

Item VII. Appointment of Members to Committees and Similar Entities

A. Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs (NRS 232.852)

Pursuant to NRS 232.852, the Legislative Commission appoints members to the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs from a list of persons recommended to the Legislative Commission by organizations and other entities which represent or promote the interests of minority groups in this State.

Pursuant to NRS 232.854, members serve for two-year terms that begin on July 1 and members are eligible for reappointment, except that a member may not serve for any part of more than two consecutive terms.

The following are recommended for reappointment for a term commencing July 1, 2025:

- Juanny Romero
- Nina Gallagher
- Gina Jackson

The following is recommended for initial appointment for a term commencing July 1, 2025:

- Elizabeth Lopez

B. Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum (NRS 427A.330)

Pursuant to NRS 427A.330, the Legislative Commission is required to appoint to the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum a number of members equal to the number of State Senators.

The following nomination is for the remainder of the terms that started on January 1, 2024, and will expire on December 31, 2025:

Senate District	Senator	Forum Member Nominee
17	Robin Titus	Lisa Coffron (new appointment)



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
NEVADA COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS**

Diane Thornton, Acting Director
Legislative Commission
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: Recommendation for Appointment(s) to the Commission on Minority Affairs

Dear Ms. Thornton:

NRS 232.852 (1) states:

The Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs, consisting of nine members appointed by the Legislative Commission, is hereby created. Appointments to the Commission must be made from a list of persons recommended to the Legislative Commission by organizations and other entities which represent or promote the interests of minority groups in this State.

The Commission on Minority Affairs has one vacant position and three appointments for second term for your consideration. On behalf of the Department of Business & Industry and the Commission on Minority Affairs, the recommendations are as follows:

1. Elizabeth Lopez, 1st term appointment
2. Juanny Romero, 2nd term appointment
3. Nina Gallagher, 2nd term appointment
4. Gina Jackson, 2nd term appointment

Attached you will find a package consisting of letters of interest, resume, and letters of recommendation for member candidate, Elizabeth Lopez, who applied for the vacant Commissioner position. We believe her, along with current commission members; Juanny Romero, Nina Gallagher, and Gina Jackson will help represent a diverse Commission.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience should you have comments or questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Rojas

Angie Rojas
Management Analyst for the Commission on Minority Affairs



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
NEVADA COMMISSION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS**

Current roster demographics:

COMMISSIONER	RACE	TERM
Nic Steele	African American	2 ND
Gabriela Wyett	Hispanic	2 ND
Nina Gallagher	Pacific Islander	1 ST
Demetrius Ware	African American	2 ND
Kim Lee	Asian	1 ST
Juanny Romero	Mixed Race (Asian/Hispanic)	1 ST
Gina Jackson	Native American	1 ST
Julio Jimenez-Wenz	Hispanic	1 ST

Candidates for Appointments Demographics:

CANDIDATE	RACE	2025 APPOINTMENT TERM
Elizabeth Lopez	Hispanic	1 ST
Juanny Romero	Asian/Hispanic (South Korean/Ecuador)	2 ND
Gina Jackson	Native American	2 ND
Nina Gallagher	Pacific Islander	2 ND

Population Estimates of the State of Nevada, July 1, 2022:

Race	Percent of NV Population	Percent of NN Minority Population	# of Commissioners
Hispanic	29.9%	57%	3
African American	10.6%	19%	2
Asian	9.1%	19%	1
Two or More Races	4.9%	9%	1
Native American	1.7%	3%	1
Pacific Islander	0.9%	2%	1

[U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Nevada](#)

Dear Minority Affairs Commission,

I am writing to express my strong interest in being appointed as a Commissioner for the Nevada Commission on Minority Affairs with an interest in the Business and Economic Development Committee. As a Nevada and Las Vegas resident for over 27 years, this is my home. Therefore, I am deeply committed to the growth and prosperity of our community. As an economic development professional with over a decade of experience, I have dedicated my career to fostering inclusive growth and driving innovation in Southern Nevada and public service. I am confident that my skills, knowledge, and passion for empowering underserved communities align seamlessly with the mission of this commission.

As the Economic Development Officer for the City of Henderson, I have spearheaded initiatives that have attracted new businesses, supported local entrepreneurs, and strengthened the region's economic resilience. Before this, I held fundamental roles with the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas, where I worked to develop strategies that addressed the unique needs of diverse communities. Through these experiences, I have cultivated a deep understanding of the challenges faced by minority-owned businesses and have championed policies and programs that create equitable opportunities for success.

Key professional accomplishments include:

- **Advancing Inclusive Economic Development:** Facilitated the relocation and expansion of businesses by connecting them with resources, coworking spaces, and development opportunities tailored to their needs.
- **Empowering Entrepreneurs:** Partnered with CSN and NVGrow to launch a Small Business Assistance Program in Henderson, providing tools and guidance for minority-owned businesses to scale successfully.
- **Driving Job Creation through Federal New Market Tax Credits:** Administered, assisted, and deployed NMTC funds to support projects that created sustainable employment opportunities, investment, and improved services in distressed census tracts.
- **Building Community Partnerships:** Organized high-impact events such as the CRE NAIOP Converge national bus tour, showcasing Henderson's assets to attract national and international investment, including launching Tech Alley, Southern Nevada Entrepreneurial Ecosystem Breakfast, and Governor's Advisory Committee for Entrepreneurship.
- **Championing Diversity and Equity:** Advanced economic development by implementing policies that foster inclusivity and equity while actively volunteering with non-profits to advocate, mentor, and provide resources for underserved youth, ensuring pathways for representation and opportunity.

As a proud first-generation college graduate with a B.S. in Finance and an Executive MBA from UNLV, I bring a strong analytical skillset and strategic mindset to address complex economic challenges. My recent graduation from the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma in pursuit of the CEcD designation further complements my ability to implement innovative solutions that drive meaningful change to complex economic challenges.

I am particularly drawn to the opportunity to serve as a commissioner because I am passionate about creating pathways for historically marginalized groups to thrive. Through intentional collaboration, data-driven policymaking, and proactive outreach, we can unlock the full potential of Nevada's diverse population and drive sustainable economic growth.

I would be honored to bring my expertise, dedication, and vision to this role and contribute to the vital work of the Commission. My commitment to advancing equity and economic development would have a meaningful impact.

Thank you for considering my application. I welcome the opportunity to discuss how my background and goals align with this position's objectives. Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] or lizsellslasvegasnv@gmail.com at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lopez

Elizabeth Lopez

Las Vegas, NV 89144

lizsellslasvegasnv@gmail.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Economic Development Officer

City of Henderson – Economic Development & Tourism

September 2023 – Present

Promote strategic growth, business development, real estate initiatives, and innovation in Henderson, Create impactful strategies for business attraction and expansion, Spearhead and plan the business attraction efforts for the department, Attend conferences such as Economix (site selectors), CES, IMTS, California Delegation, Select USA, Facilitate department positions, train and supervise talent and interns, Develop and propose private and public partnerships for community-driven initiatives, Collaborate with state and local officials to utilize incentive programs and tax abatements, Actively submit RFIs to position Henderson as a competitive business hub, Oversee and coordinate key events, including hosting West Henderson tours, CRE NAIOP Converge national bus tour, Familiarization tours and stakeholder engagements, Showcase major development projects and land opportunities, such as CNC machinery sites, Eldorado Valley, and the Raiders' practice facility, Engage with venture capitalists, development agencies, universities, and accelerators for business scale-up initiatives including CSN and NVGrow for the Henderson Small Business Assistance Program, Partner with GOED, Las Vegas Aces, and the Las Vegas Convention Authority for public-private partnerships, Lead speaking engagements, tours, and presentations to national and international business groups, Highlight Henderson's key assets and growth opportunities, Facilitate the relocation and expansion of startups and established companies assisting in site selection, Connect businesses with coworking spaces and development opportunities, Advocate for policy support for entrepreneurial growth and workforce development, Foster relationships with stakeholders, business leaders, investors, and government officials, Oversee and create the projects brochure, assets marketing video, 1 pager of core industry focus, and resource guide, Maintain Henderson's reputation as a thriving and innovative economic center.

Senior Economic Development Specialist

City of Las Vegas- Economic & Urban Development

September 2021 – 2023

Ambassador and promoter for economic development, business development, real estate, innovation, startups and entrepreneurship creating strategic partnerships and strategies for business attraction and expansion, Develop a proposal for strategic private and public partnerships for corporate social responsibilities initiatives, Assist over 350+ current businesses and entrepreneurs expand and/or relocate, Work with state and local officials for incentive programs and tax abatements to attract businesses along with submitting RFI's, Manage, co-operate, and oversee key events in downtown Las Vegas including hosting the Tech Alley Events, Southern Nevada Entrepreneur Ecosystem Breakfasts, Work with venture capitalist, accelerators, key stakeholders, SBDC, SBA, EDAWN, LVGEA, UNLV, entrepreneurs and startups to find and provide resources to scale in projects for businesses, Develop and manage an Ambassador's team of volunteers for Tech Alley non-profit, Speaking engagements at conferences, events, tours and give presentations, Promote, tour and present to national and

international groups showcasing downtown Las Vegas and the city's International Innovation Center and Blackfire Innovation, Assist startups and companies locate into co-working space and relocate to Las Vegas, Developed a team and propose a high growth startup incentive initiative to Smart City Labs, Assist in the Work and Live in Las Vegas Remote Work Campaign to attract tech talent, Work with governor's subcommittee of Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship to coordinate and execute on deliverables, Present legislative challenges to key leaders to support entrepreneurship, education and capital investment, Maintain great relationships with key stakeholders, organizations, companies, entrepreneurs, and government officials.

Management Analyst I & II

City of Las Vegas- Economic & Urban Development
September 2015 – 2021

Project management in facilitating, overseeing and coordinating appropriate parties including contracts, surveys, titles and inspections to execute land sales of \$10.5M, Oversee and manage Downtown Districts initiatives providing Sr EDS with data and reports needed to communicate with brokers and land owners, Work on Visual Improvement Programs, Owner Participation Agreement's and other incentives with key developers and investors, Manage the department incentives programs including \$20M New Markets Tax Credit and vet key projects for funding, Identify Opportunity Zones, Communicate with brokers and landowners to attract development in assigned districts, Assist in marketing and intaking incentive applications including vetting, managing documents and clients, Execute PowerPoint presentations to brokers, Host and speak of projects on bus tours for Metro, ICSC and brokers, Assist in managing New Market Tax Credit projects including LVCIC, Historic Westside School, EHB with monthly/quarterly interest payments, audits, annual tax reports, deal flow and contract compliance, Prepare and manage a \$30M budget program for economic development, Manage the Capital Improvements Projects with Public Works, Coordinate and administer the development of program goals, objectives, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data for patterns and trends, Confer with and represent the department and the city in meetings with staff from other departments, community, business, professional and public agencies and the public including conventions such as ICSC, NAIOP and CREW, Instrumental in supporting director and manager in creating incentive packages and compiling statistics for site selectors, Coordinate and apply for federal grants related to economic development, Maintain records and files related to projects and assignments and contract compliance, Prepare a variety of technical, quantitative statistical, forecasting and analysis financial reports and other written docs including Results Vegas, Performance Plus Management (Strategic Business Plan), Budget, Break-Even analysis and Ad Hoc reports as needed for management and City Manager's Office, Develop PowerPoint for Business Development and Redevelopment team to market city of Las Vegas, Work with Planning Department for wayfinding and branding districts, Prepare staging agreements for key redevelopment projects and draft council agenda items.

Real Estate Agent

Growth Luxury Realty, Realty One Group, and Keller Williams Realty
April 2006 – Present

Manage over \$12M (80+ closings), overseeing signing of documents and disbursement of funds, Negotiate terms of agreement for contracts, purchase offers and counter offers with/builders, brokers and clients, Prepare documents such as representation contracts, purchase agreements, closing statements, and leases, Work with developers, investors and clients to

provide customer service and meet their real estate needs, Confer with escrow companies, lender, home inspectors, appraisers, and pest control operators to ensure that terms, conditions and milestones of purchase agreement are met before closing deadlines, Communicate and act as a mediator in negotiations between buyers and sellers, Analyze financial statements and provide advice to clients, Evaluate potential related markets and develop referral networks

Accounting Senior Operations Analyst

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino

March 2015 – June 2015

Proposed a 401K Plan to reintroduce an employee incentive match program equal to 50% of contributions, Provide analysis, Ad-Hoc, and summary reports to departments, executives and VP to provide recommendations, Develop Pro Formas to demonstrate financial impact with new law regulations for SB 483 including the commerce tax for revenues of \$200M, Developed a workflow chart to illustrate operations for management in the Day Club, Assigned as Liaison to specific divisions and departments to create operations plans, assist with forecasting & budgeting and develop efficiencies, Conduct research and compile analysis to assigned projects for departments, Assist directors with managing revenues, expenditures and labor, Observe and analyze current operations of departments and develop drafted strategic plans for areas of concern, Mentor and supervise operations analyst

Financial Analyst

Monte Carlo Resort & Casino

May 2013 – March 2015

Manage, track and monitor a Profit Growth Plan that consisted of 150+ initiatives forecasted to be over \$9.5M in annualized EBITDA impact to the bottom line, Analyze historical data and current trends to provide budget data for several departments, Suggest and generate operational efficiencies to departments as necessary, Prepare revenue and expenditure projections and reports, Prepare departmental Full-Time Equivalents, Volume Indicator, and Mid-Tier reports with financial analysis summaries with providing recommendations, Meet with CFO, VP and Directors of divisions/departments and discuss major plans and events that impacts budgets and discuss target quotas on monthly, quarterly and yearly basis, Prepares daily, weekly, and monthly Ad-Hoc reports for upper management, departments and meetings, Analyze and research financial inquiries and variances using the general ledger accounts, Train and mentor new financial analyst, Extract data from Cognos Finance and other source data systems to compile in analysis and financial statements

Casino Accounting Auditor

Bellagio Hotel & Casino

September 2011 - May 2013

Forecast daily accruals by analyzing players' historical tracking data and manage over \$20M in accruals, Prepare reconciliations for source systems and balance financial accounts, Audit daily work for integrity and report discrepancies, Audit allowance receipts including Airfare, Allowance for players, Complete month-end procedures, Generate various slots auditing reports, Prepare weekly and monthly Metered Slot Invoice spreadsheets for disbursement of payments, Balance Tickets-In and Tickets-Out to daily cage count sheets, Work with Nevada Gaming Board during compliance audits

Pit Clerk/Marker Operations Clerk***MGM Grand******November 2010 - September 2011***

Secure and redeem an average of \$1.5M of markers on a daily basis, Maintain customer ratings in credit/marketing system including Stratus and Player's Club, Process, evaluate and grant funding for credit applications along with updating Central and credit reports, Assist in underwriting player applicants for executive hosts, Verify customer credit to floor supervisors and issue markers, Monitor and verify cash transactions in the Title 31 system for regulatory and federal compliance, Enter table fills, table credits and comps, Perform table balance to verify that all markers are posted correctly

Economic Development/Redevelopment & Business Development Coordinator- Intern***City of North Las Vegas******September 2007- February 2009***

Assist Business Development and Redevelopment Manager with managing projects and assignments, Assist and research appraisals for acquisition projects, Coordinate meetings with citizens and stakeholders, Assist with redevelopment projects' marketing, Research local market conditions and demographics for marketing and analysis, Produce budget and performance reports, Outreach, schedule and attended meetings for the ICSC conventions consisting of retailers, developers, and stakeholders, Develop opportunity and marketing brochure for the Business Development Department, Develop and maintain productive working relationships with management, team members, and other involved groups

Loan Officer***Oak Hill Mortgage******June 2006 – October 2007***

Analyze applicants' financial status, credit, and property evaluations to determine viability of granting loans, Evaluate, review, and revise credit and loan files and agreements for compliance, Compute payment schedules, Market bank products, Help clients set budget and financial goals

EDUCATION

- University of Oklahoma, International Economic Development Institute – Completion October 2024
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Executive MBA – December 2020
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Business, B.S. in Business Administration, Finance – May 2008
- International Economic Development Council, CEcD Designation – Completion 2025
- CCIM Candidate – Completion 2026
- Certification in Real Estate Financial Development – Completion 2026

SKILLS

Microsoft Office (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Excel), Costar, Implan, Oracle, Insightly, OBIEE, Cognos Finance, Spot Fire, Stratus, Tandem, EZ Pay, Machine Accounting, Players Club, Property Line, Sales Track, MLS, GIS, and Regis 9.5 (Demographic Analysis Data Software)

INTERESTS

Foodie, Hiking, Reading, Painting, Tennis, Volleyball, Softball, Pilates, Traveling and Volunteering for non-profit

OTHER LANGUAGES

Spanish

1/17/2025

To the Minority Affairs Commission,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Elizabeth Lopez, whose commitment to economic development and fostering innovation has made her a pivotal figure in advancing Southern Nevada's entrepreneurial ecosystem. As a partner in many of these initiatives through my role in Economic Development at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), I have witnessed Elizabeth's extraordinary ability to forge impactful public-private partnerships and drive meaningful change.

Elizabeth's collaborative efforts with UNLV have been instrumental in launching several innovative programs, including Tech Alley and the Southern Nevada Entrepreneur Breakfast, both of which serve as vital platforms for connecting startups, small businesses, and industry leaders. Her leadership has also been a key factor in attracting major tech organizations to the region, further solidifying Nevada's reputation as a hub for innovation.

An attribute of Elizabeth's vision and dedication is her ability to bring together stakeholders across sectors. She led efforts for a Southern Nevada delegation to Silicon Valley, where she successfully fostered relationships with key industry players, laying the groundwork for future investment and collaboration. Her efforts in creating a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem have provided essential resources, capital, and infrastructure for innovation, ensuring that entrepreneurs in Nevada have the support they need to thrive.

Elizabeth's passion for community development and her strategic approach to problem-solving make her an exceptional candidate for the Nevada Minority Affairs Commission. She brings a wealth of experience, an expansive network, and an unwavering commitment to empowering minority-owned businesses and driving inclusive economic growth. In addition to all of the aforementioned experience and qualifications, Elizabeth consistently exhibits unwavering care, compassion, and dedication to doing what is right. She is a true asset to our southern Nevada community.

I am confident that Elizabeth's leadership and expertise will be a tremendous asset to the committee. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [REDACTED] or Jamie.schwartz@unlv.edu.

Sincerely,

Jamie Schwartz

Director, Industry and Business Engagement

UNLV Office of Economic Development

Associate Director, UNLV Research Foundation

Co-Director, Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Innovation Incubator (INNOVATOR)

January 15, 2025

Dear Nevada Minority Affairs Commission,

It is my honor to endorse Elizabeth Lopez for appointment as a Commissioner on the Nevada Minority Business Affairs Committee. As the former Chief Information Officer for the City of Las Vegas and currently leading the state and local government initiatives at NVIDIA, I have had the privilege of witnessing Elizabeth's unwavering dedication to fostering innovation, empowering minority-owned businesses, and advancing inclusive economic development throughout Southern Nevada.

During her tenure with the City of Las Vegas, Elizabeth served with distinction in both the IT Team and Economic and Urban Development Department. She played a pivotal role in developing and submitting proposals for the federal Minority Business Development Center grant and in conceptualizing a Tech Hub initiative. While the federal application was not awarded, her proactive efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic had a measurable impact on the city's ability to advocate for and support minority entrepreneurs, creating opportunities for underserved communities.

Elizabeth's leadership is not confined to planning and policy. She was instrumental in the launch of Tech Alley and organized the inaugural Southern Nevada Entrepreneur Breakfast. These initiatives provided invaluable networking platforms and resources to startups and small businesses, fostering growth and innovation. Furthermore, her work with Latina Amigas to secure their first location at the International Innovation Center in downtown Las Vegas exemplifies her commitment to empowering women-owned minority businesses and promoting equitable access to opportunities.

As an Economic Development Officer for the City of Henderson, Elizabeth continues to build on her impressive track record. She is driving critical public-private partnerships, focusing on entrepreneurial development and integrating cutting-edge technologies into local government initiatives. Her collaborative approach, strategic foresight, and hands-on experience make her exceptionally well-suited to contribute meaningfully to the Nevada Minority Business Affairs Committee.

Elizabeth possesses a profound understanding of the challenges faced by minority-owned businesses and has consistently demonstrated the ability to design and implement innovative solutions. Her steadfast commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, combined with her extensive experience working with public and private stakeholders, will make her a valuable asset to the committee.

I have full confidence in Elizabeth's ability to bring dedication, expertise, and tangible results to this critical role. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [REDACTED] should you require additional information or have any questions.

Thank you for considering Elizabeth Lopez for this appointment.

Respectfully,

 *Michael Sherwood*

Michael Sherwood
Sr. Account Manager-State & Local Government
Nvidia