



CALL for AT-LARGE COMMISSIONERS (2024-25)

TO: Mayors; Community Groups in the SRPEDD Region;
At-Large SRPEDD Delegates; SRPEDD Commissioners
FROM: Marie Clarner SRPEDD Chair
DATE: March 22, 2024
RE: NOMINATIONS FOR SRPEDD AT-LARGE COMMISSIONER(S)

We are seeking representatives of minority and low-income community groups to serve on the Commission of the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD). These appointments will take effect on May 24, 2024, and continue through May 24, 2025. SRPEDD (pronounced sir-ped) is a regional planning agency established by the Legislature to provide regional planning and related planning technical assistance in transportation, land use, economic development, housing, and environmental concerns to the 27 municipalities (4 cities and 23 towns) that SRPEDD serves.

The Commission is SRPEDD's governing body and consists of municipal and community representatives who oversee the activities of the agency and address regional issues. The Commission meets approximately eight to ten times per year on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held at SRPEDD's office in Taunton and begin at 6:30 pm.

The position of At-Large Commissioner, per the agency's bylaws, is a unique opportunity for individuals who represent and understand the needs of historically disadvantaged and underrepresented minority and/or low-income populations in housing, economic development, and transportation planning processes and other important areas to speak for these needs on the SRPEDD Commission.

The opportunity is all the more significant because At-Large Commissioners are also official voting members of the [Joint Transportation Planning Group](#) (JTPG), the advisory group to the Southeastern Massachusetts [Metropolitan Planning Organization](#) (SMMPO) for all transportation related issues. The JTPG is the forum for public involvement in transportation planning, and usually meets the second Wednesday of each month, likewise at SRPEDD, beginning at 2:00 pm.

Commission bylaws provide for up to six At-Large delegates representing low income and minority group interests: **2** for the **New Bedford area**; **2** for the **Fall River area**; **1** for the **Taunton area**; and **1** for the **Attleboro area**.

The attached sheet outlines the eligibility criteria for At-Large Commissioner Appointees and the communities included in each subarea.

You or your organization may propose a person to sit on the Commission, who will be nominated by a member of the Commission and confirmed by the body as a whole.

If interested, kindly fill out the attached Qualification Statement, and forward your completed form to: Stacy Royer at ssousa@srpedd.org or 88 Broadway, Taunton, MA 02780. Questions? Please call Stacy at (508) 824-1367

We hope to see a full complement of six At-Large Commissioners serving for the 2024-25 term so that low-income and minority community groups are well represented on the board. If you are aware of other qualified or interested community groups who may not have received this mailing, please notify us so we may contact them or pass along a copy to the appropriate party.

The **NOMINEE** must be a resident within one of the following subareas, as appropriate:

<p><u>Attleboro Subarea</u> Attleboro Mansfield North Attleborough Norton Plainville Rehoboth</p>	<p><u>Fall River Subarea (2)</u> Fall River Freetown Seekonk Somerset Swansea Westport</p>	<p><u>New Bedford Subarea (2)</u> New Bedford Acushnet Dartmouth Fairhaven Marion Mattapoisett Rochester Wareham</p>	<p><u>Taunton Subarea</u> Taunton Berkley Carver Dighton Lakeville Middleborough Raynham</p>
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CURRENTLY SERVING AT-LARGE COMMISSIONERS (2024-2025)

Attleboro Subarea: Catherine Feerick, City of Attleboro
 Fall River Subarea: Gloria Saddler, Bristol Black Collective
 New Bedford Subarea: Ashley Eaton, City of New Bedford Office of Housing and Community Dev.
 Taunton Subarea: Tanya Lobo, True Diversity

The NOMINEE must be certified as a representative of a qualified low-income or minority community group in writing.

COMMUNITY GROUPS are defined as one of the following:

- a legal non-profit corporation or association whose members are minority and/or low income; or
- the governing body or advisory board of a public agency whose goals are reflective of the needs of minority and low-income people.

MINORITIES are those defined by the Economic Development Administration as:

- Black or African American – American Indian and Alaska Native
- Hispanic - Mexican, Puerto Rican, Other Hispanic or Latino
- Native American - persons known by virtue of tribal associations
- Asian - Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Indian, Thai, Cambodian, Vietnamese
- Other Races including Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islanders

LOW-INCOME is defined according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' minimum standard of living.



SRPEDD
 Southeastern Regional Planning
 & Economic Development District

QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

TITLE OF ORGANIZATION (Community Group): _____

_____ Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Telephone: _____

Fax: _____ Agency email: _____

Date Organized or Incorporated: _____ Approx. # of Members: _____

Purpose (Brief Description): _____

Minority or Low-Income Groups Represented: _____

Our organization would like to nominate the following individual(s) to sit on the SRPEDD Commission and Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG):

Name: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

E-mail: _____ E-mail: _____

Telephone: _____ Telephone: _____

Submitted by:

Name: _____ Title _____

E-mail: _____ Signed: _____

Date: _____

*Mass. General Laws: "The Commission may increase its membership by not more than six in order to provide representation to low income and minority groups."

PLEASE RETURN BY MAY 17, 2024

Email the completed form to ssousa@srpedd.org
 or forward via U.S. Mail to SRPEDD, 88 Broadway, Taunton, 02780