad authority to manage and oversee the Division's professional, technical and administrative staff. Strategically managed day-to-day Division operations. Led the staff in the implementation of key business objectives.

- Oversaw and monitored internal Division operations for several key functions to ensure business objectives were met. Led office strategic planning activities.

- Monitored, tracked and updated progress made on Division Business Plan activities. Met with work units and individuals to establish meaningful performance measures and metrics and realistic targets for accomplishing established goals and objectives. Helped develop a risk-based oversight plan for the construction program and tracked progress on plan implementation.
- Led the development of the scope for a national review of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's right-of-way procedures and acquisition process. Partnered with State's Right of Way Bureau to identify key components of the review and desired mutually beneficial outcomes. Facilitated meetings for the review.
- Collaborated with Federal, State, regional and local partners in resolving complex transportation issues on highly visible and politically sensitive projects and programs.
 - Coordinated bi-weekly meetings with State's executive leadership to address critical and recurring issues.
 - Responded to congressional inquiries received on high profile projects throughout the State. Worked with the agency executive leadership and public affairs on all media inquiries and legislative and executive requests from the White House, members of Congress and the U.S. Secretary of Transportation.
 - Represented FHWA at several ground breaking ceremonies for key bridge projects, focusing on building coalitions with federal, state and local partners and highlighting the importance of federal contributions to transportation infrastructure.
 - Served on team that initiated the high profile "Connecting Historic Boston" TIGER project and provided support to the Office of the Under Secretary for Policy, the City of Boston and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.
- Supervised Division staff and handled key personnel tasks to ensure efficient management of Division resources.
 - Coached team leaders through performance evaluation activities. Revised Critical Job Elements (CJEs) for supervisors and team leaders to include elements tied to organizational leadership. Worked with supervisors and team leaders to ensure CJEs for all office personnel included specific performance measures and were outcome-based and results driven.
 - Initiated personnel actions and handled tasks to fill vacant positions within the office. Developed and implemented a plan to laterally transfer existing staff member to a new function. Worked with individual to ensure a smooth transition to new role and responsibilities.

Federal Highway Administration, Virginia and Puerto Rico Division Offices
Richmond, Virginia and San Juan, Puerto Rico
Community Planner

January 2005 – July 2009

Oversaw transportation planning processes for 9 metropolitan regions in Virginia and island-wide and metropolitan planning programs for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Provided technical assistance and authoritative advice to state, regional and local officials for the development of Statewide, Metropolitan and Territorial Transportation Improvement Programs. Administered over \$1 million in program funds.

- Partnered with state and local appointed and elected officials to ensure the planning, development and implementation of the federal-aid program. Addressed high profile program and project areas in politically dynamic locales. Worked to address concerns on high profile major projects.
- Worked with the State and regional planning agencies to ensure the successful implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for both Virginia and Puerto Rico.
- Developed guidance for implementing public-private projects, addressing concerns about how the planning and programming process affected large scale public-private initiatives.
- Partnered with State's Internal Audit Division leadership to develop a joint tracking system to monitor and track the execution of review recommendations. Addressed concerns about lagging implementation of recommendations from program and process reviews. Presented process at the AASHTO Quality Conference.

- Led the update of 3 metropolitan transportation plans. Provided technical assistance on the development of the USVI Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Completed environmental documents to ensure projects met the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

**Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT),
Hampton Roads District, Suffolk, Virginia
District Transportation Planning Engineer/ Engineer Manager II**

May 1999 – January 2005

Led and supervised the Transportation and Mobility Planning Section for the Hampton Roads District and managed the District-wide planning program.

- Led a diverse group of professionals with a focus on establishing shared goals and a team vision for success. As a member of the District's senior staff, identified critical tasks for work force goal accomplishments. Developed and managed a \$400,000 annual unit budget.
- Represented the District on several local, regional, and statewide committees. Built relationships with regional and local partners to guarantee successful implementation of planning, programming and land development functions.
- Oversaw traffic forecasting, plan review and other transportation planning related project development tasks. Conducted corridor studies, toll studies and participated in Intelligent Transportation System initiatives. Developed project scopes and conducted consultant selection for studies and projects.
- To reduce duplication of efforts and bring resources and services closer to regional and local customers, led the decentralization of the transportation planning function from the Central Office to the District. Assembled a committee to lead the decentralization effort. Gathered internal and external feedback to inform the process. Developed and implemented a 1-year pilot for the decentralization of planning activities in the Hampton Roads District. Developed a work-force planning approach to transition career-staff to a new organizational structure.
- Led the Land Development Review Process for counties in the Hampton Roads region and initiated the development of a GIS tracking system to monitor land development trends in rural counties.
- Led regional efforts for High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) system planning. Chaired the regional HOV Steering committee, building a regional partnership between highway, transit and enforcement agencies to address the operations of the HOV system.
- As the Regional bicycle coordinator, established a district-wide pedestrian and bicycle advisory committee to address a disproportionate number of bicycle and pedestrian crashes in the region. Developed a regional bicycle plan to identify gaps in the system. Organized bicycle tours for planners and engineers to gain a better sense of design needs for bicycle accommodations on roadways. Efforts increased awareness of needs of non-motorized vehicles in the planning and design of transportation infrastructure. Was named the "Public Servant of the Year" for 2003 by the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists Organization.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE