



## MURIEL BOWSER MAYOR

FEB 17 2017

The Honorable Phil Mendelson Chairman Council of the District of Columbia John A. Wilson Building 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504 Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

Pursuant to section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law § 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Mr. Odie Donald 1600 Maryland Avenue, N.E. Unit #154 Washington, DC 20002 (Ward 5)

for appointment as the Director of the Department of Employment Services, to serve at the pleasure of the Mayor.

Enclosed, you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

Muriel Bowser

Chairman Phil Mendelson at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on .

To confirm the appointment of Mr. Odie Donald as the Director of the Department of Employment Services of the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Director of the Department of Employment Services Odie Donald Confirmation Resolution of 2017".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

Mr. Odie Donald 1600 Maryland Avenue, N.E. Unit #154 Washington, DC 20002 (Ward 5)

as the Director of the Department of Employment Services, established by Reorganization Plan

- No. 1 of 1980, effective April 17, 1980, and in accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation
- 31 Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), to serve
  - at the pleasure of the Mayor.
    - Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
  - upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.
    - Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

# Odie A. Donald, MRA

## **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Experienced in managing local, state, and federally funded programs, budget development and administration, economic development, strategic planning, and performance management.
- Excellent relationship builder and strategic business partner with a strong ability to communicate effectively and influence across all operational levels and functions.
- Recognized for the delivery of high quality reporting, analysis, and service presentations to boards, business leaders, elected officials, governmental agencies, and key community stakeholders.

#### **EDUCATION**

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA Masters of Business Administration; Management (May 2012)
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA Bachelor of Arts and Sciences; History (August 2003)

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **District of Columbia**

# Executive Director, DC Workforce Investment Council (01/2016- Present)

Spearheads the strategic planning and administration of economic, workforce, housing, human services, adult education, and community development programs funded at more than \$100M in local, state, and federal funds to serve District of Columbia residents and businesses.

- Manages eight senior level staffers; leading project planning, assigning work, monitoring project delivery, and appraising job results.
- Oversees executive functions for the 34-member DC Workforce Investment Council (WIC) and the Greater Washington region's Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEOs), serving as liaison between the boards, the District of Columbia, and the US Department's of Labor and Education reporting on budget, programmatic trends, and performance measures.
- Serves as the spokesperson and subject matter expert on federal regulatory matters impacting
  economic, workforce, human services, adult education, and community development activities;
  representing the District as a speaker at industry events, conferences, and community events.
- Launched the Workforce Intermediary program in collaboration with large private sector construction projects (DC United and the Wharf construction project), which led to 24% of all hires being filled by District residents, exceeding performance goals by 9%.
- Implemented workforce initiatives that led to the largest decrease in the District's unemployment rate since 2007, a more than 1% decrease District-wide, and 4% in Wards 7 & 8 noted for having the highest unemployment rates in the District.
- Leads the District's implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, including the development of the approved Unified State Plan and spearheading collaboration across five agencies to develop and implement the District's community engagement strategy.

## **Georgia Department of Economic Development**

# WIOA Services Director, Workforce Division (03/2015-01/2016)

Oversaw the administration and contract compliance management of more than \$90M in federal grant funds for economic, workforce, and community development programs implemented throughout Georgia.

- Supervises 34 staff members; leading project planning, directing workload, evaluating performance, providing professional development opportunities, monitoring project delivery, and appraising job results.
- Directed workforce initiatives that exceeded performance measures and reinvested more than \$200M into Georgia's tax base, a 125% return on investment (ROI) for workforce programs.
- Developed the concept of a statewide brand to unify and align the state workforce system, later coined WorkSource Georgia.
- Managed the state's implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, including the
  development of the approved WIOA Unified State Plan, the seating of a compliant State Workforce
  Development Board (SWDB), Local Area Designation, Regional Planning, and the implementation of
  statewide focus groups
- Acquired more than \$24M in federal funding in collaboration with intra-government and intergovernment agencies to introduce coordinated agency services to businesses and targeted populations (including veterans, dislocated workers, citizens with disabilities, youth, and older adults).

#### City of Savannah

## Executive Director, Coastal Workforce Services (07/2013-03/2015)

Oversaw the administration, budget prioritization and contract compliance management of more than \$7M in federal grant funds for economic, workforce, and community development programs within the ten-county coastal region.

- Managed a twelve-member staff; directing workload, evaluating performance, providing professional development opportunities, and mentorship.
- Oversaw executive functions for the 44-member Coastal Workforce Investment Board (CWIB) and the region's Chief Local Elected Officials (CLEOs), serving as liaison to the City of Savannah, and the Georgia Department of Economic Development reporting on budget and performance metrics.
- Recognized for innovative program design and the delivery of services to veterans, seniors, youth, citizens with disabilities disabled citizens, and returning citizens.
- Decreased fiscal and programmatic audit findings by 75%, exceeded all performance measures, reinvesting more than \$10M into the Service Delivery Area (SDA) tax base, a 150% return on investment (ROI) of workforce programs.
- Developed and implemented the *Hire Savannah Labor Utilization Program*, ensuring the full utilization of the local workforce on projects awarded by the city.

#### Sierra Club

## Sr. Campaign Manager (Georgia/Florida), Beyond Coal Campaign (07/2012 - 01/2013)

Served as Beyond Coal regional spokesperson, responsible for translating policies, analyzing data, and making recommendations related to energy efficiency and conservation initiatives in Georgia and Florida.

- Managed a team of six staff members; directed and oversaw workload and schedules, provided professional development, and training in operations, policies, and procedures.
- Led the energy efficiency advocacy campaign for the Georgia Power Advanced Solar Initiative (GPASI), adding 210 megawatts of solar power and 250 megawatts of wind power to Georgia Power Company's energy portfolio.

#### **Technical College System of Georgia**

Project Director, ENERGE Initiative (08/2009 – 07/2012)

Directed operational activities including budget development and administration of more than \$1M for the Engaged Networking Energy Regional Education (ENERGE) initiative; tasked with mitigating workforce development issues within Georgia's energy sector.

- Met all 32 project objectives, increasing energy program enrollment by 22%, while producing 10,000+ trainees.
- Received state and national recognition for the Get Into Energy Georgia branding campaign,
   culminating in Governor Sonny Perdue proclaiming the third week in October Careers in Energy Week.

# Fulton County Department of Human Services (Office of Workforce Development) Community Development Liaison/Lead Business Consultant (12/2005 – 08/2009)

Managed the delivery of workforce, community development, and business services throughout Fulton County.

- Coordinated workforce initiatives that provided employment to 1,500+ Fulton County residents
  reinvesting more than \$12M into the county's tax base. Program core focus areas include displaced
  workers, youth job training, and adult job training.
- Represented the agency in the development of the Community Engagement Plan serving veterans, low income and homeless citizens, citizens with disabilities, youth, and seniors.

#### **CIVIC LEADERSHIP, HONORS, & AWARDS**

District of Columbia Resilience Cabinet, 100 Resilient Cities Project (2016)

Member, DC Career Academy Network Advisory Board (2016)

Who's Who in Black Atlanta (2016)

Georgia 40 under 40, Georgia Trend Magazine (2015)

Georgia Academy of Economic Development, Region 12 (2014)

Georgia Forward Young GameChangers, Dublin Cohort (2014)

Member, Atlanta Public Schools CTAE Advisory Board (2013 – 2016)

Founding Member, Savannah Graduates Executive Council (2015)

Chairman, Fulton County Workforce Investment Board (2010 – 2014)

Committee Chair, Georgia Energy & Industrial Construction Consortium (2009 – 2012)



# Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 300 | Washington, DC 20004

# **Odie Donald**



Odie Donald is the Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Council

Mayor Muriel Bowser appointed Odie Donald as the Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Council (WIC) on January 20, 2016. Prior to joining the WIC, Mr. Donald was the WIOA Services Director for the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Workforce Division (WFD). In this role he provided direction and oversight to workforce programs funded at more than \$90 Million serving Georgia's 159 counties. Mr. Donald also previously served as the Executive Director of

Coastal Workforce Services, where he was responsible for development and implementing innovative solutions to solve workforce issues within the ten-county coastal region (Bulloch, Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven).

In October 2015, Mr. Donald was selected as one of the Georgia Trend's Georgia 40 under 40, comprised of representatives in business, government, politics, nonprofits, science, healthcare, and education. As a native Georgian, Mr. Donald is committed and active in a variety of civic activities statewide. A few of his previous volunteer work and civic affiliations include serving on the Atlanta Public Schools CTAE Advisory Board, the International Association of Workforce Professionals, the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's Young Professionals, and founding member of the Savannah Graduates Executive Council.

A Ward 6 resident, Mr. Odie received a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Masters of Business Administration from Georgia State University.

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the General Counsel to the Mayor

To:

Lolita Alston, Steve Walker

From:

Betsy Cavendish

Date:

January 24, 2017

Elijabet A. Cavendish

Subject:

Legal sufficiency review of Resolution appointing Odie Donald as Director of the

Department of Employment Services

This is to Certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced Resolution and found it to be legally unobjectionable. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to call me at 202-724-7681.

Elizabeth Cavendish