

# Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee Meeting Record

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Agenda materials are available online at [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com). Recordings may be reviewed online at <https://dallastx.swagit.com/city-council>.  
Note: This meeting was conducted via teleconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

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CITY SECRETARY  
DALLAS, TEXAS

**Meeting Date:** November 8, 2021

**Convened:** 1:05 p.m.

**Adjourned:** 2:01 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

CM Jaynie Schultz, Chair  
CM Casey Thomas, II, Vice Chair  
DMPT Jaime Resendez  
CM Paula Blackmon  
CM B. Adam McGough  
CM Omar Narvaez  
CM Jesse Moreno

**Committee Members Absent:**

N/A

**Other Council Members Present:**

CM Gay Donnell Willis

**AGENDA**

Call to Order (1:05 p.m.)

**1. Approval of the October 12, 2021 Workforce, Education and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made to approve the minutes for the October 12, 2021 Workforce, Education and Equity Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Motion made by: CM Paula Blackmon

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

**BRIEFING MEMOS WITH ACTION**

**2. Equity (Internal): Consider an Amendment to the Dallas City Code to Create a Commission on Disabilities**

**Presenter:** Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion, City Manager's Office

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Committee members made comments in support of the proposed Commission on Disabilities ordinance. A motion was made to recommend the item to the City Council for approval. The motion passed.

Motion made by: Vice Chair Casey Thomas

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

**3. Equity (External): Recommend Approval of an Upcoming Office of Procurement Services and Office of Community Care Agenda Item – CARES CDBG Drivers of Poverty Programs**

**Presenters:** Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office; Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Director Galleshaw provided a brief overview of an upcoming City Council agenda item that would approve funding for essential needs and financial stability support services to low-to-moderate income residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There were not any questions or discussions on the item. A motion was made to recommend the item to the City Council for approval. The motion passed.

Motion made by: Vice Chair Casey Thomas

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

**4. Workforce Development (External): Recommend Approval of an Upcoming Office of Procurement Services Council Agenda Item - CDBG Workforce Training for COVID-impacted Individuals - United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and Oak Cliff Empowered, Inc.**

**Presenters:** Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office; Heather Lepeska, Assistant Director, Office of Economic Development

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Chief Tolbert provided a brief overview of an upcoming City Council agenda item that would authorize a two-year subrecipient agreement with United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and Oak Cliff Empowered, Inc. for workforce and certified skills training and education services. There were not any questions or discussions on the item. A motion was made to recommend the item to the City Council for approval. The motion passed.

Motion made by: Vice Chair Casey Thomas

Motion seconded by: CM Omar Narvaez

**BRIEFING ITEMS WITHOUT ACTION**

**A. Workforce Development (Internal): FreshStart Employment Program Overview and Update**

**Presenters:** Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff, City Manager's Office; Kim Benn, Manager - Business, Small Business Center

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Chief Tolbert and Ms. Benn provided an overview of the FreshStart program, which supports justice-involved individuals in achieving full-time employment opportunities within the City of Dallas. Committee members discussed and asked questions about Ban the Box, the City's collaboration with community partners to enhance the FreshStart program, the eligibility criteria for the FreshStart program, the City's rate of retention of FreshStart hires, specific metrics/goals for the FreshStart program, acculturation and mentorship of FreshStart hires, and opportunities for hiring FreshStart candidates for the RIGHT Care program. Informational only.

Adjourn (2:01 p.m.)

**APPROVED BY:**



**Jaynie Schultz, Chair**  
**Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee**

**ATTESTED BY:**



**Sommer Iqbal, Coordinator**  
**Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee**