

Council Meeting Staff Report

October 29, 2019

Agenda No.: I.

Indexes (Council Goals):

Presenters: County Council - Regular Session

Legislative File: 12308-19

Title

Complete Count Committee Appointment(s)

Recommended Action

I move that Council appoint Ann LePage, Cathy Hadley, Rachel Zizielewicz/Jenny McCumber, Kathryn Vigil, Consetta Goettee, Jennifer Bertram and Joanna Gillespie to the Los Alamos 2020 Census Complete Count Committee.

Body

The US Constitution mandates (Article 1, Section 2) that a headcount occur every ten years of everyone residing in the 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas of the United States. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens. The population totals from the census determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. States also use the totals to redraw their legislative and school districts. The next census occurs in 2020. Census data is used in the distribution of approximately \$675 billion in federal funding to communities each year. The 2020 Census, for the first time, will offer self-response via online, by phone or by mail.

The Census Bureau has established a Complete Count Committees (CCC) program to create awareness in communities around the country and utilize local knowledge, influence and resources to educate communities and promote the census through locally based, targeted outreach efforts. On August 27, 2019, Council adopted Resolution No. 19-20 creating a 2020 Census Complete Count Committee to plan and conduct local educational initiatives, publicity and promotional activities to increase community awareness and participation in 2020 Census and to work with the Census Bureau and the New Mexico 2020 Statewide Complete Count Commission. The seven (7) member committee should be diverse and representative of the harder to count populations. The following groups and/or focus areas are desired:

- Community-based organizations
- Local school district including preschools
- Local businesses
- Higher education
- National Laboratory
- Media
- Youth services
- Health care providers
- Local pueblos
- Charitable organizations
- Renters
- Senior Citizens
- Churches

A general call for interested parties was advertised. Seven letters of interest were received and are

shown in Attachment A. These seven, if appointed, would provide the diverse representation that was desired. Note that the Los Alamos Community Foundation requested that their Executive Director, Rachel Zizielewicz, and board member, Jenny McCumber, share the "seat" on the committee, if appointed.

Attachments

A - Letters of Interest Received