

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To appoint Ms. Stephanie Gidigbi as a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Stephanie Gidigbi Appointment Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia appoints:

Ms. Stephanie Gidigbi  
Upsal Street, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
(Ward 8)

as a member of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, in accordance with section 5(a) of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact, approved November 6, 1966 (80 Stat. 1324; D.C. Official Code § 9-1107.01), and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board of Directors Act of 2012, effective April 27, 2013 (D.C. Law 19-286; D.C. Official Code § 9-1108.11), replacing Councilmember Jack Evans, for the remainder of an unexpired term to end June 30, 2021.

33           Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,  
34 upon its adoption, to the appointee, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, and to  
35 the Office of the Mayor.

36           Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in  
37 the District of Columbia Register.

# Stephanie Gidigbi

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## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

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- Respected advocate with Local, State, and Federal experience, collaborating with diverse stakeholders to achieve consensus.
  - Effective collaborator and community organizer with strong political acumen working with underrepresented groups.
  - Accomplished project manager & recognized for strategic ability to execute multifaceted programs and projects.
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## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Advanced a \$90 million initiative created to focus on regional housing and transportation infrastructure investments that support community-driven integrated strategies to promote equity, better health outcomes, and climate resilience.
  - Leveraged \$75 million dollars of public and private investment to advance catalytic transportation projects in Atlanta, Baltimore, Baton Rouge, Phoenix, Indianapolis, and Richmond that cultivated philanthropic and business partnerships.
  - Selected by Center for Community Progress Leadership Institute at Harvard University to discuss best practices and foster innovative ideas in addressing vacant and abandoned properties for local cities following the housing and mortgage crisis.
  - Conducted extensive public outreach with civic groups, elected officials, and community leaders to develop the Hurricane Sandy rebuilding strategy for the \$8.6 billion dollar federal disaster assistance awarded to the State of New Jersey.
  - Provided technical assistance to local officials in the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of NJ and secured over \$225 Million in federal funds through the Transportation Housing and Urban Development Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2008-2010.
  - Developed small business workshops at the local and federal level that train and support minority contract opportunities.
  - Completed Master's thesis on the public participation techniques, decision method process, and framework for evaluation, based on the New Jersey Transit Inner M& E Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Project.
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### NORTH STAR STRATEGIES, CEO

February 2018-Present

*A strategic consultant firm that provides guidance to government and community leaders. Services include policy and political analysis, strategic planning and communications, issue campaigns, multi-faceted stakeholder engagement, and legislative/regulatory issue management. North Star helps leaders bring their dreams to life by transforming their visions into reality.*

### NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL (NRDC)

#### Director of Policy and Partnership – Healthy People Thriving Communities Program

January 2018-Present

*Identify cross-program policy opportunities that support the implementation of NRDC's strategic plan and integrated coordination of the Healthy People Thriving Communities Program.*

- Advocate for transformative policy solutions & programs that advance more equitable outcomes for communities.
- Foster strategic partnerships to advance federal campaigns, coalition efforts, social equity, and climate justice issues.
- Direct the coordination of NRDC's infrastructure campaign, spearhead legislative action, and track administrative action.
- Elevate the national discourse on community-led strategies and issues of systemic inequities related to transportation, housing, environmental, and community development.
- Advocate for transformative policy solutions & programs that improves the social determinants of health, resilience, and equitable investment of communities.

#### Senior Adviser, Urban Solutions – Policy, Capacity, & Systems Change Director

Nov 2016-December 2017

*Champion public policy solutions that promote economic, social, and environmental benefits for communities*

- Manage national policy activities for the Strong, Prosperous, and Resilient Communities Challenge (SPARCC) initiative to support community driven outcomes in Atlanta, the Bay Area, Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, and Memphis.
- Advance a "systems change agenda" that identifies systemic government inequities and strategically seeks to influence the way policies, programs, and the allocation of resources are made to create more equitable community outcomes.
- Identify and document best practices including model policies that address gentrification and displacement strategies.
- Coordinate NRDC's infrastructure priorities on housing, transportation, and environmental investment in communities.

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#### Director of Strategic Initiatives

November 2015-Oct 2016

*Implement priorities related to President Obama's and Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx' Opportunity Agenda that spur economic investment and create workforce opportunities, through Secretarial initiatives and program guidance.*

- Advised the Secretary on emerging transportation policy that improved access to economic opportunity.
- Directed long-term strategic programs and projects initiated by the Office of the Secretary, including the departments LadderSTEP Transportation Empowerment Pilot that provides technical assistance to local officials by convening public and private entities to support game-changing community revitalization projects.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Deputy Director for Public Engagement

November 2013 – November 2015

*Directed outreach and implemented engagement strategies for the Office of the Secretary and Undersecretary for Policy.*

- Facilitated policy discussions, online dialogues, webinars, national summits, and stakeholder briefings.
- Convened stakeholders for White House events, roundtables, and federal regulatory & policy discussions.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

NJ Director of Public Engagement, Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force

March – October 2013

*Collaborated with federal, state, and local officials as well as the private sector, non-profit, community, and philanthropic organizations to support and promote disaster recovery efforts in the State of New Jersey.*

- Managed public engagement activities to inform and involve stakeholders in Presidential Task Force activities.
- Drafted policy documents, internal memoranda, and reviewed federal regulatory and statutory documents.
- Leveraged partnership opportunities and facilitate inclusive dialogue to support federal policy proposals.
- Assisted with the design and launch of Rebuild by Design, a multi-stage regional planning and design competition to promote resilience in the Sandy-affected region. Selected as one of CNN's Top 10 Best Ideas in 2013.

CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP

Chief of Staff, Mayor Eldridge Hawkins

August 2010 – June 2012

*Oversaw the Office of the Mayor; served as spokesperson and principal liaison for the Mayor and City of Orange.*

- Developed and managed long-term strategic programs and projects initiated by the Office of the Mayor.
- Implemented policy directives, local ordinances, secured federal funding, and ensured legal compliance.
- Strengthened intergovernmental relationships with key stakeholders, business leaders and elected officials.
- Coordinated the City's housing and economic development strategy to revitalize distressed neighborhoods due to the foreclosure crisis by leveraging federal and state resources recognized by the New York Times.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Washington, District of Columbia

Senior Legislative Assistant, Congressman Donald M. Payne

November 2008 – August 2010

*Portfolio included the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Appropriations, Housing, and Transportation Policy*

- Counseled Member on Committee Issues, developed and advanced Member's legislative agenda.
- Secured Congressional funds - grants and appropriation for members' congressional district.

Legislative Assistant, Congressman Donald M. Payne

January 2007 – August 2008

- Managed special projects, coordinated advocacy campaigns, organized briefings, hearings and conferences.
- Conducted legislative research, prepared bill analysis, and developed recommendation for related votes.

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EDUCATION

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Master of Arts in Strategic Communication

South Orange, New Jersey  
May 2013

KEAN UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Communication

Union, New Jersey  
December 2006

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AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association (APA), Member | Urban Land Institute, ULI, Member |  
Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), Member | WTS International - DC Chapter, Member  
New Jersey Democratic State Committee, Essex County Committee District Leader (2012-2013)  
City of Orange Township, Planning Board Member (2010-2012)