Commissioners make two VIA board appointments

Commissioners Court on Tuesday selected Rebecca Q. Cedillo and Bobby Perez to serve on the board of VIA Metropolitan Transit. The two appointees will each serve two-year terms. Bexar County appoints three members to the 11-member board, while the City of San Antonio appoints 5 members, and the mayors of suburban cities collectively appoint two. The board selects a chairman.

“I heard one of the candidates mention that this is just one of many boards that we are responsible for making appointments. At times I find it difficult to recruit people to serve on these boards; but to see the four candidates that came in today – they are smart, dedicated and articulate – I wish we had that every time,” said Commissioner Kevin Wolff.

Rebecca Q. Cedillo is an urban planner with a master’s degree in city planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is the owner of Strategic Initiatives Consulting, specializing in policy, strategy and urban planning issues. The firm was involved for a short time in the beginning phases of VIA’s Long Range planning efforts.

Cedillo said this region has “dodged the bullet a lot” on clean air emissions and regulations, but the expansive growth of the county requires VIA to be more proactive in helping efficiently move residents throughout the area.

Bobby Perez is a former District 1 City Councilman who now serves as senior vice president general counsel and corporate relations for Spurs Sports & Entertainment. As a shareholder with Shelton & Valadez P.C., Perez served as legal counsel on bond transactions, transportation issues and public infrastructure matters. Perez said since joining SS&E he no longer represents any clients that could pose potential conflicts to his service on the VIA board.

Perez said it is incumbent upon anyone selected to serve on any board to be a regular participant of the board by not only attending the meetings, but being available to listen to constituent needs and being involved in the dialogue, because “that’s part of the public process.”

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