

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Nominate Ray Leary to the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission to fill a City of Portland position. (Resolution)

Contact name: Susan Hartnett

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Presenter name: Susan Hartnett

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The City of Portland is allocated two positions on the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission (MERC); Ray Leary currently represents the City of Portland on MERC, has served as a member of the commission since July 2004, and has expressed his interest in continuing his service when his term expires this September 2016. Mr. Leary is a Portland native who is the principal officer of the urban real estate development company ERL, L.L.C., the co-owner of the diversity training consulting firm Leary & Associates, and an active member of the community (see attached). His commitment to MERC projects including the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) program and the Oregon Convention Center Hotel Project indicate he is a qualified and capable representative for the city of Portland on MERC. The Mayor has reviewed Mr. Leary's experience and recommends that he be nominated for a new four-year term. Mr. Leary's nomination is subject to concurrence by the Metro Council President and confirmation by the Metro Council.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

This resolution has no direct financial impact on the City. However, MERC operates the Portland's Centers for the Arts, the facilities of which are owned by the City of Portland, under an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and Metro. The annual budget and long term financial health of the Portland's is largely controlled by MERC.

Community impacts and community involvement:

This resolution does not have direct or specific community impacts and no public input was sought in recommending Mr. Leary be reappointed. However, Mr. Leary has the professional qualifications and experience necessary to continue to assist in overseeing the City's interest in these functions as a voting member of MERC.

- **Budgetary Impact Worksheet**

Does this action change appropriations?

- ☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.
☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

Leadership Bio



Name: Ellis Ray Leary

Commission function: Commission Member

Represents: City of Portland

Professional Experience: Ellis "Ray" Leary is a native Portlander and active participant in real estate, development, and the community. He is the principal officer of ERL, L.L.C., which specializes in urban real estate development, marketing, and workforce development and training. He is the co-owner of Leary & Associates, which provides consulting services for diversity training and organizational development.

Ray worked for Adidas America, where he managed its national urban marketing unit, served as the executive assistant to the president/CEO of Adidas America, and was project manager for Adidas' first full line retail store located in Portland. He also served as director of development and interim president for the Urban League of Portland.

Ray has received many awards and honors for his artistic achievements and civic leadership. His artistic accomplishments include a 1996 Grammy award nomination for songwriter/producer and a Hip Hop Hall of Fame Award. Leadership honors include the Salvation Army Community Pride Award, President Bush's Point of Light Foundation, the Ron Schmidt Award from the PRSA Portland Chapter, and the NAACP Portland Image Award.

Ray's many accomplishments with both business and real estate give him a broad perspective on the business and strategic goals of MERC. His experience helps the agency anticipate and respond to the complex development issues associated with the MERC venues and to work effectively with the agency's business and community partners.

Organizations/ Affiliations

- NAACP, Member
- N.E. Business Association, Member
- Portland Oregon Sports Authority, Board