

DATE: 2-26-15

TO: City Clerk

FROM: City Representative Ann Morgan Lilly

ADDRESS: 300 N. Campbell Street

TELEPHONE 212-1001

Please place the following item on the (Check one): CONSENT XXX REGULAR _____

Agenda for the Council Meeting of March 3, 2015

Item should read as follows: Appointment of Cindy Ramos-Davidson to the Hispanic Cultural Center Subcommittee as requested by City Representative Ann Morgan Lilly, District 1

BOARD COMMITTEE/COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/REAPPOINTMENT FORM

NAME OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION: HISPANIC CULTURAL CENTER SUBCOMITTEE

NOMINATED BY: City Representative Ann Morgan Lilly DISTRICT: 1

NAME OF APPOINTEE Cindy Ramos-Davidson
(Please verify correct spelling of name)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

DOES THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE HAVE A RELATIVE WORKING FOR THE CITY? YES: _____ NO X

IF SO, PLEASE PROVIDE HIS OR HER NAME, CITY POSITION AND RELATIONSHIP TO THE PROPOSED APPOINTEE:

WHO WAS THE LAST PERSON TO HAVE HELD THIS POSITION BEFORE IT BECAME VACANT?

NAME OF INCUMBENT: New Subcommittee

EXPIRATION DATE OF INCUMBENT: _____

REASON PERSON IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE (CHECK ONE): TERM EXPIRED: _____
RESIGNED _____
REMOVED _____

DATE OF APPOINTMENT: 3-3-2015

TERM BEGINS ON : 3-3-2015

EXPIRATION DATE OF NEW APPOINTEE: 12-31-2015

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: 1st TERM: X
2nd TERM: _____
UNEXPIRED TERM: _____

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Cindy Ramos-Davidson
Chief Executive Officer

El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Cindy Ramos-Davidson has been the Chief Executive Officer of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for the past 16 years. Ramos-Davidson is a bold and dynamic executive director who has taken the organization she manages to astounding new heights. Her encouraging and empowering leadership reflects on the vast variety of achievements and recognitions she has received throughout her 35 year chamber career.

Ramos-Davidson's professional background in the chamber industry began in 1980. After completing over 10 years of chamber of commerce experience with both the Greater Albuquerque Chamber and Albuquerque Hispano Chamber. Ramos-Davidson moved back to El Paso to continue climbing up the ranks. Looking towards the future and recognizing her potential she re-engaged her chamber career at the Greater El Paso Chamber for over 11 years and then in 1998 the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors sought her leadership and promoted Ramos-Davidson as the Chief Executive Officer in 1999. During her sixteen year tenure with the El Paso Hispanic Chamber, Ramos-Davidson's vision and leadership have been essential in taking the organization to newer and higher levels.

The El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's mission is to be the preeminent resource for the success of small, minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses. Ramos-Davidson's vision led her to take that mission and transform it to full entrepreneurial generating complex. She managed to bring three important centers to one convenient location, a key component in economically enriching the borderland region. The Entrepreneurial Technical Assistance Centers comprise of the Minority Business Development Agency (funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce), the Women's Business Border Center (funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration), and the Texas Business Opportunity & Development Center (funded by Texas Department of Transportation). Borderland businesses are able to access quality and valuable networking events, seminars, capital, technical assistance, certifications, and procurement opportunities. It is because of these initiatives that in 2001 Ramos-Davidson received the U.S. Small Business Administration Minority Advocate of the Year Award.

Under the leadership of Ramos-Davidson, the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has become a primary voice for small businesses in the southwest border region. Ramos-Davidson has testified at the House Committee on the importance of small businesses in the marketplace. She has also presented in the Senate Committee on small minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses. Aside from legislative appointments during trips to Washington D.C., Ramos-Davidson has participated in round table meetings such as with Senate Minority leader John Boehner, Speaker of the House, U.S. House of Representatives, the Speaker of the House is second in line to succeed the President, after the Vice President. At a state level, Ramos-Davidson has testified on the importance of contracting opportunities for minority and woman-owned businesses through the State HUB program. Ramos-Davidson creates dialogues and produces a collective voice about local concerns at a state and a national level.

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Ramos-Davidson's creation of the unique Entrepreneurial Technical Assistance Centers within the organization makes a remarkable economic impact on El Paso and the borderland region. It is because of Ramos-Davidson's commitment and effort to bring resources to local businesses that the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce was awarded the designation by the U.S. Small Business Administration to be an Approved National Third-Party Certifier for the Woman-Owned Small Business Federal Certification and through the State of Texas Comptroller to be a Certifier for the State HUB Certification Program. It is through her passion and vision that through her guidance the organization has assisted over 11,000 start-up businesses, over 24,000 jobs have been created and retained, over \$141,700,000 have financially assisted projects, and over \$329,900,000 have been successfully matched to procurement and bids. Overall, Ramos-Davidson has had an estimated economic impact to the community of over \$745,000,000.

Ramos-Davidson and the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has become a powerhouse in the southwest border region. The accomplishments achieved by the organization under Ramos-Davidson's 16 year leadership have garnished local, state, and national attention and recognition. Ramos-Davidson is an active participant with the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (U.S.H.C.C.) and has had a seat on the U.S.H.C.C. President's Advisory Council. The brilliant combination of both a director and organization have received the 2008, 2009, and 2010 U.S.H.C.C. Large Chamber of the Year Award, as well as the U.S.H.C.C. Chief Executive of the Year Award in 2008, 2009, and 2010. Additionally, the combination of both a leader and organization have proven to be a winning match at a state level with the first ever Texas Association of Mexican American Chamber of Commerce's Latina Leadership and Advocacy Award due to Ramos-Davidson's work with SBA's HUB Zone Empowerment Contracting Program and obtaining the U.S. SBA's Women's Business Border Center Grant in 2001. Since then, the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce has won the TAMACC Texas Large Hispanic Chamber of the year in 2003, 2009, 2010, 2012, and 2014. Respectively, Ramos-Davidson herself won the TAMACC Chairman Leader Award in 2006. Being at the forefront has allowed Ramos-Davidson to take the organization she manages to higher levels each additional year.

Aside from championing small minority, veteran, and women-owned businesses, Ramos-Davidson has been and continues to be a significant leader and an excellent role model to the general El Paso community. The 2002 commencement speech for the graduating class of the College of Business at UTEP was given by Ramos-Davidson for her key role in the local economy. In 2004, Ramos-Davidson received the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara, a recognition bestowed by the U.S. Field Artillery Association for her exemplary character and outstanding professional competence. Ramos-Davidson was appointed to serve on the University of Texas at El Paso Centennial Commission by University President Dr. Diana Natalicio and on the State of Texas' Auto Theft Prevention Task Force by Governor Rick Perry. Recognized on the front cover of both Borderland Magazine and the El Paso Times as a Local Leader, Ramos-Davidson is a principal constituent in the El Paso community. Afterwards, Ramos-Davidson was appointed to be on the exclusive Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Board of Directors for six years. Two of those years, 2012 and 2013, she served as the Chair of the highly esteemed national institution of the Eleventh District. In 2012, Ramos-Davidson was officially recognized in a Congressional Record as

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a contributor to Women's History Month. Since then, she has completed two Nonprofit Executive Programs through the University Of Notre Dame in partnership with the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Ramos-Davidson was recently presented with the prestigious 2014 Women of IMPACT Award from the El Paso Inc.

In all, Cindy Ramos-Davidson's ultimate mission is evident throughout her career. She has played an integral role in championing for the business community. Every effort she puts forth has been in order to improve and advance the borderland's economy. Her dedication to entrepreneurship, her commitment to business development, and her overall passion for the El Paso community has driven her to accomplish the remarkable. Even with 16 year tenure, Ramos-Davidson's vision for all that can be reached is still in progress. Always looking towards the future, the borderland business community is an everlasting prospect of opportunities.

Cindy Ramos-Davidson is married to Robert L. Davidson, retired Air Force veteran. Their daughter, Sarina Davidson, will soon be a high school graduate and attending college this fall.