



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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Meeting Minutes

Federal Funds Equity & Accountability Review Panel

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

In accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted, and open to the public, via Zoom and Teleconference:

Zoom URL: <https://mass-gov-anf.zoom.us/j/85613513098?pwd=T0dHb1F0Y1RnY1d0cC9STIM5ZkljZz09>

Passcode: 841499

Teleconference Line: 713-353-7024, conference code:

A meeting of the Federal Funds Equity & Accountability Review Panel was held via teleconference on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, in accordance with Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021.

Meeting was called to order at 3:03PM

Panel members comprising a quorum:

Jose Delgado, Panel Co-Chair, Access and Opportunity, Office of the Governor
Nicole Obi, Panel Co-Chair, Coalition for an Equitable Economy
Suzanne Bump, Auditor of the Commonwealth
Erica Seery, Chief Digital Officer, Executive Office of Technology Services and Security
Gabrielle King Morse, Center for Women and Enterprise, Inc.
Marie-Frances Rivera, Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, Inc.
Elizabeth Weyant, Massachusetts Association of Regional Planning Agencies
Bill McAvoy, Supplier Diversity Office
Kristina Johnson, Chief Data Officer, Executive Office of Technology Services and Security
Geoff Foster, Common Cause Massachusetts
Raquel Halsey, North American Indian Center of Boston, Inc.
Bishop Tony Branch, NAACP New England Area Conference
Kerima Lewis, The Commission on the Status of African Americans
Michael Frieber, Inspector General's Office
Denella Clark, Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women
Joe Kriesberg, Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations
Yasmin Padamsee, Commission on the Status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

Members Absent:

Amy Nable, Office of the Comptroller
Cindy Luppi, Green Justice Coalition
Leemarie Mosca, Massachusetts Nonprofit Network, Inc.
Joe Curtatone, Northeast Clean Energy Council, Inc.
Beverly Johnson, Massachusetts Minority Contractors Association, Inc.
Shaheer Mustafa, Massachusetts Nonprofit Network, Inc.

Others in attendance:

Kelly Govoni, Executive Office for Administration and Finance, Panel Secretary
Danielle Littmann, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Robert Braza, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Judith Bromley, State Auditor's Office
Parris Kyriakakis, Office of the Comptroller
Nicole Wei, Office of State Representative Danillo Sena
Greg Desrosiers
Marino Fernandes

1. Administrative Matters

- I. Ms. Govoni conducted the roll call for the meeting. Co-chair Delgado called the meeting to order.
- II. On a motion from Auditor Suzanne Bump and duly seconded, the Panel members voted by roll call vote to approve the June 2, 2022, meeting minutes. Mr. Frieber, Ms. Clark and Ms. Padamsee abstained because they were not present at the meeting.

2. Update from Equity Metrics and Data & Technology Subcommittee's

- I. Co-chair Obi provided a recap of where the Panel currently stands and the projected timeline moving forward. Ms. Rivera then went over the 5 different tiers that have been developed using different indices and metrics. Now that the tiers are established, the next step is for the Panel to assign different percentages to the tiers to make sure there is an equitable distribution of the funds. Ms. Rivera did a few exercises showing how much money different tiers would receive based on different percentages. Ms. Rivera explained that based on what LA County did with their dashboard, they weighed tier 1 and 2 more heavily, which means people living in those communities would receive a higher proportion than people living in the other tiers. Ms. Seery noted that one way to think about this is rather than percentage per bucket of the tier, doing it per person. For example, in tier 5, for every 1 dollar that goes to someone in tier 5, someone in tier 1 gets 2 dollars. Ms. Seery noted that this would account for population and might be something to consider. Co-chair Delgado agreed that could be a good approach. Mr. Kriesberg noted that the geographic layer is worth trying to do but thinks other layers need to be done as well to create an accurate picture. Mr. Kriesberg noted that for the premium pay program, every single dollar is going to a low wage worker and so by definition, that program is equitable. He also notes that for some of the programs, certain tiers are ineligible for the program and is not sure how they should work out that issue. Co-chair Obi asked Mr. Kriesberg if he thinks that if they called out certain exceptions, if he thinks they would have enough of those exceptions that it would undermine this whole structure or if there are only a few. Mr. Kriesberg noted that is a good question, and there are big chunks of programs that won't be applicable across the tiers. Co-chair Delgado noted that for this exercise, they are focused more on the weight associated with each tier and not necessarily on the programs because programs can change. Ms. Weyant noted that she is very cognizant of the programmatic focus of some of these dollars, but this

exercise is more for bench marking purposes to show how dollars were spent or could be spent geographically but feels there is another dimension to be added. Ms. Weyant explained that the Panel should develop a set of principles that would come even above the expenditure catch and speaks to Mr. Kriesberg's concerns. Ms. Johnson noted that she agrees that there are a certain set of goals that we care about from an equity lens and there can be different ways to meet equity goals and requirements and they have been really focused on the geographic piece of this but there are other pieces in the legislation that are there. Ms. Johnson noted that in terms of the overall spending allocations, its important to note that while its useful to break it down from a project perspective, really what we are talking about is overall spending. For instance, maybe a particular project doesn't lend itself to allocating the funding in quite the way we envision but overall, we are looking for the programs to do that and it might require some coordination between secretariats and agencies to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the Commonwealth as a whole.

II. Discuss Principles

- i. Ms. Weyant noted lots of organizations and entities have done this work around equity principles and thinking about the equitable expenditure of dollars. Ms. Weyant noted that we don't need to reinvent the wheel and would like to hear the Panel's ideas about other entities or organizations that have done this work. Ms. Rivera asked if during the public comment period they should ask people some questions around principles. Co-chair Delgado noted that part of the public comment period will include asking folks questions about information the Panel wants feedback and help on from the public. Mr. Foster flagged an example where the legislature invested \$10M in DPH for a new neighborhood-based gun violence prevention program. Mr. Foster noted that it lays out in the bid the core principles for programs. Ms. Weyant confirmed that is exactly the kind of examples they would love to hear about.

3. Discuss Public Comment Period

- I. Ms. Rivera pointed out that there has not been a lot of press around the Panel and suggested using some of the funds allocated to the Panel to help get the word out. Mr. Bishop Branch seconded that and agreed with using the funds allocated to the Panel for public outreach and relation efforts.

4. Next Steps

- I. The Panel will meet again in July to vote on what is going out for public comment.

5. Adjournment

- I. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02PM.

Kelly Govoni, Secretary