

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 2, 2020

AGENDA NO. 10

PROPOSAL: Appoint Alternate Public Member to Hearing Board

SYNOPSIS: In February 2020, one of the two Alternate Public Member positions on the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board became vacant. A Hearing Board Advisory Committee reviewed the applications and resumes of 22 candidates and recommended that the Administrative Committee interview the top three ranked candidates. The Administrative Committee interviewed the candidates at its meeting on September 11, 2020. This action is to appoint an Alternate Public Member to fill the unexpired term ending June 30, 2022.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, September 11, 2020; Recommended for Approval

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Appoint Micah Ali as an Alternate Public Member to the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board effective October 2, 2020 to fill the unexpired term ending June 30, 2022.

Wayne Nastri  
Executive Officer

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**Background**

The Hearing Board is a five-member quasi-judicial body appointed by, but acting independently of, the Governing Board that consists of one engineer, one attorney, one medical professional and two public members. An alternate member is appointed for each position to serve in the absence of the regular member.

One of the two Alternate Public Member positions became vacant in February 2020 and a recruitment announcement to fill the vacancy was released on May 12, 2020. At the closing of the recruitment on June 2, 2020, there were 22 qualified applicants.

Health and Safety Code Section 40501.1(b) requires that a Hearing Board Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) appointed by each of the Governing Board members that represent the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino, and the City of Los Angeles review Hearing Board candidates and make recommendations to the appropriate Governing Board committee for appointments to the Hearing Board. (The appropriate Governing Board standing committee that will make a final recommendation to the full Board is the Administrative Committee). The members of the Advisory Committee for this recruitment are as follows:

Representing/Appointed By	Member
County of Riverside Supervisor V. Manuel Perez	Buford Crites Former South Coast AQMD Governing Board Consultant
County of Orange Supervisor Lisa Bartlett	Lucy Dunn President & CEO Orange County Business Council
County of Los Angeles Supervisor Kathryn Barger	Diane Moss Former South Coast AQMD Governing Board Consultant
City of Los Angeles Council Member Buscaino	Ray Regalado Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services
County of San Bernardino Supervisor Rutherford	William Sterling, Ph.D. President & CEO BCM Group

The Advisory Committee members reviewed the application materials, and used an evaluation criteria they had previously approved to evaluate the qualifications of the 22 candidates and rank them according to their overall scores. Per the Advisory Committee’s request, a panel of South Coast AQMD staff also evaluated and ranked the candidates, which the Advisory Committee used to cross reference and compare with their individual evaluations. The South Coast AQMD three-member panel consisted of the Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer and Deputy Executive Officer/Administrative & Human Resources.

On August 4, 2020, the Advisory Committee met to discuss the candidate rankings and decide on a short list of candidates to interview. The Advisory Committee unanimously agreed to waive their interview of the candidates and recommended that the top three ranked candidates listed below in alphabetical order be referred to the Administrative Committee for interviews.

Micah Ali  
Maria Slaughter  
Vasken Yardemian

## **Proposal**

After interviewing each candidate at their September 11, 2020 meeting, the Administrative Committee recommended that the Board appoint Micah Ali to the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board as an Alternate Public Member to fill the term that commenced July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2022. Subsequent to the Administrative Committee meeting, Mr. Ali was informed of the Committee's recommendation and he expressed his willingness to serve. The following is a summary of Mr. Ali's qualifications.

**Micah Ali** – Mr. Ali is a public advocate and community leader, who has championed students, working families, and urban communities over the past 12 years on the Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees. His record of public service and community engagement includes serving as national Chair of the Council of Urban Boards of Education, national Chair-elect of the National Black Council of School Board Members, Founder of the California Association of Black School Educators and Senate appointee to California's Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board.

His environmental justice work includes serving as President of the Compton Creek Mosquito Abatement District, a Member of South Coast Air Quality Management District's Environmental Justice Working Group and a member of the Friends of Ballona Wetlands Board of Directors.

Mr. Ali is the longest serving President in the history of the Compton Unified School District and a proud graduate of Loyola Marymount University.

## **Fiscal Impacts**

Sufficient funds are budgeted each year to compensate those who serve on the Hearing Board.