



AGENDA
CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. ITEM REFERRED TO COMMITTEE / CONFIRMATION HEARING:

- a) R2023-0241: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Christopher Alvarado as Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

5. DISCUSSION/EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Collective bargaining matters, including:
 - i) a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, representing approximately 19 employees in various classifications for the period 9/26/2023-9/25/2026.
- b) Pending or imminent Court Action

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

7. ADJOURNMENT

**Complimentary parking for the public is available in the attached garage at 900 Prospect. A skywalk extends from the garage to provide additional entry to the Council Chambers from the 5th floor parking level of the garage. Please see the Clerk to obtain a complimentary parking pass.*

***Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing assistance system. If needed, please see the Clerk to obtain a receiver.*

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio
Resolution No. R2023-0241

Sponsored by: County Executive Ronayne	A Resolution confirming the County Executive’s appointment of Christopher Alvarado as Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration, and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Section 202.13 of the Cuyahoga County Code provides for the Department of Regional Collaboration to advocate for and promote cooperation and collaboration with and among the State of Ohio and other political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2.03(2) of the Charter provides for the appointment of County directors by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the Council; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with said Charter Section 2.03(2) and Section 202.13 of the County Code, the County Executive has nominated Christopher Alvarado for appointment to the position of Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the Council conducted a confirmation hearing which was noticed to the public and held in an open meeting on _____, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Council elects to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Christopher Alvarado to the position of Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective in order that Charter requirements can be complied with and critical services provided by Cuyahoga County can continue, and to provide for the usual, daily operation of County government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. That the Cuyahoga County Council hereby confirms the appointment of Christopher Alvarado to serve as Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration, upon his taking the oath of office.

SECTION 2. It is necessary that this Resolution become immediately effective for the usual daily operation of the County; the preservation of public peace, health, or safety in the County; and any additional reasons set forth in the preamble. Provided that this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Resolution shall become immediately effective.

SECTION 3. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted.

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: September 12, 2023

Committee(s) Assigned: Committee of the Whole

Journal _____

_____, 20__



September 7, 2023

Pernel Jones, Jr., President
Cuyahoga County Council
Cuyahoga County Administration Building
2079 E.9th, 8th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44115

Re: *Cuyahoga County Director of Regional Collaboration*

Dear Council President Jones,

Pursuant to Section 202.13 of the Cuyahoga County Charter which establishes the position of Director of Regional Collaboration, it is my pleasure to nominate Christopher Alvarado as Director of Regional Collaboration. In this role, Mr. Alvarado would lead the department of Regional Collaboration by serving as the key liaison on behalf of the Executive for matters of governmental and community affairs, acting as the primary driver in removing barriers between county government, stakeholders, and the public. Mr. Alvarado would also serve to strengthen intergovernmental relations and to advocate for policy in line with Cuyahoga County's goals.

Mr. Alvarado currently serves as Executive Director for Slavic Village Development. Previously, he served as a Strong Cities, Strong Communities Fellow for the City of Cleveland and the Cuyahoga County Land Bank, and as an Associate Senior Planner for the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission. In these roles, Mr. Alvarado gained experience in consensus building and shared goal attainment among diverse interest groups representing geographies from the federal, state, local, and neighborhood level as well as economic, environmental, and social equity interests. Throughout his career, Mr. Alvarado has demonstrated a keen ability to build strong relationships with stakeholders, lead long-term strategic thinking, and advocate for neighborhood and regional goals.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination. Should you or any of your colleagues have any questions, please feel free to contact Zoe Toscos at (216) 443-8356.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Ronayne".

Chris Ronayne
County Executive

Christopher Alvarado

Profile

Non-profit leader who builds and strengthens organizations focusing on advocacy and capacity building on behalf of under-represented communities. Works and plays well with governmental entities, corporations, other organizations, and members of the public.

Employment History

Slavic Village Development— Cleveland, Ohio

Executive Director, June 2014 – Present

- Oversees a Community Development Corporation (CDC) with a staff of 15 and a budget of \$2.7 million to provide housing development and renovation, commercial development, community organizing, planning, marketing, and stabilization services to over 20,000 residents.
- Developed the Community Steward program, which provides leadership, racial equity, and trauma informed care training to 20 residents annually, with the goal of increasing the ability of neighborhood leaders to better represent the neighborhood's culture and demographics.
- Led the Slavic Village EcoDistrict Planning Process, bringing together community stakeholders to develop plans based on equity, resilience, and climate protection.
- Collaborates with City of Cleveland staff and elected officials (including four councilmembers).
- Created housing stability programs that have helped over 1,500 families keep their homes and that formed the model for the City of Cleveland's Healthy Homes Initiative.
- Expanded the model for vacant property rehabilitation (restoring over 250 homes in Slavic Village) that has been adopted by CDCs across Cleveland.
- Built a collaboration with the City of Maple Heights to renovate 65 vacant homes, producing \$300,000 in direct revenue to the City. Expanding this program to the City of Garfield Heights.
- Regularly advocates for Cleveland CDCs to U.S. Representatives and Senators, Ohio Statehouse representatives, and County Elected Officials to strengthen legacy neighborhoods.
- Through the Slavic Village P-16 Partnership, brought together schools and non-profit organizations to improve conditions for learning.
- Plans and builds multipurpose trails in collaboration with
- Reclaimed six acres of urbanized land for five green infrastructure stormwater reclamation projects in partnership with NEORSD, CCLRC, West Creek Conservancy, Boys & Girls Clubs, Cleveland Metropolitan School District, and City of Cleveland.
- Built a 3-month operational reserve to ensure financial stability for SVD.

City of Cleveland— Department of Community Development, Land Bank— Cleveland, Ohio

Strong Cities, Strong Communities Fellow, September 2012 – May 2014

- Reduced delays in the City of Cleveland Land Bank's property acquisition and transfer process by building an integrated and reliable management system to productively develop vacant land.

Cuyahoga County Planning Commission— Cleveland, Ohio

Associate Senior Planner, January 2004 – August 2012

Special Project Coordinator, May 2000 – January 2004

- Developed comprehensive master plans for several municipalities, utilizing current planning practices and incorporating community-engagement models to leverage positive citizen action.
- Created a quantitative model for calculating the impacts of retail development used by municipalities across Cuyahoga County to make land use decisions.

Civic and Other Affiliations

Center for Community Solutions— Cleveland, Ohio
Board Member (Volunteer), January 2023 – Present

CDC Leadership Program- Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation—Cleveland, Ohio
Coach, September 2021 – Present

- Provides professional guidance and coaching to emerging CDC leaders.

Cleveland Central Catholic High School— Cleveland, Ohio
Advisory Board Member (Volunteer), July 2015 – Present

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated— National Community Advisory Council— Columbus, Ohio
Council Member (Volunteer), April 2017 – Present

- Advocates for legacy city communities to the President and CEO of Huntington Bank.

Bike Cleveland— Cleveland, Ohio
Board Member (Volunteer), September 2011 – December 2021
Board President (Volunteer), September 2011 – January 2016

- Led the creation of the organization, the identification and recruitment of a diverse and effective board, the development of a multiyear strategic plan, the ongoing articulation of the organization's advocacy stance, budgeting and fund development, and the hiring and evaluation of the Executive Director.

Leadership Cleveland- Class of 2019—Cleveland, Ohio

EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute— Cleveland, Ohio
Board Secretary (Volunteer), March 2012 – January 2017

- Developed the organizational structure of a new nonprofit that provides a skilled trade in the culinary arts to marginalized and formerly incarcerated adults through EDWINS Restaurant.

Tremont West Development Corporation— Cleveland, Ohio
Board President (Volunteer), January 2010 – January 2012
Board Secretary (Volunteer), January 2009 – January 2010

- Initiated the development of TWDC's strategic plan and led the hiring of the Executive Director.

Education

*German Marshall Fund of the United States— **Strong Cities, Strong Communities Fellowship Management Training Academy, September 2012 – August 2014***

Cleveland State University— Cleveland, Ohio
Master of Urban Planning, Design and Development

University of Notre Dame— Notre Dame, Indiana
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

Awards and Honors

*Cleveland State University Alumni Association— **2019 Distinguished Alumni Award** for recognition of career achievements and dedication to urban revitalization.*