












# Austin Economic Development Corporation: Board Members and Nominees for Austin City Council Approval February, 2021



		Summary of Qualifications
	<p><b>Board Member:</b> Sylnovia Holt-Rabb Acting Director, Economic Development Department</p> <p><b>Appointing Body:</b> City of Austin Economic Development Department</p>	<p>Sylnovia Holt Rabb has over 22 years of experience in accounting and financial management through non-profit corporations and local government. In 2000, Sylnovia began her career City of Austin in the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department as the Financial Manager. In 2009, Sylnovia transitioned to the Economic Development Department as the Financial Manager. In June 2014, she was promoted to Assistant Director. She leads innovative programs that increase the prosperity of Austinites, businesses, and diverse neighborhoods, creating a cultural and economic environment that enhances the vitality of the community.</p> <p>During her tenure as Assistant Director, Sylnovia was appointed as a Daniel Rose Fellow, Urban Land Institute Rose Center for Public Leadership. As fellow, Sylnovia, along with three other colleagues, focused on equitable economic development specifically around small businesses in community of color. In December of 2019, Sylnovia was appointed Deputy Director of the Economic Development Department. Sylnovia is a graduate of Florida A&amp;M University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master of Business Administration.</p>
	<p><b>Board Member and Chair:</b> Rosie Truelove Director, Neighborhood Housing and Planning Department</p> <p><b>Appointing Body:</b> City of Austin Neighborhood Housing and Planning Department</p>	<p>Rosie Truelove currently serves as the Director of the City of Austin’s Housing and Planning Department. The Housing and Planning Department was formed in 2020 with the merger of the Planning and Zoning Department and the Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department. The Housing and Planning Department integrates comprehensive planning, zoning, and displacement prevention activities, to include all affordable housing program delivery, which are central to community and council priorities. Prior to her role in Housing and Planning, Rosie served as the Director of Neighborhood Housing and Community Development (NHCD) for four years. NHCD is responsible for the development and incentivizing of affordable housing in Austin, as well as community development services to benefit eligible residents, so they can have access to livable neighborhoods and increase their opportunities for self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Rosie began her career at the City of Austin 22 years ago, working in the information technology department. From there, she moved to the City Manager’s office where she served as an Executive Assistant to the Deputy City Manager and City Manager. She has a Master in Public Affairs from the LBJ School at the University of Texas and undergraduate degree in Government. Rosie is a founding member of Woman-to-Woman, an employee affinity group at the City of Austin and has served on numerous cross departmental groups at the City of Austin focused on technology governance and human resources. She serves as the President of the Board of Directors of the Blodgett Fellows in Urban Management – a non-profit formed to promote the profession of Local Government in graduate education. Rosie is also active in her children’s schools and sports clubs.</p>




	<p><b>Board Member:</b> Kellee Coleman Business Process Consultant, Equity Office</p> <p><b>Appointing Body:</b> City of Austin Equity Office</p>	<p>Kellee Coleman has over 18 years of equity and social justice community organizing experience integrating media, and popular education as strategies for social change. In 2008 she co-founded Vibrant Woman/Mama Sana prenatal clinic, a project of Mamas of Color Rising that provides holistic and culturally specific prenatal care, birth companions, midwifery services, prenatal fitness and nutrition services to lower income Black and Latina folks in the Austin area.</p> <p>In 2013 Kellee facilitated the Austin Public Health Department’s community health workers training focused on health equity issues impacting Black women in Austin, Texas. She has conducted original research on the social determinants of health as they impact Black women locally. She is a former member of the national leadership collective of Incite! Women and Trans* People of Color Against Violence. She has consulted with numerous national and local organizations on equity and reproductive issues including the U.S. Midwifery Education, Regulation, &amp; Association (MERA); MANA, a National Latina Organization; The University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs; and the Austin Women’s Community Center. Kellee is serving as the Business Process Consultant Sr. for the City of Austin’s Equity office.</p> <p>Kellee has three children and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from St. Edwards University in 2015.</p>
	<p><b>Board Member:</b> Ed Van Eenoo Chief Financial Officer</p> <p><b>Appointing Body:</b> City of Austin Finance</p>	<p>Mr. Van Eenoo has worked for the City of Austin for 12 years in the capacities of Budget Officer, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, and his current position of Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Van Eenoo is responsible for all aspects of City finances including procurement, bond issuances, construction contracting, accounting, franchise agreements, and administration of the City’s \$4.2 billion annual operating budget and \$1.0 billion annual capital budget. Under his leadership, the City’s budget has been a perennial winner of the Government Finance Officers Association’s award for Distinguished Budget Presentation and the International City/County Management Association’s Certificate of Excellence for performance measurement. In addition, he has developed and led many inclusive and innovative community engagement campaigns including the highly successful Budget-in-a-Box, which was awarded a Municipal Excellence Award for communication from the Texas Municipal League.</p> <p>Ed is a member of the Board of Trustees for the \$2.5 billion City of Austin Employees’ Retirement System since 2011 and the \$860 million Austin Police Retirement System since 2019. He was selected by Bloomberg Philanthropies to be one of thirty financial leaders from cities across the country to participant in the What Works Cities Budgeting for Equity and Recovery Initiative. Ed also served two years with the United States Peace Corps as a secondary school mathematics teacher in rural Kenya.</p> <p>Mr. Van Eenoo holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics from Eastern Michigan University and a Master of Science in Applied Economics from Virginia Tech.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Carl Settles</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> City of Austin Arts Commission</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2022 Renewal</p>	<p>Carl Settles is the visionary Founder and Executive Director of E4 Youth, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in Austin, TX. E4 Youth partners with local schools and creative media industry leaders to provide innovative curriculum and support, career exposure, job shadowing and internship opportunities to youth ages 16 – 24. Prior to founding E4 Youth, Mr. Settles worked extensively in education, software development, music, and media production. He is the architect of E4 Youth’s Employability Curriculum, which helps educators build stronger relationships with youth of color, and his VR Remix Party Curriculum empowers youth of any age to use open source and immersive technology tools to tell stories about their lives. His latest venture, Austin Digital Heritage Project, is a coalition of for profit and nonprofit organizations that trains and employs college age youth to collect and curate oral histories into an immersive media archive.</p> <p>Mr. Settles is a member of Capital Factory, former VP of Education</p>

	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Emmett S. Beliveau Chief Operating Officer, C3 Presents</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> City of Austin Music Commission</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2022 Renewal</p>	<p>Emmett S. Beliveau is Chief Operating Officer at C3 Presents in Austin, TX. The world's premier music festival producer, C3 is the force behind the annual Austin City Limits Music Festival, Lollapalooza, and several other major festivals around the globe that draw more than two million music lovers each year. C3 continually leads the industry in fan experience, community engagement, innovative brand integrations, and cutting-edge digital platforms. In Austin, C3 owns, operates, or partners with several venerable music venues including Emo's, Historic Scoot Inn, and Stubb's BBQ. C3 is also working with Waterloo Greenway Conservancy to bring to life the new 5,000-seat Moody Amphitheater at the recently renovated Waterloo Park.</p> <p>Before joining C3 in 2015, Beliveau served in senior positions at the Obama White House for seven years. As Director of the White House Military Office (WHMO), Beliveau led the 2,500-person military organization responsible for the communications, IT, cybersecurity, fixed wing and helicopter transportation, healthcare, Camp David, and food service for the President, Vice President, and White House staff. Beliveau also served as CEO of the 2009 Presidential Inaugural Committee, overseeing planning and execution of the most widely attended Inauguration in U.S. history.</p> <p>Emmett is a native of Maine, graduated from Colby College, earned a law degree from Georgetown University, and previously practiced law in Washington, DC. He lives in Austin with his wife and two daughters. Mr. Beliveau is a volunteer Child Advocate with CASA of Travis County, a Board Member of Music Moves Austin, and serves on the Board and Executive Committee of the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians, an organization that provides access to healthcare for Austin's low-income working musicians.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Bradford Patterson Director, Community Heritage Development Texas Historical Commission</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2022 Renewal</p>	<p>Bradford Patterson is the Director for the Community Heritage Development Division leading the staff dedicated to helping communities create, revitalize, and support their historic preservation infrastructure through the Texas Main Street, Certified Local Government, and Texas Heritage Trails Programs. Since becoming Director in 2009, he has overseen the division's programs, initiatives and projects including the Economic Impact of Historic Preservation in Texas study; the creation of the annual Real Places Conference and the innovative DowntownTX.org real estate inventory tool; leading the development and expansion of the agency's digital and print heritage travel resources such as TexasTimeTravel.com, mobile tours and cultural travel guides. He has significant experience in historic preservation and architecture, having completed architectural degrees from The University of Texas at Austin and Miami University.</p> <p>With the Commission since 1996, Mr. Patterson previously worked in the Architecture Division coordinating the staff reviewing architectural projects under federal and state laws; tax incentives; disaster response and recovery; ADA compliance; and the Texas Preservation Trust Fund grant program. He also oversaw the restoration of numerous historic county courthouses through the nationally recognized Texas Historic Courthouse Preservation Program. He is a Certified Economic Development Finance Professional and serves as an ex-officio board member of the Texas Travel Alliance.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Xavier Peña Executive Vice President and General Counsel St. David's Foundation</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> Downtown Austin Alliance</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2022 Renewal</p>	<p>Xavier Peña is currently the Executive Vice President and General Counsel at the St. David's Foundation in Austin. Through a unique partnership, the Foundation reinvests proceeds from St. David's HealthCare hospitals and clinics into the Central Texas community by providing grants to regional nonprofits and projects that advance health care and healthy communities Peña previously served as Vice President for Finance and General Counsel at the Houston Endowment and as a Senior Counsel for Finance at Plains All American Pipeline, a Fortune 500 company based in Houston. He began his legal career as a public finance attorney with Vinson &amp; Elkins LLP in Houston.</p> <p>Peña is actively involved in the community. He currently serves on the boards of the Downtown Austin Alliance Foundation and the Discovery Green Conservancy. He previously served as chair of the Downtown Houston Redevelopment Authority Board and chaired the boards of Houston nonprofits Writers in the Schools and Santa Maria Hostel. A native of Mission, Texas, Peña earned Bachelor of Business Administration and Master in Professional Accounting degrees from the University of Texas at Austin in 1997. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas School of Law in 2001. Peña is also a certified public accountant.</p>








	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Awais Azhar Community and Regional Planning Ph.D. student and Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> The Ending Community Homelessness Coalition</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2022 Renewal</p>	<p>Awais Azhar is a Community and Regional Planning Ph.D. student and Teaching Assistant at The University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture. His research focuses on affordable housing, eviction, and financialization.</p> <p>Awais is an affordable housing, homelessness, and social justice advocate. He currently serves on the City of Austin Planning Commission, ECHO Continuum of Care Membership Council, HousingWorks Austin Board, Austin Housing Coalition Executive Committee, and Leadership Team of Planning Our Communities. In the past he has also served on the LGBTQI+ Census Complete Count Committee, Equality Texas Board, City of Austin LGBTQ Quality of Life Advisory Commission, City of Austin Community Development Commission, Community Advancement Network Dashboard Steering Committee, and as a 2017 Central Health Community Health Champion.</p> <p>Previously, Awais worked as Research Coordinator and Program Manager for the Austin Community Investment Collaborative at HousingWorks Austin. Awais has a Master of Science in Community and Regional Planning and a Master of Public Affairs from the University of Texas at Austin, with a portfolio in Nonprofit Studies.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Diana Maldonado President and CEO of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> The Multi-Ethnic Chamber Alliance (MECA)</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2023 Renewal</p>	<p>Diana Maldonado serves as the President &amp; CEO of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce representing Latino small businesses in Central Texas with the collaboration of corporate partners and community stakeholders. As the first Latina elected to represent Williamson County in the House of Representatives, she advocated for education, business, and safe communities. In this role, she authored/co-authored 88 bills and was named “Freshman of the Year” by her colleagues. Through her collaboration with key stakeholders, she secured nearly \$16 million for education, \$10 million for road expansion, and additional funds for renewable energy initiatives and walking trails in parks. She served as Secretary for the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, Defense &amp; Veterans Affairs, and coveted State Affairs committees. From her six years on the Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees and as president, Maldonado oversaw a successful \$349 million bond election to build a high school, middle school, several elementary schools, and facility renovation projects to keep up with the growth in one of the premier school districts in the state, while improving academic outcomes and goals.</p> <p>During her time as a Financial Advisor for one of the world’s largest investment firms, she enjoyed guiding individuals through financial planning strategies that prepare them for success now by planning for the future. In this role, she has established a multi-million-dollar practice. She continues to serve on education and leadership boards as President for Seedling Mentors, on the Advisory Council for The Bill Munday School of Business at St. Edward’s University, and a member of NALEO. She graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, from St. Edward’s University.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Jeremy Martin Senior Vice President of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2023 Renewal</p>	<p>Jeremy Martin is a Senior Vice President for the Austin Chamber of Commerce. In his current position, he is involved in strategic planning efforts at the Chamber such as the Opportunity Austin economic development strategy, annual work plan and budget, as well as the Chamber's annual InterCity Visit.</p> <p>Jeremy also oversees advocacy efforts at the Chamber focusing on priorities such as economic development policy, transportation, infrastructure, education/workforce development, and regulatory issues. Whether it appears on the ballot or a city council agenda, he knows how policy items will impact the Chamber's members.</p> <p>He has represented Central Texas businesses at all levels of government from the White House Business Council to local community groups with one purpose in mind: strengthening the Central Texas regional economy to create jobs across the economic spectrum.</p>

	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> David H. Steinwedell President and CEO of Affordable Central Texas</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> The Urban Land Institute Austin</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2023 Renewal</p>	<p>David H. Steinwedell has worked in the commercial real estate industry over 35 years in a variety of disciplines including public and private investment management, acquisitions, debt, capital markets, investment banking and asset management. David is the President and CEO of Affordable Central Texas (ACT) in Austin, TX, a fund sponsor with a current focus on preserving workforce multifamily housing utilizing private equity through the Austin Housing Conservancy Fund. The Fund has invested in over \$130 million of moderate-income multifamily housing in four properties totaling almost 1,000 units and serving 1,500 residents.</p> <p>Prior to ACT, David was Executive Director of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) in Austin, TX where he led a dramatic increase in membership, sponsorship and community involvement in addition to being Managing Partner of Stoneforge Advisors, LLC, a real estate investment and advisory firm. Throughout his career, he has worked with multiple property types including multifamily, office, industrial, single tenant net lease, hotel, retail and single-family land development.</p> <p>David formerly served as president of Wells Fund Management at Wells Real Estate Funds, leading the development of a real estate investment product and management team dedicated to serving institutional investors. Also, at Wells, David served as chief investment officer for five years leading a team of professionals responsible for Wells’ real estate investment strategy representing over \$9 billion in acquisitions, \$300 million in development and \$4 billion in finance in a series of non-traded office REITS, a value-add fund, 1031 and limited partnership vehicles.</p> <p>As the recipient of numerous industry awards and accolades, David is a past member of the Board of Directors for the National Association of Real Estate Investment Managers (NAREIM). He is an Urban Land Institute (ULI) member, a past member of the Executive Committee of ULI Atlanta, a mentor, member of the IOPC and past Chair of the Affordability Strategic Council of ULI Austin. David is the past-president of the Tritt Foundation. He actively participates with Community First! Village, Mobile Loaves and Fishes, and Habitat for Humanity. David has been a guest lecture or speaker at the University of Texas, Wharton School of Business, UCLA, Columbia University, NYU, and Hamilton College. He has been featured in various publications, business journals and events including the Wall Street Journal, Bloomberg, Real Estate Forum, CPN, RECA, ULI, CREW and NAREIM.</p> <p>David earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Stephen Levy President and Founder of LEVY</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> The Real Estate Council of Austin</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2023 Renewal</p>	<p>Stephen Levy is the President and Founder of LEVY, a multidisciplinary design firm in Austin, Texas, whose focus is to enhance the world around us, providing exceptional design and value to every project.</p> <p>A native of Texas, Mr. Levy has over 23 years of experience in the architectural and building industry. He founded his first design firm, ClaytonLevy, in 2003 and soon expanded to form ClaytonLevy Construction in 2005 and ClaytonLevyLittle in 2006.</p> <p>Mr. Levy believes that great relationships are the foundation of great buildings. He works directly with his clients to ensure the shared vision of a project becomes a shared success.</p>

	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Sharmila Mukherjee Executive Vice President, Planning and Development at Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> Capital Metro</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2023 Renewal</p>	<p>Sharmila Mukherjee, AICP joined Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority in 2019 as the Executive Vice President (EVP) Planning and Development. Reporting to the President and CEO, EVP Planning and Development is responsible for sculpting, defining, and advancing short- and long-term transit programs and plays a key role in the creation of partnerships to guide transit solutions in Austin and Central Texas.</p> <p>EVP provides leadership to the functional areas of service planning /short range planning, ridership analysis, regional transportation programs, transit-oriented development planning, and Cap Metro’s sustainability office. Supports innovative and new mobility initiatives and ‘Project Connect’; the system planning process and alternatives analyses for Central Texas’ high-capacity transit system.</p> <p>As part of senior executive management team of seven members, EVP weighs in key decisions involving organizational management, strategic direction of the agency, Project Connect- the regional bold and extensive system expansion plan delivery strategies and its future governance interface with Austin Transit Partnership, and other people and culture matters.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Tamara Atkinson CEO of Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> Workforce Solutions Capital Area</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>Tamara Atkinson serves as the CEO of Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board, the workforce development board for Austin, TX. Workforce Solutions Capital Area supports and connects local people to local jobs as a business-led and community-focused organization. As the head of Workforce Solutions Capital Area, Ms. Atkinson is responsible for strategic planning, oversight, and evaluation of Austin/Travis County’s workforce system. Workforce Solutions is a regional quasi-governmental entity organized as a non-profit. Ms. Atkinson oversees all operations within the organization, as well as external relations with elected officials, educational institutions, civic and business leaders, economic development, and national education and workforce entities. She manages a board of directors comprised of public/private sector leaders from across Travis County.</p> <p>Ms. Atkinson has served Workforce Solutions in progressively more responsible positions for more than 20 years. Most recently, Ms. Atkinson expanded the Board’s impact through the creation of the Community Workforce Plan, Austin’s first comprehensive workforce strategic plan in order to better analyze and scale economic mobility through career education.</p> <p>She holds her undergraduate degree from The University of Texas at Austin, and a Master of Arts in Linguistics from the University of North Texas, later leading an English language school in North Africa for five years.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Dr. Molly Beth Malcolm Executive Vice President of Campus Operations and Public Affairs, Austin Community College</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> Austin Community College</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>As Austin Community College District (ACC) Executive Vice President of Campus Operations and Public Affairs, Dr. Molly Beth Malcolm is a senior member of the Chancellor's Cabinet and serves as an advisor on a broad scope of complex issues impacting the college and the communities it serves. She leads the Campus Safety and Operations Department that includes more than a dozen campuses and centers; the ACC Police Department; the Department of Community and Public Affairs; Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Campus Center; and International Programs. Dr. Malcolm represents the college and the Chancellor/CEO in the community, acting as a key point of contact to business leaders, government officials, international organizations, educational leaders, and the public. She advises the Chancellor on issues related to ACC’s partnerships in the community including development, transportation, and economic partnerships. She also facilitates, in concert with the President, communication with the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>Dr. Malcolm currently serves on the University Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, Downtown Austin Alliance Board, Austin Healthcare Council Executive Board, The University of Texas UTeach Natural Sciences Advisory Council, the National Security Innovation Council, the Austin Chamber of Commerce Government Relations Council, Texas Lyceum Advisory Council, and as Co-Chair of The University of Texas at Austin Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Life Advisory Council. She has a long history of civic involvement and has been the recipient of numerous awards recognizing her state and community commitment. Those awards include the National Women’s Political Caucus-Texas Chapter Good Gals Award, the Texarkana NAACP Torchbearer Award for Extraordinary Community Contributions, the Texarkana Martin Luther King Jr. Acts of Kindness Leadership Award, Texarkana Community Journal Outstanding Woman Award, and Four States Living Magazine Tribute to Women Award.</p>



	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Suchitra Gururaj, Ph.D. Assistant Vice President for Community Engagement in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> University of Texas at Austin</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>Suchitra Gururaj, Ph.D., serves as Assistant Vice President for Community and Economic Engagement in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin, where she is the visionary and strategic lead for student engagement programs rooted in service, community-based learning course offerings, public engagement programming, and in-kind sponsorships.</p> <p>A lecturer in the College of Liberal Arts at UT-Austin, Dr. Gururaj teaches courses on community organizing and leadership development. Her research focuses on service-learning outcomes, university-community partnerships, and social inclusion policies in higher education. Dr. Gururaj holds a B.A. in English literature from Yale University, an M.A. in English from The University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in educational administration from The University of Texas at Austin.</p> <p>Dr. Gururaj acts as book review editor for the Michigan Journal of Community Service Learning, serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement, and sits on the Executive Committee for the Commission on Economic and Community Engagement for the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Matias Segura Operations Officer of Austin Independent School District</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> Austin Independent School District</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>Matias Segura leads Austin ISD’s operations team, which comprises construction management and the service center; as well as planning and asset management and the district’s real estate portfolio, including resulting intergovernmental partnerships.</p> <p>Prior to joining AISD, Mr. Segura was a consultant who led a team of engineers, architects, real estate and finance professionals to support public sector clients. He has spearheaded complex, multimillion-dollar projects for clients, including school districts, municipalities, counties, state agencies, river authorities and private sector developers. He led AISD's facilities assessments, as well as the planning and execution of the district's \$1.05 billion bond, which voters approved in 2017.</p> <p>Mr. Segura also brings experience managing public sector property transactions, which provides the district and our school communities with new perspectives in its real estate management and valuation solutions.</p>
	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Dr. Char Hu Founder and CEO of The Helper Bees</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> AustinUp</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>Char Hu received his PhD in molecular biophysics from Baylor College of Medicine where he researched the underlying mechanisms for diseases like Alzheimer’s. He went on to build and operate Georgetown Living, a certified Alzheimer's and dementia living facility known for its evidence-based design building and pet therapy ranch animals. Following this, he founded a Medicare-accredited home health agency that uses skilled services to keep older adults independent at home.</p> <p>Dr. Hu also founded and is CEO of The Helper Bees, a technology company in Austin that uses personality to match in-home caregivers with those who need non-medical services. The Helper Bees also delivers custom software and data solutions to help reduce claims and administrative costs for insurance carriers nationwide.</p> <p>Dr. Hu serves on several non-profit boards whose mission is to deliver services to older adults in need. He is the recipient of the 2018 SXSW Community Service Award.</p>

	<p><b>Board Nominee:</b> Cathy McHorse Vice President, United Way for Greater Austin</p> <p><b>Nominating Body:</b> United Way for Greater Austin</p> <p><b>Term:</b> 2024 Renewal</p>	<p>Cathy McHorse is the Vice President, Success By 6 at the United Way for Greater Austin. Cathy is an experienced early childhood director and educator who oversees the United Way ATX portfolio of early childhood work and leads the Austin/Travis County Success By 6 Coalition. Cathy taught public school early childhood special education and pre-kindergarten classrooms in the Austin Independent School District, as well as serving as a teacher, director, and board member in childcare centers in Austin.</p> <p>Since joining the United Way ATX team, Cathy has focused her efforts on innovative, systems-level change. Under Cathy’s leadership, United Way ATX created an Innovation Management Organization (IMO) that serves as the administrative hub for Pre-K Partnerships, allowing AISD to partner with childcare centers leveraging over \$1.84M of state funding into child care centers last year. Cathy manages Early Matters Greater Austin, an alliance of business leaders as advocates for early childhood education at the local and state level. She is the Chair of the City of Austin Early Childhood Council and serves on the Texas State Prenatal to Age 3 Steering Committee.</p> <p>Cathy was recently recognized as the Outstanding Child Advocate for Central Texas by Children At Risk.</p>
	<p><b>Acting President and CEO:</b> Veronica Briseño</p>	<p>Veronica Briseño has served the City of Austin in various roles since 1999. Currently, she is the City of Austin’s Chief Economic Recovery Officer, responsible for identifying and implementing strategies to help Austin’s economy recover from the unprecedented health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. She also serves as Director for the City of Austin’s Economic Development Department, which engages business and creatives in Austin through its six divisions: Cultural Arts, Global Business Expansion, Heritage Tourism, Music &amp; Entertainment, Redevelopment, and Small Business. In addition, she is currently serving as the Interim President/CEO for the Austin Economic Development Corporation (AEDC).</p> <p>Prior to these positions, Veronica served as the City of Austin’s Interim Homeless Strategy Officer and held several progressively responsible positions at City of Austin’s Small &amp; Minority Business Resources (SMBR) Department, including Director, Assistant Director, and Certification and Administration Manager. Prior to SMBR, she was a Policy Aide to former Austin City Council Member Raul Alvarez and the City Council Agenda Manager in the City of Austin’s City Manager’s Office.</p> <p>Veronica currently serves on the Board of Directors for Workforce Solutions Capital Area and LifeWorks. She previously served on boards for the Austin Metro YMCA, PeopleFund and Mission Capital.</p> <p>When it comes to professional engagement, Veronica serves as Past President of the Local Government Hispanic Network (LGHN), a national organization that promotes inclusiveness of Latinos in local government. She also co-founded and co-chairs Woman to Woman, a City of Austin employee affiliation group for women. Previously she served on the board of the Austin Hispanic/Latino Network in many roles, including President.</p> <p>She earned her Master of Public Affairs from The University of Texas at Austin Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, as well as undergraduate degrees in Journalism and Government from The University of Texas at Austin.</p>