



# Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee

## Boards & Commissions Vacancy Report

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
<b>Minority Business Enterprise and Emerging Small Business Advisory Board</b> (9 members) <a href="#">(page 2)</a>	Representative of a lender or business other than a minority business enterprise* (1 vacancy)	Adrienne Whitaker 2 <sup>nd</sup> District Employment <a href="#">(reappointment, page 4)</a>
	Representative of a minority business enterprise* (1 vacancy)	Shemicia Bowen 4 <sup>th</sup> District Resident <a href="#">(page 5)</a>
	Representative of a lender or business other than a minority business enterprise* (Mayoral nominee, 1 vacancy)	<i>No mayoral nominations</i>
	Section 3 contractor representative* (Mayoral nominee, 1 vacancy)	<i>No mayoral nominations</i>
	Representatives of a minority business enterprise* (Mayoral nominee, 2 vacancies)	<i>No mayoral nominations</i>
<b>Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission</b> (11 Members) <a href="#">(page 8)</a>	A person who resides in a Council district located south of the James River (1 vacancy)	Tiffany Beatrice Gunn 9 <sup>th</sup> District Resident <a href="#">(page 10)</a>
	Resident of public housing (1 vacancy)	<i>No applications</i>
	Resident of the city who is a person with a disability (1 vacancy)	<i>No applications</i>

\*Applicants must either reside or have a principal place of employment in the city.

# Minority Business Enterprise and Emerging Small Business Advisory Board

*Vacancies as of  
August 10, 2025*

The advisory board shall be composed of nine members appointed by the Council. Of the nine members, five members shall be representatives of a minority business enterprise, two members shall be representatives of lenders or businesses other than a minority business enterprise, one member shall be a Section 3 contractor representative and one member shall be either an at-large resident of the city or a member of the Council.

The Council shall nominate:

- Three (3) members who shall be representatives of a minority business enterprise,
- One (1) member who shall be a representative of lenders or businesses other than a minority business enterprise
- One (1) member who shall be either an at-large resident of the city or a member of the Council

The Mayor shall nominate:

- Two (2) members who shall be representatives of a minority business enterprise,
- One (1) member who shall be a representative of lenders or businesses other than a minority business enterprise
- One (1) member who shall be a Section 3 contractor representative

The Board may elect from its membership a chairman and other officers it deems necessary in accordance with its rules of procedure or bylaws.

*(Assigned to the Finance & Economic Development Standing Committee)*

Current Vacancies				
Member Name	Criteria for Appointment	Live / Work District	Term	Terminate
Nathalia Artus Mayoral Nominee	Lender/Business member	3 <sup>rd</sup>	First	12/10/2021
			Mayor's Office Contacted	
Eddie Jackson, Jr.	MBE Member	7 <sup>th</sup> District Employment	First	11/28/2026
			Resigned	
Lester Johnson, Jr. Mayoral Nominee	MBE Member	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Employment	Third	01/28/2025
			Term limit	
Brittany Rawlinson Mayoral Nominee	MBE Member	5 <sup>th</sup>	First	11/28/2024
			Mayor's Office Contacted	
Gracetta "Grace" Washington Mayoral Nominee	Section 3 contractor representative	6 <sup>th</sup> District Employment	First	07/24/2025
			Mayor's Office Contacted	
Adrienne Whitaker	Lender/Business member	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Employment	Second	04/08/2025
			Application included	
Current Membership				
Member Name	Criteria for Appointment	Live / Work District	Term	Terminate
Morris Cephas	MBE Member	2 <sup>nd</sup> District Employment	First	11/28/2025
Shirley Crawford	MBE Member	6 <sup>th</sup>	First	01/09/2026
Le'Teshia LeSane	MBE/At-Large Resident	3 <sup>rd</sup> District Employment	First	02/27/2027

**Contact:**

***Pat Foster***

Director of the Office of Minority Business Enterprise

[Patricia.foster@rva.gov](mailto:Patricia.foster@rva.gov)

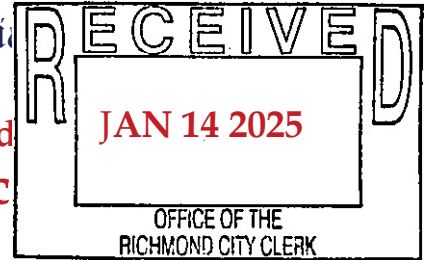
***Gale M. Jones, CPS***

Administrative Program Support Assistant

The Office of Minority Business Development (804) 646-7744 [Gale.Jones@rva.gov](mailto:Gale.Jones@rva.gov)



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



(Please Print or Type)

Name of Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force: Minority Business Enterprise/Emerging Small Business	
Title: Mr. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Last Name: Adrienne	First Name: Whitaker
Home Street Address: 12524 Cambie Place, Henrico, VA 23233	Home Telephone: (804) 370-1445
Home City, Zip Code: 23233	Home Fax: <input type="text"/>
Personal E-Mail Address: L2LLeadershipInsitute@gmail.com	
Employer: Virginia Housing	
Job Title: Director, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access	How Long? 3 years
Business Street Address: 601 S Belvidere Street, Richmond, VA 23220	Business Telephone: (804) 343-5751
Business City, Zip Code: 23220	Business Fax: <input type="text"/>
Business E-Mail Address: adrienne.whitaker@virginiahousing.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? <input type="text"/>	
Are you a city resident? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes, which City Council district? <input type="text"/> Number of years? <input type="text"/>	
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. Not applicable	
Signature: <u>Adrienne P. Whitaker</u> Date: <u>01/04/2025</u>	
(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.)	

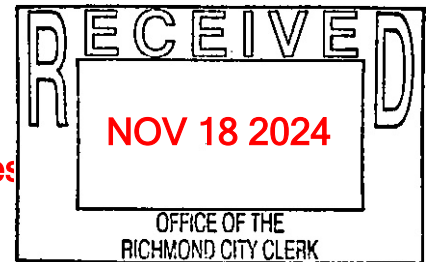
**NOTE: This application is a public document.**

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.rva.gov/office-city-clerk](http://www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk)



City of Richmond, Virginia  
City Council

Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces



(Name of Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force)

**MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE AND EMERGING SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD**

Title:

Name: *Shemicia L. Bowen*

Home Address: *001253 BOULDER CREEK RD RICHMOND VA 23225*

Home Telephone: *804-943-5036* Home Fax:

Personal E-Mail Address: *shemicia@yahoo.com*

Employer: *Virginia Black Restaurant Experience*

Job Title: *COO* How Long? *9*

Business Address: *VA*

Business Telephone: *804-943-5036* Ext:  Business Fax:

Business E-Mail Address: *eat@rbre365.com*

Is Your Place of Employment Located in the city of Richmond? *No*

Is your Place of Employment Located in the County? *Yes* If Yes, Which County? *Henrico*

Are You A City Resident? *Yes* If Yes, Which City Council District? *4* Number of Years? *9*

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? *No*

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:

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.

*I bring both project management and business strategy skills in the execution of community and business initiatives. My undergraduate studies in Public Administration coupled with possessing PMP certification strengthen my knowledge and ability to execute effectively. For over the past decade, I have built extensive expertise in procurement, project management, and operations, having held leadership roles in both the*

**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.**



## City of Richmond, Virginia City Council

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### Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces Application

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*public and private sectors. My experience includes developing and managing Statements of Work (SOWs), Requests for Quotations (RFQs), and contracts for multimillion-dollar projects, as well as leading initiatives that drive economic development and support underserved communities.*

*As Chair of the Urban League of Greater Richmond, I am actively engaged in advancing workforce development and entrepreneurial programs for minority businesses. I also co-lead the Virginia Black Restaurant Experience, a platform dedicated to supporting and elevating Black-owned businesses*

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#### Other Community Involvement:

*none*

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**(OPTIONAL) Please List Additional Information You Would Like Considered, or You May Copy and Paste Your Short Resume.**

*I am committed to community advocacy, economic empowerment, and leadership development reflects her dedication to fostering growth and equity in the City of Richmond.*

*Chair, Urban League of Greater Richmond*

- Leads the board in strategic initiatives supporting workforce development, education, and community empowerment programs.*

- Actively works to enhance the organization's governance, operations, and impact in the Richmond community.*

*2. Founder, Virginia Black Restaurant Experience (VBRE)*

- Established and expanded a platform to support and promote Black-owned restaurants and culinary professionals.*

- Organizes signature events and workshops with business community Employee Resource Groups to volunteer opportunities with Richmond Public Schools students. Amplify the brand awareness of the minority business community through collective marketing campaigns. Curates signature events that drive tourism and economic growth for small businesses in Richmond and surrounding areas*

*3. Mentor and Speaker*

- Created and participated in youth mentoring programs, including Ladies who Lead, mentoring program at MLK Middle School for girls with a mission to inspire young girls about leadership and representation in corporate, political, and creative spaces.*

*4. Supporter of Digital Equity Initiatives*

- Led a computer recycling and donation program during her tenure at Alliant Energy (Utility company in Wisconsin) to improve digital access for underserved communities.*

*5. Advocate for Women in Leadership*

- Collaborated on the "Win with Women" campaign to support and promote women candidates for local*

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*government positions.*

*6. Active Member, Richmond's Civic and Cultural Events*

- Regularly organizes and participates in events aimed at enhancing Richmond's cultural identity and economic opportunities for minority communities.*

*7. Partnership Builder*

- Actively collaborates with local organizations, such as the Virginia Tourism Corporation and the BLK RVA initiative, to amplify the visibility and impact of minority-owned businesses in the region.*

*8. Representative on Virginia State University Business Industry Council*

*Collaborative advisory group that connects industry leaders, entrepreneurs and business professionals with administrative leadership at VSU.*

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**How Did You Hear About or Who Referred You to Apply for Appointment to This Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force?**

*Senior-level professional offering 20+ years of management experience and proven work experience in*

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# Participatory Budgeting Steering Commission

*Vacancies as of  
August 10, 2025*

The Commission shall be composed of **seven members** and **four non-voting alternate members** appointed by the Council. All appointments shall be otherwise governed by sections 2-755 and 2-756 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2015), as amended.

- (1) 2 - voting members shall reside in a Council district located north of the James River;
- (2) 3 - voting members shall reside in a Council district located south of the James River;
- (3) 1 - voting member shall be a person with a disability;
- (4) 1 - voting member shall be a resident of public housing;
- (5) 4 - non-voting alternate members shall be residents of the city of Richmond and may be appointed from any Council district.

Membership of the Commission should possess experience and expertise concerning various aspects of community investment and development, public finance, urban planning, community health and wellbeing, community organization, and community outreach that may be relevant to the consideration of formulating standards and procedures for participatory budgeting.

The voting members and non-voting alternate members shall serve for terms of two years and may serve up to two consecutive terms.

*(Assigned to the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee)*

Current Vacancies				
Member Name	Criteria for Appointment	Live / Work District	Term	Terminate
Vacant	Person with a disability			
Erin Kelley	Reside in a Council district located south of the James River	4 <sup>th</sup>	Second	09/27/2025
			Resigned	
Quawneisha People	Resident of public housing	8 <sup>th</sup>	First	11/13/2024
			Contacted – no response received	
Current Membership				
Member Name	Criteria for Appointment	Live / Work District	Term	Terminate
Reginald Bates	Reside in a Council district located south of the James River	8 <sup>th</sup>	First	11/11/2026
James Boschen	Alternate member (Non-voting)	1 <sup>st</sup>	First	05/12/2026
Abigail Delaney	Alternate member (Non-voting)	5 <sup>th</sup>	First	09/27/2025
Samuel Davies	Alternate member (Non-voting)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	First	05/12/2026
Troi Hughes	Reside in a Council district located south of the James River	9 <sup>th</sup>	Second	09/27/2025
Jerome Legions	Alternate member (Non-voting)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Second	09/27/2025
Aaron Linas	Reside in a Council district located north of the James River	7 <sup>th</sup>	Second	09/27/2025
Oludare Ogunde	Reside in a Council district located north of the James River	7 <sup>th</sup>	Second	09/27/2025



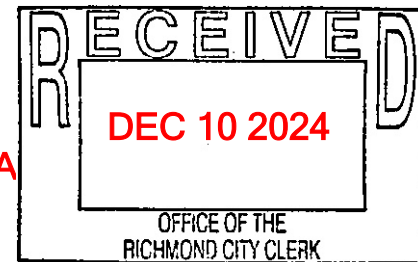
**Contact:**

Matthew Slaats	Senior Civic Innovation Manager, Richmond City Council, Office of the Council Chief of Staff	<a href="mailto:matthew.slaats@rva.gov">matthew.slaats@rva.gov</a> 804-646-6447 (desk)
Leidiana Delgado	Civic Engagement Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Leidiana.delgado@rva.gov">Leidiana.delgado@rva.gov</a> 804-646-5828 (desk)



City of Richmond, Virginia  
City Council

Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces A



(Name of Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force)

**PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING STEERING COMMISSION**

Title: *Ms*

Name: *Tiffany Beatrice Gunn*

Home Address: *006222 LAMAR DR RICHMOND VA 23225*

Home Telephone: *804-503-2539*

Home Fax:

Personal E-Mail Address: *Tiffanygunn33@gmail.com*

Employer: *Pfizer Pharmaceuticals*

Job Title: *Complaint Associate*

How Long?

Business Address: *VA*

Business Telephone:

Ext:

Business  
Fax:

Business E-Mail Address: *Tiffany.gunn@pfizer.com*

Is Your Place of Employment Located in the city of Richmond? *Yes*

Is your Place of Employment Located in the County? *No*

If Yes, Which County?

Are You A City Resident? *Yes*

If Yes, Which City Council District?

*9*

Number of Years? *50*

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? *No*

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# City of Richmond, Virginia City Council

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## Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces Application

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If yes, please provide information on the nature of the contract.

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Please List Your Educational Background and/or Other Expertise or Qualifications You Will Bring to This Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force:

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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.

*BS, Business Administration  
Former National Guardsman*

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Other Community Involvement:

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(OPTIONAL) Please List Additional Information You Would Like Considered, or You May Copy and Paste Your Short Resume.

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How Did You Hear About or Who Referred You to Apply for Appointment to This Authority, Board, Commission or Task Force?

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