

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: January 16, 2024
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director
Subject: Planning Commission Appointments
Recommendation: Make reappointments to Planning Commission
Funding: Currently Budgeted: Yes No Not Applicable
Account Code: N/A

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:

The item is to request the City Council consider and make appointments for two Planning Commission openings.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

PLANNING COMMISSION – 4 YEAR TERM

The Planning Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA. Appointments are four years and the term ending date for the current vacancies will be December 31, 2028.

Municipal Code Chapter 2.24, Planning Commission states for Members and Terms as follows:

- A. The Commission shall consist of seven members or such other numbers as the City Council shall, from time to time, determined by resolution, but in no event less than five members. An alternate may also be appointed who may serve as a member in the absence of a regular member, or if there is a vacant member position.
- B. The members of the Commission and the alternate shall be from among residents of the City of Sebastopol or shall be the owner of a business within the City of Sebastopol, and up to one person who is not in one of the above categories, but who is a resident of the 95472-zip code area, may also be appointed. Members and the alternate shall be appointed by a majority of the members of the City Council.
- C. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council, and may be terminated without cause, by a majority of the City Council.
- D. Members shall not serve for more than four years unless reappointed by the City Council
- E. In the event new Commissioners are appointed by reason of any increase in the number of the Commission, they shall serve for such period of time as to provide for as close to equal a number of commissioners being selected each year as possible.
- F. Final determination of the length of the term of new members shall be determined by the City Council.
- G. All terms of office shall commence on January 1st of the year of appointment.

The current Planning Commission Members are as follows:

PLANNING COMMISSION	TERM ENDING DATE	RESIDENT AND/OR BUSINESS IN TOWN
Seth Hanley	12/31/2023	Resident
Evert Fernandez, Chair	12/31/2023	Resident/Business in town
Paul Fritz, Vice Chair	12/31/2024	Resident
Kathy Oetinger	12/31/2024	Lives Outside City Limits/in zip code

Deborah Burnes	12/31/2024	Resident/ Business in town
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The City Council received applications from the following individuals for the two openings on the Planning Commission:

<u>Name of Applicant</u>	<u>Category</u>
Seth Hanley	Resident
Evert Fernandez	Resident

Both applicants are currently serving as Planning Commissioners and have been interviewed previously by the Council. The Council is asked to consider reappointing the two applicants on the Planning Commission since there are no new applicants. Alternatively, the Council could elect to conduct interviews for the two applicants, in which case staff would work to schedule interviews.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

The proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

GOALS:

This action supports the following 2019 City Council Goals and General Plan Actions:
Goal 5: Provide Open and Responsive Municipal Government Leadership

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipates receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report. Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of the agenda item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Sebastopol City Council reappoint the applicants to the Planning Commission.

ATTACHMENTS:

Application materials (redacted)

APPROVALS:

Department Head Approval:	<u>KS</u>	Approval Date: 1/11/24
CEQA Determination (Planning):	<u>KS</u>	Approval Date: 1/11/24
Administrative Services/Financial Approval:	<u>[Signature]</u>	Approval Date: <u>1/11/24</u>
<u>Costs authorized in City Approved Budget:</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
City Attorney Approval:	<u>[Signature]</u>	Approval Date: <u>1-11-24</u>
City Manager Approval:	<u>[Signature]</u>	Approval Date: <u>1-11-24</u>

City Council

Mayor Sarah Glade Gurney
 Vice Mayor Una Glass
 John Eder
 Robert Jacob
 Patrick Slayter

**City Manager**

Larry McLaughlin

lmclaughlin@cityofsebastopol.org

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

Mary Gourley

mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

City of Sebastopol

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO CITY BOARDS/COMMITTEES/AND COMMISSIONS PLANNING COMMISSION

City Boards, Commissions, and Committees

There are presently five boards, committees, and commissions appointed by the City Council. They are as follows:

- Planning Commission
- Design Review Board
- Business Outreach Committee (suspended)
- Public Arts Committee
- Complete Streets Advisory Committee

The bodies are comprised of community members who volunteer for service and are appointed by the City Council. All committee members serve at the pleasure of the City Council. The primary responsibility of the committees is to implement adopted City policy and advise and make recommendations to the City Council. The adoption of policies, the issuance of proclamations, and the approval of agreements and other official acts of the City are the responsibility of the City Council. The City Manager designates as official staff liaison to each committee.

Application Process

When a vacancy on a board, committee or commission occurs, the City Clerk prepares a press release that is distributed to local media, including the Sonoma West County Times and News. The vacancy is also announced at City Hall and on the City of Sebastopol's web site <http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/>

Applications for vacancies are obtained from the City Clerk's office and completed applications are submitted to the City Clerk's office. Three to four weeks after the vacancy announcement, the completed applications are forwarded to the City Council in a regular agenda packet for public review. The City Council interviews all applicants at a meeting open to the public. The official appointment of commission members is made at a City Council meeting.

Terms of Office

Board, commission, and committee members generally serve two, three, or four-year overlapping terms. There is no monetary compensation or benefits for board, commission, or committee members. The City Council may reappoint incumbent members or fill vacancies with new appointees. Some bodies limit the number of consecutive terms an individual may serve.

Members are expected to serve their full terms of office; however, when a member must resign, due to personal or professional circumstances, he/she should send a letter to the City Council stating the effective date of the resignation. A member shall be removed from office upon three affirmative votes of the City Council, based on one of the following grounds:

- At the pleasure of the City Council, without cause:
- If he/she is absent from three consecutive meetings, unless permission by a majority vote of the board, committee or commission had been granted as reflected in the official minutes of the body.
- Or by operation of the City Code if:

NAME: SETH HANLEY

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- If he/she is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
- If he/she ceases to be a qualified board, commission or committee member per the City of Sebastopol Municipal Code.

General Responsibilities of Boards, Commissions, and Committees

City boards, commissions, and committees shall have the following general powers, duties and responsibilities in addition to those set forth in the Sebastopol Municipal Code and various Resolutions:

- To establish rules and regulations governing the election of their officers, the holding of meetings and the conduct of business.
- To use all appropriate techniques in crystallizing and testing public sentiment on major public issues in their respective fields.
- To hold official hearings as required by law or requested by the City Council.
- To advise and recommend on City policies and procedures pertinent to their respective activities and functions.
- To support and adhere to all City policies promulgated by the City Council and to establish needed interim policies in the absence of the same.
- To provide information and promote good public relations between the City and the general public.
- To perform such other related functions as may be assigned to them by the City Council.

Desirable Characteristics in Applicants for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

While membership on City boards, committees and commissions requires no specific qualifications, with the exception of some seats on the Design Review Board and the Public Arts Committee, there are desirable characteristics for which the Council will be looking as they review applications:

- Familiarity with Community
The Council would require appointees to be familiar with the physical, social, and economic make-up of the City. Applicants should have demonstrated an active interest and involvement in the community.

Familiarity with Major Issues

While it will be assumed that applicants are familiar with the specific issues that are being addressed by the board, committee or commission for which they are applying, it is also expected that applicants be aware of issues which will impact all sectors of City programs and services.

Knowledge of the Board, Commission or Committee

During the application process, applicants should become familiar with the responsibilities and role in the City's policy-making structure of the board, committee or commission for which they are applying.

Commitment to Serve

When appointed, members are expected to serve their term of office. While personal or professional circumstances might prompt an unexpected resignation, applicants who are aware of any reasons why they may not be able to complete a full term or attend regularly scheduled meetings, should indicate this on the application. While time commitments will vary depending upon schedules and workload, members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings. In addition to attending scheduled meetings, members may be expected to participate in study sessions or serve on subcommittees.

Relationship with the Community

As a member of a City board, committee or commission, your actions will reflect on the City of Sebastopol and you are required to relate to the community with impartiality and courtesy.

Commitment to City Policy:

The City Council has adopted ordinances and policies following an appropriate public process. As an appointed board, committee or commission member, your duty is to abide by such policies rather than implement personal preferences.

NAME: SETH HANLEY

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Tips for Applying for a City Board, Commission, or Committee

Type or neatly print your application. Due to the quantity of applications the Council must review, a neat application is appreciated.

Answer all questions on the application. Council reviews your application to gain an understanding of your background and experience, and what skills and talents you believe you could bring to a particular board, committee or commission. Don't forget to sign and date your application.

Attend one or two meetings of the board, committee or commission for which you are applying. Find out what the current issues are, and what issues may be coming in the future. Review the minutes of past meetings, available on the City web site or at City Hall depending on the appointment being applied for.

Talk to a current member. Current members can share with you their experience, give you an estimate of the time commitment involved, and what they see as current and future issues.

If you have questions about the function and role of members, talk with the City staff liaison to the board, committee or commission you are applying for. The City Clerk can provide contact information for City staff members who are assigned to work with the boards, committees and commissions. It is important to note that City staff members cannot and do not recommend or lobby for any applicant.

Find out City Council's priorities and interests. Attend City Council meetings and review meeting minutes. Council meeting videos are archived on the City's website <http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/> and are available for purchase on DVD from the City Clerk's Office.

Review the Code of Ethics for Appointed and Elected Officials (the Brown Act), available by request from the City Clerk's Office and understand that if you are appointed to a board, committee or commission, you will be required to abide by it.

Prepare for the interview. Although we do not know what specific questions Council will ask, we suggest that you clarify for yourself why you are applying for a specific board, committee or commission, understand its role and function, and be familiar with the current issues it is examining.

Treat the interview with City Council as a business or job interview. Understand that the City Council is not only considering what experience, skills and talents you bring, they are interested in how you will represent the City.

**APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES
PLANNING COMMISSION**

Contact Information

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
7120 Bodega Avenue
P.O. Box 1776
Sebastopol, CA 95473
Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

phone: 707-823-1153
fax: 707-823-1135

NAME: SETH HANLEY

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:00 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch)
Closed every Friday

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol's Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. Please note your information will not be made public unless otherwise indicated. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information made public.

Name: SETH HANLEY

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

[REDACTED]

Home Phone Number: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

NO

Work Phone Number [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be available to the public?

NO

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this address to be available to the public?

NO

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

YES

If so, for how long?

9 YEARS

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

NO

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for?

PLANNING COMMISSION

NAME: SETH HANLEY

**Design Review Board Supplemental Questions:
Which Category are you Applying For?**

Category A

Licensed Architect

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

NO

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

NO

Present Employer: DESIGN BLITZ

Job Title: CO-FOUNDER, PARTNER, ARCHITECT

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office?

NO

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (AIA)
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

AIA, REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2007 - 2012

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

AS A LICENSED ARCHITECT, WITH NEARLY 25 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THE US, AND OVERSEAS, I BRING DESIGN EXPERTISE AND A BROAD PERSPECTIVE ON URBAN PLANNING. AS A RESIDENT OF SEBASTOPOL I HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN BOTH SUPPORTING, AND HELPING TO GUIDE, THE COMMUNITY'S DEVELOPMENT. MY WIFE AND I CO-FOUNDED OUR AWARD-WINNING DESIGN FIRM IN 2009, AND TOGETHER WE HAVE GROWN THE BUSINESS TO 4 LOCATIONS ACROSS THE U.S. THE ECONOMIC REALITIES OF DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS OWNERSHIP ARE PART AND PARCEL OF OUR WORK AND THIS LENS WILL ALSO BE OF BENEFIT TO A POSITION ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

NAME: SETH HANLEY

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Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

LEEDS METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY, LEEDS, U.K. 1994-1997:
BA (HONS) ARCHITECTURE (RIBA 1)

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY, OXFORD, U.K. 1998-2000:
GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN (RIBA 2)

LICENSED TO PRACTISE ARCHITECTURE IN THE FOLLOWING STATES: CA, CO, AZ, UT.

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

FULL LIST OF DESIGN AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission, or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

I'D LIKE TO PUT MY EXPERTISE TO USE IN SUPPORT OF MY COMMUNITY, AND ACTIVELY PARTICPATE IN CONVERSATIONS REGARDING DEVELOPMENTS THAT IMPACT THIS CITY. I'M MOTIVATED BY THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARISE FROM MOVING SEBASTOPOL FORWARD, WHILE ALSO RESPECTING SEBASTOPOL'S UNIQUE CHARACTER. AREAS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST ARE HOUSING (INCREASING AND IMPROVING) AND SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESSES AS THEY ADAPT TO NEW MARKET CHALLENGES.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

NO

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

YES

How did you hear about this opening?

PAUL FRITZ, EXISTING PLANNING COMMISSIONER

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application?

NAME: SETH HANLEY

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MY WIFE AND I LIVE ON [REDACTED] WE ARE SOLAR POWERED (INCLUDING OUR CARS). WE RENOVATED OUR HOUSE IN 2020 AND CONSTRUCTED AN ADU AS PART OF THE RENOVATIONS SO WE HAVE DIRECT EXPERIENCE OF BUILDING IN SEBASTOPOL. IN ADDITION TO ARCHITECTURE, WE ALSO GROW HOPS AT MY WIFE'S FAMILY FARM [REDACTED] AND THESE ARE SOLD TO LOCAL BREWERIES.

Applicant's Signature :  _____

Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): SETH HANLEY

Date: 07.27.23

NAME: SETH HANLEY

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PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW AND SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

NEARLY 25 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL PRACTISE, INCLUDING RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL DESIGN ENTERPRISE FOR 14 YEARS, COMBINED WITH LIVING IN AND LOVING THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

PLACE-MAKING AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY OVER THE LONG TERM, WHICH INCLUDES BALANCING HOUSING WITH BUSINESS AND JOBS.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

COMMUNITY OPINION MATTERS, AND IF IT IS REASONED AND INFORMED, THEN IT CAN HELP SHAPE THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. THAT SAID, DECISION MAKING AT THIS LEVEL MUST SERVE THE GREATER COMMUNITY INTEREST, AND RESPECT THE BROADER LEGAL CONTEXT.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

CONSENSUS BUILDING IS PART OF ANY LEADERSHIP POSITION, AND I'D SEEK TO RECONCILE RECURRING DIFFERENCES WITH A FELLOW BOARD MEMBER PRIVATELY. THAT'S NOT TO SAY THAT SPIRITED CONVERSATION, EVEN DISAGREEMENT SHOULD BE AVOIDED. THIS IS AT TIMES IN PUBLIC INTEREST PROVIDED IT IS RESPECTFUL. THAT SAID, PERSONAL HOSTILITIES SHOULDN'T PLAY OUT PUBLICLY, AND IT'S IN THE COMMUNITY'S INTERESTS FOR COMMISSIONERS TO FIND ALIGNMENTS ON POLICY WHERE POSSIBLE.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

CITY POLICIES AND STANDARDS CANNOT BE DERAILED BY ONE INDIVIDUAL WITH A DIFFERING PERSONAL OPINION, OR AGENDA, INCLUDING ME.

TO CITY BOARDS/COMMITTEES/AND COMMISSIONS

City Boards, Commissions, and Committees

The City Council appoints members to various boards, committees, and commissions as listed below:

- Planning Commission
- Design Review Board
- Public Arts Committee
- Other Miscellaneous Boards/Committees/Commission as Approved by the City Council

The bodies are comprised of community members who volunteer for service and are appointed by the City Council. All committee members serve at the pleasure of the City Council. The primary responsibility of the committees is to implement adopted City policy, and advise and make recommendations to the City Council. The adoption of policies, the issuance of proclamations, and the approval of agreements and other official acts of the City are the responsibility of the City Council. The City Manager designates as official staff liaison to each committee.

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- Or by operation of the City Code if:
- If he/she is convicted of a crime of moral turpitude.
- If he/she ceases to be a qualified board, commission or committee member per the City of Sebastopol Municipal Code.

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APPLICATION FOR CITY OF SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Contact Information

Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
7120 Bodega Avenue
P.O. Box 1776
Sebastopol, CA 95473
Mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

phone: 707-823-1153
fax: 707-823-1135

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday - 7:00 am - 5:30 pm (closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm for lunch)
Closed every Friday

Instructions:

Use this form to apply to serve on any of the City of Sebastopol's Boards, Committees or Commissions. Please complete the entire form and either print and mail it to the address above, or email your completed application to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org. If a question does not apply, please note as not applicable. Please deliver completed form, by the date and time due, to the City Clerk. All applications will be reviewed by the City Council. If appointed, you have a choice whether you wish to have your contact information visible to the public; however, your information may be made public upon request by (a) member(s) of the public.

Board, Commission, or Committee being applied for? Planning Commission

Name: Evert Fernandez

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code:

[REDACTED]

Sebastopol, CA 95472

Home Phone Number: [REDACTED]

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Work Phone Number:

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Facsimile Number: n/a

If appointed, do you want this number to be visible to the public?

Yes No

E-Mail Address: [REDACTED] If

appointed, do you want this address to be visible to the public?

Yes No

Are you a registered voter in Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? 40yrs

Do you hold a current business license from the City of Sebastopol?

Yes No

If so, for how long? 2yrs

Have you attended a meeting of this body? When?

Yes. While serving on the Commission

Have you served on, interviewed for, or applied for this body previously?

Yes No

If so, when? 2020

Present Employer: Self Employed

Job Title: Financial Advisor/Business Advisor

Have you previously served on any governmental bodies or held elected office? If so please list position held and dates:

**Sebastopol Planning Commission, Currently
Sebastopol Community Development Agency, 2008-2010**

Please list civic or charitable organization to which you belong or have belonged:

**Active 20-30 International Service Clubs, Alumni Member Santa Rosa #50 Chapter
Honorary Member, Sebastopol #63 and San Jose, Costa Rica #532**

Have you been an officer in any of these organizations? If so, please list position held and dates:

**President (1992) Santa Rosa #50 - National Board Member 1997-98,
International President (1999-2000)**

What special interests, skills and talents would you bring to this board, commission, or committee?

I have the background, skills and experience as a Sebastopol Native, raising a family here being a business owner, participating in community events and my prior terms as Planning Commissioner. I have extensive knowledge of the City General Plan, having participating in the most recent update. I have an understanding of local zoning ordinances and have collaborated with the Planning Director and several other City Staff, Managers and Council members.

Please list any college, professional or vocational schools you have attended with major subject studied, dates and any earned degrees:

**Santa Rosa Junior College - 1978-1980 Associate of Arts Degree
Sacramento State University - 1980-82 - Bachelor Science, Business**

Please list any special awards or recognition you have received:

I have received various recognitions and awards for multiple community service participation and accomplishments.

Please state why you would like to become a member of this board, commission or Committee, including what specific objectives you would be working toward as a member of this body:

Our city is facing various challenges as well as many opportunities for the future. Those include, transportation, housing, economic vitality and the environment among others, that will affect our quality of life.

I would like to continue participating in community improvement projects, including Ives Park and other local parks. I would like to continue to represent and be a voice for underserved and cultural populations such as the Hispanic community.

Are you associated with any organization/employment that might be deemed a conflict of interest in performing your duties if appointed to this position?

Yes No

If yes, please state name of organization/employment: _____

City policy directs all appointed, advisory body members not to vote on matters where there exists a potential conflict of interest such as property ownership near a project, or a financial relationship with the applicant. Would you be willing to abstain from voting if such a conflict arises?

Yes No

How did you hear about this opening?

Position open due to my current term ending.

Is there any other information that you feel would be useful to the City Council in reviewing your application and materials provided with the application?

I have had an excellent attendance/participation record, including during The Pandemic. I have served in this role with impartiality and respectfulness. I have a track record of working well with my fellow commissioners.

I have been proactive in updating the commission procedures to create better collaboration with the Planning Department. I have also been instrumental in encouraging and leading Commissioners to be more active and creative in their participation. When serving as Chair, I have been very involved in partnering with the planning director in setting agenda items.

I have objectively supported the best interests of Citizens, Businesses the environment and the resources we have in a productive and respectful manner.

What do you think qualifies you to be appointed to this board/committee/commission?

My past accomplishments and success as a commissioner and my desire to see through important city projects, currently in progress or coming up. I believe that my record, performance and accomplishments as a commissioner speak for themselves.

Are there particular issues you think the board/committee/commission should concentrate on?

As the Planning Commission also serves as the Parks Commission, I think attention and efforts need to be focused on improvements to our all our parks. I have been instrumental in park reviews with an eye towards improvements.

The Commission can also be proactive in strategies and zoning policy improvements to create more housing opportunities, with existing structures. Make it easier to create more living spaces. Also, continue to solicit more community involvement.

How should community comments be integrated into the board/committee/commission decision-making process?

Whenever possible and if appropriate, solicit input. Also, increase public awareness of agenda items coming to the commission. I always make an effort to visit sites in person ahead of time that are scheduled before us.

If appointed, how would you handle it if another board/committee/commission member vehemently disagrees with your comments on a regular basis?

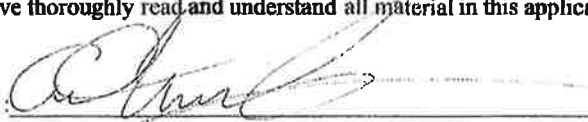
I would handle it as I have in the past, making sure I understand their position, reasoning and taking it into account for my deliberations. I have always had excellent rapport with everyone I have served with regardless of differing opinions.

How would you handle a situation where a proposal comes before your board/committee/commission that the City staff finds consistent with City policies and standards, but that you personally do not support?

I have had instances where I did not believe in support of certain items before us. However, I understand our responsibilities to make decisions within the scope of our authority, even if it means going against my personal feelings. But I have also challenged certain items being respectful and considerate of everyone involved and I will not hesitate to do so in the future.

I certify that I have thoroughly read and understand all material in this application.

Applicant's Signature



Applicant's Name (PLEASE PRINT): Evert Fernandez

Date: 11-20-2023