



DENVER
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Phil Washington

DEN CEO Nominee



Confirmation Request
BIZ Committee
June 30, 2021

FOR CITY SERVICES VISIT | CALL
DenverGov.org | **311**

- Pursuant to Charter Section § 2.2.6 (D), approved by the voters in November, City Council consent is required for appointment of Charter officers
- Kim Day announced her retirement, effective in July
- Mayor Hancock nominated Phil Washington for Denver International Airport CEO position
- RR21-732 approves the Mayoral appointment of Phil Washington as DEN CEO
- Meetings held with all 13 council members

- CEO of DEN is a critical leadership position, especially at this time
 - Critical capital projects, improved customer experience, and post-pandemic recovery efforts in process
- Cost & time of a national search with limited term remaining not justified
- Risks of leaving DEN CEO position open
- Background/Reference checks
 - Stellar recommendations, including from LA Mayor/LA Metro Board Chair Eric Garcetti and two former CA Governors
 - Clear background check, in addition to maintaining highest levels of civilian & military security clearances
- Conclusion: timely opportunity for a proven local leader with extensive experience/expertise and commitment to Denver

Conclusion – Key Attributes

- Strong relationships with Federal agencies, including FAA, and airlines
- Significant experience delivering major capital/infrastructure projects on time and on budget & pursuing innovative funding and delivery mechanisms
- Extensive management of large organizations focused on moving people & goods, customer experience
- Experience with land policies/real estate development associated with transportation functions
- Hometown leader committed to Denver's success

- Distinguished 24+ year Army military career, including prestigious NATO special assignment
 - Earned highest military enlisted rank - Command Sergeant Major (E-9)
- RTD (CEO, 2000-2015; Asst. GM 2000-2009)
 - Managerial, operational, and financial leadership of agency
 - 101M annual boardings & \$2.7B annual budget
 - Led FasTracks expansion and build out
 - Led first of its kind public-private partnership (Eagle P3) that opened in 2016
 - A Line to DEN developed under tenure as CEO - close coordination with DEN officials
 - Negotiated successful Collective Bargaining Agreements
 - Focus on measuring & managing agency performance led to 90%+ on time bus & rail service and 96% ADA on time performance

- CEO of LA Metro (2015-2021)
 - Oversaw one of the largest transportation agencies in the country
 - \$8B budget; 1.2 M ridership annually; 11,000 employees
 - \$18-\$20B in capital projects
 - Involved all facets of transportation: aviation, highways, transit, goods movement, freight/RRs, water, and transit-oriented development
 - Led effort for voter-approved sales tax ballot measure to fund \$120B in infrastructure projects
 - Led nation's largest effort to electrify bus fleet and facilities
 - Created policies for community-focused Transit Oriented Community Development Program that minimizes displacement
 - Developed & implemented an Equity Framework for the organization
- Appointed to lead Biden/Harris Transportation Transition, Agency Review Team
 - Helped develop framework for Federal Infrastructure bill
 - Reviewed & set policy priorities for incoming Administration on all aspects of Transportation agenda
- Numerous prestigious assignments and awards throughout military & public service career



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Questions & Discussion

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Appendix

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- Aware of allegations stemming from a particular contract
 - Have had conversations with LA County officials and are confident these are unfounded
 - Contract was awarded by LA Metro coinciding with Phil's arrival in LA in 2015
 - No evidence of impropriety with contract
 - Search warrant for documents seeks records from LA Metro officials – does not equate to criminal investigation
 - While an individual submitted a complaint to a civil grand jury, there is no indication of an active grand jury proceeding