

City of Piedmont
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

DATE: August 19, 2024
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Rosanna Bayon Moore, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Appointment to Planning Commission

RECOMMENDATION

- Make appointment of Alternate to the Planning Commission for a term ending term ending March 31, 2025.

BACKGROUND

The City Council conducted interviews for vacancies on all City of Piedmont Commissions and Committees at a special meeting on March 23, 2024, and made appointments to open seats that existed at the time. Overall, the quality of the candidate pool was strong, and the number of candidates exceeded the number of vacancies. Since the March meeting, Alternate Planning Commissioner Chris Harvey resigned his position, creating a vacancy for the Alternate seat of the Planning Commission. Applications submitted as part of the 2024 recruitment for the Planning Commission are now presented for consideration of appointment to the vacancy created by the resignation of Alternate Commissioner Chris Harvey.

All candidates advanced for the Council's consideration have been contacted to confirm ongoing interest in community service.

By: Anna M. Brown, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT

Applications under consideration for Alternate Planning Commissioner

City of Piedmont

Submit Date: Mar 15, 2024

Application for Appointive Vacancy

Profile

Ellen

First Name

J

Middle Name

Greenberg

Last Name

e2lengreenbe

Email Address

Home Address

Suite or Apartment

Piedmont

City

CA

State

94611

Post Office Code

Home:

Day Phone

Education

BA Geography, MA City and Regional Planning, MA Civil Engineering, all from UC Berkeley

Retired Urban Planner and
State Agency Sustainability
Leader

Occupation

Application

Please select the commissions and/or committees you wish to apply for. .

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Experience related to this appointment

Professional experience: Over three decades of work as an urban planning consultant to local governments focused on the integration of transportation, land use and urban design with an emphasis on long range planning. Major projects included consultant team leadership of the Oakland General Plan Land Use Element adopted in 1997, which was in place until the current update. Career-long dedication to community quality, walkability, and strengthening traditional urban character that supports sociability, convenience, and use of walk/bike and transit. Extensive experience working with appointed and elected officials and municipal staff. Appointed by Governors Jerry Brown and Gavin Newsom as Caltrans Deputy Director for Sustainability. Community and Volunteer Experience: Neighborhood dispute resolution panelist and trainer of other volunteers (prior to moving to Piedmont), current weekly involvement in Food Ministry program with First Presbyterian Church of Oakland and Temple Sinai, member of Housing Committee of Piedmont Racial Equity Campaign, active in national voter registration program, member of UC Berkeley Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Advisory Committee.

Attachment

Why are you seeking this appointment?

I am recently retired and have more time than previously to contribute to the Piedmont community. I'm a 20-year resident of the community with a deep interest in land use and urban design and the contribution of building and landscape architecture to the quality of our shared spaces. I believe that design principles can be used as tools as Piedmont evolves consistent with recently adopted changes to the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance, towards a more inclusive and welcoming community. I am impressed by the progress that has been made and hope to contribute in a formal role as a member of the planning commission. My very first appearance at the City Council was shortly after we moved to Piedmont because I felt it was important to speak in favor of welcoming Accessory Dwelling Units - even though I was extraordinarily busy at the time with young kids and work it was an issue I felt strongly about -- and still do!

What particular talents will you bring to this commission/committee?

Deep knowledge of planning law and practice, particularly with respect to General Plans and Specific Plans. Experience working with and supporting professional planning staff Dispute resolution / consensus building in the context of heated issues and demanding schedules Project Management - keen sense of organization and structure of successful processes defined by clear beginning, middle and end stages Excellent verbal and written communications including presentation skills and listening skills Commitment to building the inclusiveness of our community and region

Have you attended a meeting of this commission/committee in person or virtually? *

☒ Yes**Watched on KCOM? ***

☒ No**Watched on Streaming Video? ***

☒ Yes

Certifications

Applications for the current vacancies must be received by the City Clerk's office **no later than Friday, March 15th, at 5:00 P. M.**

Interviews with the City Council will be scheduled for the evening of **Monday, March 25, 2024. Appointments will not be made without a Council interview.**

I will be available for an interview with the City Council on the evening of Monday, March 25.

☒ Yes ☐ No

I agree that the above information is truthful to the best of my knowledge and is submitted by myself on my own behalf.

☒ Yes ☐ No**E-Signature:**

Ellen J Greenberg

Ellen J Greenberg

City of Piedmont

Submit Date: Feb 28, 2024

Application for Appointive Vacancy

Planning & Recreation

Profile

Jessica

First Name

L

Middle
Name

Fong

Last Name

jesswim03

Email Address

Home Address

Suite or Apartment

Piedmont

City

CA

State

94611

Post Office Code

Mobile: ()

Area Code

Education

Bachelor's degree

Commercial Property
Manager

Occupation

Application

Please select the commissions and/or committees you wish to apply for. .

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences**Experience related to this appointment**

Worked in building dept, recreation department

Why are you seeking this appointment?

To be an active participant in my community!

What particular talents will you bring to this commission/committee?

People skills, public speaking, conflict resolution and positivity

Have you attended a meeting of this commission/committee in person or virtually? *☒ No

Attachment

Watched on KCOM? *

☒ No**Watched on Streaming Video? ***

☒ No

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☒ Yes ☐ No

I agree that the above information is truthful to the best of my knowledge and is submitted by myself on my own behalf.

☒ Yes ☐ No**E-Signature:**

Jessica L. Fong

City of Piedmont

Submit Date: Mar 07, 2024

Application for Appointive Vacancy

Profile

Morag

First Name

M

Middle
Name

Thornton

Last Name

mforrest24

Email Address

Home Address

Suite / Apt

Piedmont

City

CA

State

94610

Postcode

Home:

Day / Eve

Education

BA City Planning, MS Biomimicry

Real Estate, Director of
Project Management

Occupation

Application

Please select the commissions and/or committees you wish to apply for. .

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Experience related to this appointment

I have a degree in city planning and a background in real estate, project management, sustainability, and biomimicry. My specialties relate to smart growth planning, as well as green building design/construction.

Why are you seeking this appointment?

I am seeking this appointment because I am currently taking a break from full-time employment and working as a stay-at-home mom. I would like to participate in helping our community grow by using my skills, without the stress of a full-time job. Living in Piedmont is a special experience and I would love to give back to the community by helping out on the planning commission.

Attachment

What particular talents will you bring to this commission/committee?

My talents include: dynamic perspective as a constituent as well as a planning and real estate professional, budget/schedule comprehension, cost/benefit analysis, leadership, smart growth experience with SANDAG, communicative, analytical, passionate about our community, and kind.

Have you attended a meeting of this commission/committee in person or virtually? *

☒ Yes**Watched on KCOM? ***

☒ No**Watched on Streaming Video? ***

☒ Yes

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☒ Yes ☐ No

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☒ Yes ☐ No**E-Signature:**

Morag Thornton

City of Piedmont

Submit Date: Mar 11, 2024

Application for Appointive Vacancy

Profile

Raffi

First Name

Zaroukian

Last Name

raff

Email Address

Home Address

Suite or Apartment

Piedmont

City

CA

State

94611

Post Office Code

Home:

Day Phone

Education

Bachelor of Architecture

Architect

Occupation

Application

Please select the commissions and/or committees you wish to apply for. .

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Experience related to this appointment

During my 30 plus years of experience in Architecture, I have been involved in projects varying from residential to commercial, recreational and institutional. I have been involved in the design, development and execution of most types of projects normally found in a City such as Piedmont. For the past eight years I have been involved as an owner's representative (Site Architect) Supporting a campus with 6 million SF and over 60 buildings in addition to some projects out of state.

Why are you seeking this appointment?

I have moved to Piedmont around three years ago and was interested in serving on the Piedmont planning Commission. Having just moved to Piedmont, I decided to wait and get to know the City and my neighbors. In recent conversation with City Council Commissioner Tom Ramsey, he mentioned the application window was open and encouraged me to apply.

What particular talents will you bring to this commission/committee?

As an owner's representative, I frequently interact with architects, engineers, consultants, contractors and various owner's stakeholders. I am involved in the review, comment and approval of projects on a large campus in South San Francisco. Projects vary from small remodels to brand new buildings and are subject to planning, environmental and other reviews to secure approvals and permits. Interaction with the City Planning, Building, Fire and Public Works Departments have give me insights on the whole process of Design and approval of construction projects

Have you attended a meeting of this commission/committee in person or virtually? *

☒ Yes

Watched on KCOM? *

☒ No

Watched on Streaming Video? *

☒ Yes

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☒ Yes ☐ No

E-Signature:

Raffi Zaroukian