

APPLICATIONS for Vacant Council Positions No. 2 & No. 3
Deadline Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 5 p.m.

Name: **Gerard Boulanger**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city:

- 1 - Structural deficit in the General Fund mostly due to Inflation on our Expenditures vs the 3% cap on real estate property**
- 2 - Lack of affordable housing**
- 3 - Post Covid crisis affecting OSF revenue, therefore F&B Tax and more**
- 4 - Lack of Financial stability, thus reducing mid and long term visibility**
- 5 - Lack of Reserve funds (state recommends 6-7 months of GF put aside)**
- 6 - Demographics data keep showing less and less families with children (aging population, school district, local business, etc.)**
- 7 - Complex relationship between City Mgr and APRC**
- 8 - Parks maintenance is widely criticized by residents**
- 9 - Residents need to be re-assured by City Hall about Water and Fire risks**
- 10 - City Council is perceived by most residents as a body not able to work well enough together**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Being involved in the City I chose to live in Contribute to the efforts of the City Council**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Previously City council members for 5 1/2 years in the Bay Area, California**

Role of City Councilor: **A City Councilor is meant to discuss and suggest Resolutions made to maintain the quality of life and services in Ashland. Those discussions and suggestions require consensus before they could become a project or an action given to the City Mgr and the City Attorney. A City Councilor participates in Committees, Commissions as a liaison to the Council A City Councilor attend local events and listen to the residents. A City Councilor should have in mind at all time the interest of the City at large and avoid special interest**

Educational background: **I came in the USA after finishing my education which ended when I was 24. Therefore None of my degrees I got outside of the USA have official value in the US. Only for illustration of my education, I specialized my education after 18 years old in: physics, thermodynamics, mathematics, and later on in Business Management for the last 3 years.**

Related Experience: **Being a City Council member for 5 1/2 years, I know the dynamic between city councilors, CM, City Atty, and staff. I used to work 13 years for Alstom, a project mgr for Nuclear power plant, then for Autodesk, Inc. for 12 years and finished my career there as European Director of Marketing for GIS system. Since in the USA, I have worked as distributor of software product for a year, then I bought a company providing home Services for a few clients in San Francisco (exclusively), work I still run today. Training I may need? I guess I need to have conversations with City Mgr and City Atty to get updates on the main issues and what has been done and why could be done.**

Interests: **I am applying to this position because I have the will and the time to serve the Ashland residents I hope I could contribute to the council efforts to steer the ship in the right direction**

Availability: **Yes, I am available for this job**

Additional Information: **My wife and I bought a house in Ashland with my wife 2 years ago My wife and I have family members in Ashland and Talent, therefore we do have a perception, a feel of Ashland for quiet a long time I have 3 children (one in organ, 2 in Europe) and 5 grand children (1 in Oregon)**

Signature: **Gerard M. Boulanger**

Name: **Patt (Patricia J) Herdklotz**

Position to be considered for: **No. 2**

Biggest issues facing the city: **housing, fire, diversifying "industries" (e.g. not just tourism/theatre), preserving green space (vs. unplanned growth), foster good working relations**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **have lived here since 1999 and feel as though it's time to offer some support to this city I treasure**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Ashland Airport Commission; volunteer with Southern Oregon Historical Society, Call-A-Ride, chair of FUNdraising Committee of Jackson County Democrats; enjoy Senior Center (e.g. Mahjongg); supporting member of Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Rogue Valley Symphony retired minister of and still active with R.V. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, served as chaplain with non-profit Lovejoy Hospice**

Role of City Councilor: **participate in the vision for and guidance of best quality of life in the city of Ashland, overseeing commissions established for city work (e.g. airport, fire)**

Educational background: **Bachelor's Degree (especially anthropology, music minor), University of California, Berkeley (with lower division work done at Sacramento City College, Sacramento, CA) Masters of Divinity, Starr King School for Religious Leadership, Berkeley, CA chaplain training was done at the Veteran's Administration, White City, OR**

Related Experience: **minister and chaplain require good people skills**

Interests: **continue support for things working for Ashland, e.g. tourism: could see having people fly into our airport, shuttle to accommodations, host tourists to theatre and/or outdoor activities, shuttle back to airport, they leave with a smile participate in supporting financial health of Ashland (have dealt with many non-profits' financial health) look for other "industry" to diversify Ashland climate and finances**

Availability: **retired, so can get to meetings and special meetings. can meet any time, but would like working public able to attend open meetings, too**

Additional Information: **moved to Ashland August, 1999 and live in same house appreciate North Mountain Park (2 blocks away), careful addition of housing in some of the last Ashland area zoned for housing. I hope my career in a progressive religious community would be demonstrated in some people skills within the council and with Ashland community member**

Signature: **Patricia J (Patt) Herdklotz**

Name: **Linda (Peterson) Adams**

Position to be considered for: **No. 3**

Biggest issues facing the city: **We should listen and consider citizen priorities through town hall gatherings, citizen advisory commission reports and a consumer friendly website. Expediting information flow and dialogue between citizens and city government will foster trust between the city and citizens. We must remain vigilant in preparation for catastrophic wildfire, severe weather events, drought and other consequences of climate change and build upon existing programs that help us adapt and mitigate potential chaos. We should encourage innovative partnerships to promote affordable housing in an effort to maintain our small town character. Land use and transportation planning go hand in hand with providing appropriate development to meet our housing and business needs. We must endeavor to maintain our parks and outdoor open spaces. The diverse and fragile ecosystems in and around Ashland depend on proper stewardship and in turn enhance the experience of visitors and residents alike. Maintaining these are essential to our well-being.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Governments play a crucial role in protecting lives and livelihoods. When trust in government is undermined by factions that**

bully professional staff and promote exaggerated crises, conspiracy theories and misinformation, policy action comes to a standstill, crippling the democratic process. My motivation for seeking a seat on Council is to foster this trust by encouraging engagement and communication with citizens, organizations and businesses and set policy accordingly, following process, to bring out the best decisions for a resilient Ashland.

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Government Experience: Ashland Transportation Commission, Chair Ashland Transportation Advisory Committee, Chair Community Work: Ashland Food Project Board Member, District Coordinator, Neighborhood Coordinator Be the Change Rogue / Rogue to Go Board Treasurer Streets for Everyone Member (Action Team of the Ashland Climate Collaborative) Former Member SOCAN's Ashland Climate Action Project and Ashland Citizens for Transit**

Role of City Councilor: **The role of City Councilor is to listen to and represent the interests of the citizens by upholding the City Charter, City Ordinances and Resolutions, establishing policy based on these and the Comprehensive Plan, adopting the City's budget, acting as a contract review board, and providing direction to the City Manager to administer policy.**

Educational background: **Educational Background: UC Berkeley, BA Political Science University of Pennsylvania, ABD Political Philosophy Chestnut Hill College, Secondary Teaching Credential**

Related Experience: **I hold to this creed: "Never regard study as a duty but as an enviable opportunity to learn to know the liberating influence of beauty in the realm of the spirit for your own personal joy and to the profit of the community to which your later works belong." -- Albert Einstein**

Interests: **I sincerely believe that, in the words of Cornel West, a rich life consists fundamentally of serving others, trying to leave the world a little better than you found it. As Councilor, I can continue to serve and represent my community, fulfilling my own life by contributing to the betterment of my fellow citizens.**

Availability: **To conduct the business of Council and the City, the responsibility of my attendance as Councilor would take priority. I can attend assigned and special meetings when requested, both day and night.**

Additional Information: **When I came to live in Ashland in 2011, I immediately became involved in the many opportunities that this community offers. My husband Ron and I took our little dog on daily walks up hill and down dale, through town and country, marveling at its beauty. Contractors became our first friends as we invested in improving a neglected house and turned it into a forever home. We hosted neighborhood parties where some had lived just across the street from each other for some 20 years, yet had never broken bread together. We became food donors with the Ashland Food Project. We went to plays, joined the Ashland Food Co+op, found out that you could get just about anything you needed at ACE hardware and if not there Bi-Mart, shopped at the best music store between San**

Francisco and Seattle and enjoyed eating out. After a short while, I became involved with Council, Planning Commission, Tree Commission and Transportation Commission meetings and joined advocacy groups that were concerned about issues I saw as important to consider in seeking the vision of Ashland to “keep its small town character even as we grow”. Ron and I worked together as treasurers for local political leaders. Eventually, I applied and was appointed to the Transportation Commission, became a Ashland Food Project Board member and joined with others to form the non-profit, Be the Change Rogue to administer the Rogue to Go reusable take-out container system. I have immersed myself in the workings of this town’s governing processes and though I am still learning, I know by encouraging dialogue, holding town halls, and letting folks know what good is being done, we can address and solve the manageable problems that challenge us. This gem of Southern Oregon is going through a tremendous transition as we change from a Mayor-Council to Council-Manager form of government, as we climb out of a pandemic, wrestle with climate change and grapple with the very soul of our democratic republic here and throughout the country. I am convinced that we can listen to what our neighbors have to offer, build on past accomplishments, prepare for what nature sends our way and otherwise work together to nurture Ashland’s commitments to sustainability, equity and inclusion. I am ready to work for the citizens of Ashland to honor these commitments.

Signature: **Linda (Peterson) Adams**

Name: **Sharon Dohrmann**

Position to be considered for: **No.2 Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **This is a difficult question to answer because there are so many competing priorities that need and deserve our attention. But I think some of the most urgent needs are: 1. Addressing the lack of affordable housing 2. Helping local businesses stay in business and then mentoring/assisting new entrepreneurs to start new businesses. Find new ways to diversify the economy, especially with tourism. 3. Finding ways to support community members in need, whether that's seniors, people dealing with housing or food insecurity, or people with mental health issues. 4. Climate change remediation especially with water use, fire resiliency, electrification, and multi-modal transportation.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I've been interested in serving in local government for a long time but while my kids were young it felt too daunting. Now that my kids are older, I'm ready to give back to my community. I've seen the toll that the fires and COVID have taken on our town and the losses that our community has suffered as a result. It makes me sad to see empty store fronts downtown while new and exciting businesses and restaurants open in Talent and Phoenix. I see other towns and cities all over the world innovating with housing and transportation in ways that are reviving their local economies and providing opportunity for the people who live there. I want to help bring**

some of those innovations to Ashland and prepare it for the years ahead as we deal with serious economic and climate-related challenges.

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I was one of the 4 core organizers of the Women's March held in Ashland in January of 2017 and then again in Medford in 2018 and 2019. I served on the Parent Council at Willow Wind Learning Center for 4 years and am now VP of the Willow Wind Community Association. From 2017 until COVID lockdown, I provided pro-bono IT services to the Southern Oregon Historical Society. I've been involved with the regular (green bag) donations to the Ashland Food Bank since we moved here.**

Role of City Councilor: **The role of a city councilor is to LEARN as much as she can about what the current priorities of the city government are and what projects and programs are currently in operation and within the budget, while also being in communication with the community about what their needs and wishes are. Then the job is a balancing act of trying to meet the needs of the most people as possible while also being fiscally responsible and maintaining the unique character of our town. The role of the councilor is also to spread the word about what the local government is doing to serve the community so people know that we're listening to them and attempting to meet their needs.**

Educational background: **Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz, 1991 Peace Corps Volunteer, 1991-1993, which included training in agroforestry and environmental education CompTIA A+ certification (IT training)**

Related Experience: **I've been an IT consultant for more than 20 years and the last 5 have been working in medical clinics. This type of work has helped me hone my skills in patience, staying calm under pressure, allowing people to vent without taking it personally, getting myself up to speed quickly in a new environment, and being able to make reasonable and logical decisions that will meet the needs of the most people. Also, before moving to Ashland, I owned my own business so I had to learn all those skills that are required to keep a business running: licensing, taxes, insurance, budgets, accounting, hiring and firing employees, working with vendors, etc. I would bring all those skills into my position as a city councilor. But I'm quite sure there is so much more to learn in order to be effective at running a city government, so I would always be open to attending conferences or seminars, especially as it pertains to leadership because to be a good leader requires skills that change according to your circumstances.**

Interests: **My husband and I moved here from San Francisco with our two kids because we wanted to raise them in a small town with good schools, a vibrant downtown, access to the outdoors, and a close knit community. We found all of that in Ashland. But once you've lived in a place for a long time (for us, it's going on 10 years), you start to see things that you'd like to improve. I know that we always have to work within budget constraints, but I would love to see Ashland create a safer, more extensive network of protected bike lanes for both economic, health, and climate related reasons. I am also interested in helping develop a robust "grow your own" entrepreneur program that encourages and empowers**

local people to start new businesses. And I'd really love to help Ashland diversify its tourism economy and take better advantage of the outdoor recreation market that is booming, especially mountain biking.

Availability: **I am currently working part-time, so my schedule is flexible. I am able to attend regular and special meetings, either during the day or in the evening.**

Additional Information: **I've lived in Ashland for almost 10 years. I'm involved in the community in a variety of ways: As a parent of two kids, who are in 4th and 7th grades. As an organizer for the Women's March. As an IT consultant, previously in Medford, but most recently with businesses here in Ashland. As an avid trail runner, mountain biker and snowboarder. And with my husband who is the president of the Ashland Soccer Club. So I interact with all kinds of people, from all walks of life, and have learned a lot about Ashland, and about what's working and what's not. I have a deep love for this place that we chose, from a long list of possible places to live, to raise our family and set down deep roots. I want Ashland to continue to thrive through the challenges ahead, and be a place that cares about the precious resources around us and the people who call this place their home.**

Signature: **Sharon Dohrmann**

Name: **Jill Franko**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Economic stability - We have a tremendous opportunity to reinvent Ashland. What a beautiful chance to bring all the smart minds in every corner of Ashland to create a new way forward. This council has the ability and gift to be influencers and instigators of that new beginning. Who wouldn't want to join in that process? Yes there are foundational institutions in our town that are struggling. They need our support, our fire, and our encouragement to figure out how they will fit in this new Ashland. Keeping our new vision at the forefront, the council serves in an opportune time to lead the community in this new direction. Vision - The City Manager, Joe Lessard has done a great job in recognizing the need and importance of a vision. It is the council's responsibility to keep the business of the city focused on this vision, helping citizens in becoming a part of the vision, and making sure everyone is included in the realization of that vision. I look forward to working with other counselors to help articulate specific action goals that lead us there. Fiscal stability- the council all agrees that the city needs to increase revenues and decrease spending. When a clear vision and goals are established it's easier to focus spending on the areas identified in those goals. Does our spending match our goals, vision, and values? Each counselor shares the values of some portion of our community. So each counselor has a valid and important voice in making sure our budget matches what the citizens truly care about. There are no voices that are invalid or inappropriate. Every Councilor wants to do right by the citizens and wants to make sure our community is represented. The budget is one of the best ways to make sure we spend money in the**

places our citizens want. Again, what a tremendous opportunity for collaboration, creativity, and building a strong community grounded in what every citizen values.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Greta Thunburg says, “The one thing we need more than hope is action. Once we start to act, hope is everywhere.” I want to bring hope through action. The current councilors care deeply about this community and want to help the government function in the best way possible for all citizens. I want to work collaboratively with those councilors to build an action plan that motivates employees, citizens, and business owners to become a part of the solution to our recent divisiveness and bring hope back to our community.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I am currently in my second year on the Ashland School District School Board as an elected Director. I have served on the school district’s budget committee for the past 2 budget cycles. I have served on the Bond Oversight Committee since 2019 and helped to change the policy for large building projects that impact schools in order to protect funds meant for children. I currently serve on the Employee Insurance Committee at the Ashland School District. I have attended city council meetings almost every month since August of 2022.**

Role of City Councilor: **Maintain and Set Ashland’s Vision – The City Manager, Joe Lessard has done a great job in recognizing the need and importance of a vision. It is the council’s responsibility to keep the business of the city focused on this vision, helping citizens in becoming a part of the vision, and making sure everyone is included in the realization of that vision. The council works together in dedicating time to articulate specific action items that lead us there. This provides focus for the council but also helps the council in avoiding distraction from issues and agendas that deter from these goals. This vision also serves in helping the council to hold the CM accountable to this shared vision. Represent the People – The reason there is a council body is so the people are fully represented. A council is not meant to represent only one portion or one section of the city. It is meant to bring together different beliefs and interests in order to make sure that EVERYONE is included in decision making. The council’s job is literally to represent DIVERSE voices, not just one. Civility is always necessary and mandatory, but diversity should be welcomed and celebrated. A good council embodies those differences, engages in constructive dialogue that represents different views, and agrees to compromise and come together as that collective body to serve the greatest number of citizens. Setting Policy and Budget – The council is responsible for creating and rewriting policy to make sure it upholds and supports the greater goals of the community. It is also responsible for making sure the budget is built around basic needs first to keep citizens safe, and then the vision of the community so the values of Ashland are supported.**

Educational background: **Sonoma State University, BA Philosophy Chapman Institute, Certified Wellness Program Coordinator**

Related Experience: **I have attended the Oregon State School Board Association Conferences for two years in a row. These are two day trainings that provide educational**

classes to help directors serve more effectively. I think any educational seminars or conferences the council can attend, specifically hosted by The League of Oregon Cities, would be valuable. Having served on the ASD Board of Directors, I understand how it can take some time to get up to speed on how things operate. These entities can help to speed up the educational process and serve to be tremendously beneficial for the role.

Interests: **I am interested in maintaining the heart of our community. Every councilor sitting on council shares in maintaining what attracted us all here. If we keep faith in knowing people's intentions are good and noble then there is always a way to share differences and come together. I see the opportunity in helping our community come together. I am interested in being a part of the solution to a struggling economy, declining school enrollment, and lack of affordability to provide a better future for all our children, seniors, and citizens of all ages.**

Availability: **Fortunately, I have a flexible schedule and I am able to attend most meetings. I prefer day meetings during school hours, but I can attend evening meetings if that works better for everyone.**

Additional Information: **I grew up just south of Ashland and have spent countless birthdays, graduations, and celebrations at Lithia Park. Most of my high school proms began with dinner at an Ashland Restaurant. I grew up night skiing at Mt. Ashland, and rafting the Rogue River. I left after I graduated High School and worked as a small business owner, then a mortgage broker, and finally as a corporate health insurance broker and corporate wellness coordinator throughout California. When my kids became old enough to think about schools, we moved to Ashland, where I knew they would have an intimate relationship with nature, experience the best in quality schools, and grow up in a small safe community that cares for one another. My husband Mike, who works remotely, and I began volunteering to coach baseball and basketball teams. As our children have grown older (8 and 11yrs old), we find ourselves more and more involved in this community. I am more than invested in this community, it is my children's home. I care deeply about those I share it with and the important role the community plays in all our futures. jillforcommunity.com
jillyac@gmail.com**

Signature: **Jill Jenise Yaconelli Franko**

Name: **Julian William Bell**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Some of the leading issues facing the city, in my assessment, include finding an appropriate site for a shelter for unhoused Ashland residents, development of affordable workforce housing, supporting economic development for the city generally, prudent fiscal management of city finances, wildfire preparation, mitigation**

and adaptation to climate change more generally, and fostering good communication within the city council and between city leadership and the residents of Ashland.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I am primarily motivated to apply for the vacant city council seat by the goal of working on mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The city faces other immediate issues, but I believe we must also more aggressively address climate change to preserve the vitality of our city and ensure our children will inherit the same level of prosperity and social stability that we enjoy now.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission Jan 2018 – Dec 2022; Ashland Climate Policy Commission Sept 2019 – April 2021.**

Role of City Councilor: **A city councilor provides citizen oversight of and leadership for city staff, including the city manager, the city attorney, and all the other departments funded by taxpayer money. City councilors take direct input from residents of Ashland, provide council input into city commission meetings, attend council meetings and review issues related to management decisions and through their discussion provide city residents a window into the process of providing city services.**

Educational background: **Cornell University, BA, anthropology, 1995 New York Medical College, MD, 2000 Residency, St Vincent's Hospital, New York, 2003 Fellowship, Rush University Medical Center, Chicago, 2006**

Related Experience: **Relevant prior experience includes multiple political campaigns running for multiple state and city offices. While all but one of these campaigns were unsuccessful they did provide a insight into the priorities of Ashland, Jackson County and Oregon residents.**

Interests: **I am applying for this position both because I find the city government process interesting and engaging, and because I feel that I would contribute a collaborative, analytic and science based perspective to city leadership.**

Availability: **Yes, and if I am appointed to the city council position I would modify my work schedule to ensure I had plenty of time for the position.**

Additional Information: **I have lived in Ashland since 2011, in southern Oregon since 2010 and in Oregon since 2006. Both my children were born in Southern Oregon.**

Signature: **Julian William Bell**

Name: **Dylan M Bloom**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Ashland is at an inflection point for its future. The biggest issues we must overcome in order to be the City we all want is Affordable Housing and the jobs to support them. In order to grow into a more vibrant, young, and inclusive city we need to address the shortage of affordable housing in town. That means we need to look at all options available, whether that is through looking at our zoning, to partnerships with private and governmental agencies beyond the city level to increase workforce housing. Additionally, we need to find ways to recruit and retain businesses in technology and light industry. These are jobs that have higher than average salaries for the valley and can serve to increase tax revenues via the business as well as support living wages that allow more Ashland workers to live in town. We need to address these issues head on and with urgency. Ashland voters expect results now and in the next 4 years, not a 10-year plan.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I am seeking to fill this vacancy for a couple of reasons. I believe for too long that there has been a level of dysfunction in the relationships on Council. We need to do better for our City and Ashlanders. I have a great deal of confidence in my ability to work well with any team and team dynamic. I believe in open communication and solution-oriented discussions. I am comfortable with Parliamentary Procedure and Roberts Rules of Order. We need stability right now, and I am in a position to be one part of ensuring that for our neighbors. Additionally, I feel that as a young millennial and parent who lives in Ashland, and lives paycheck to paycheck to survive here; that young families and people like me are underrepresented in our local government. We need to inspire change in our City and give a voice to folks who want to see Ashland become more vibrant; that means having representation that they can relate to. To see that young working-class peoples also have a voice in this town and that our contributions are necessary and welcomed.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Recently I was involved in the local City Council elections in November. Something I wasn't expecting to be a part of. Ultimately, it goes back to what I said previously; young working-class Ashlanders need to get involved and have their voice heard, this was my way of participating in that process. Additionally, I have volunteered in the past with various athletics. I coached pop-warner football in Ashland, I volunteered as a Snowboard instructor at Mt. Ashland, and more recently have begun volunteering as a Rugby coach at SOU.**

Role of City Councilor: **The role of a City Councilor is to educate themselves on the issues the city faces in advance of any discussion and potential action that may need to be taken. To listen to experts in their various fields and ask a range of questions to expand on already gained knowledge of an issue. To deliberate with your fellow councilors and finally to take action and vote according to the facts at hand and the best interests of the City and community, long term. Finally, to communicate with the community throughout the process so that everyone feels engaged and part of the decision-making process.**

Educational background: **Ashland High School Southern Oregon University – Political Science and Policy**

Related Experience: **I have experience working on various committees at SOU, including the Student Fee Committee and SOU's Retrenchment committee. I have served as a Director of Government Affairs in student government and engaged in lobbying on behalf of SOU and its Students. I have served in various leadership and organizational roles in Athletics, Business, and Politics. I think more importantly, I have the experience of some of our more underserved members of our community. I understand what it is like to, at times, be housing and food insecure. I understand the feeling that living in a certain part of town means that my voice isn't heard as often as another. I don't believe that any person can confidently say that they have all of the knowledge needed to be a great public servant. I would always welcome opportunities to learn more.**

Interests: **As I said above, my interest for applying is the same as my first two answers. I believe we are at an inflection point in deciding what our City will look like in the near future. Our greatest challenges are Housing and Economic Development. These are two issues that I am deeply concerned and interested in tackling.**

Availability: **I work from home and at my own schedule. I am available for all meetings. Day or night, I am committed to be present. I can also commit to serving out the remainder of the term for any position I might be chosen for.**

Additional Information: **I moved to Ashland in 2005 with my grandmother when I was 14 years old. We moved here from a town called Norco in California. Like Ashland, Norco was a small town and a similar population size with strong community engagement. It was in these early years of life that I became completely embedded in local government and local service clubs. Facing the encroachment of new housing developments and urban sprawl, I sprang into action. I volunteered on City Council campaigns and elections against measures that would have changed the identity of the town I had known my whole life. At 11 years old I was elected President of the Jr version of the biggest service club in town; the Norco Horsemen Association. The purpose of this group was to advocate for the preservation of our local trails and wildlands. To secure them from the kind of mass development that was happening pre-housing collapse. I attended all four years at Ashland High School, I participated in Video Production, Football, and Rugby. I developed a complete bond with Ashland and our school system. One that was so incredibly supportive of a young person trying to find themselves and their passion. As High School wound down and I was trying to decide what "I wanted to be when I grow up", it became clear that I wanted to return to the service focused values I was raised on. Not wanting to leave Ashland, I enrolled in SOU to major in Political Science. It was at SOU that issues of policy were where the rubber meets the road of advocacy. I became convinced that as much as I love to advocate and campaign for ideas, being in the room and passing policy to affect**

people's lives in a direct way, was what I really wanted to do. I have worked in town since I was 15 years old. I have been a dishwasher, a server, worked on the line, I have worked on Mt. Ashland as a snowboard instructor, I've managed our local Auto Parts Store, and more recently I managed the local go-kart track. My wife and I are working class, we live paycheck to paycheck and live in a small apartment in town. I understand more than so many in our local government how it feels right now to be working poor in Ashland. I understand what it is like having a young child during the pandemic and not sure what the future might hold. I understand and live every day wondering what I need to do next to stay in Ashland; something my wife and I will never compromise on. We face challenging times ahead. Economically the situation in the country is on shaky ground. Some of our most important institutions, SOU and OSF, are on financially shaky ground. This obviously affects our city and our budget. I am confident that I have the skills and already the institutional knowledge to be an active contributor in collaboratively solving any issue that might arise for the City and Community at large. I am a team player who believes that through collaboration, nothing is impossible. I think importantly too, I would be the first of my generation to serve on the Ashland City Council, bringing a unique perspective to the challenges ahead and the conversation of what our future as a city looks like. I hear too often from peers how they feel government at all levels is out of touch with the lived realities of young working poor families. I don't believe that to be the case with you, but maybe in some way I can bridge this perceived divide and bring a new energy to city government.

Signature: **Dylan M Bloom**

Name: **Lauren Michiko Lewis**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **I have lived in Ashland for 8 years and I love our town, like you, for a myriad of reasons, the natural beauty, the arts, and the sense of community to name a few. However, I am not unaware of the setbacks and struggles facing us. Ashland has become inhospitable for the working family and is losing this crucial element of our local well-being. I have seen schools closing, soaring commercial/residential rents, and roadblocks in permits aided by nepotism and poor lending practices. All these factors have contributed to this diminishing demographic. Some general ideas I have to improve this situation are to get the re/zoning and incentivisation corrected for small businesses and middle housing. Support for multi-story spaces and pedestrian oriented areas. I love the new OSF apartments on Lithia Way and that the large first floor was reserved for local business. Why has it sat vacant for 3 years?? How can we help fill that space and in-turn help OSF make a profit on that space. We can remedy this quickly and feel the benefits by providing resources, programs, or even sponsorships, helping NEW business owners through the process of finding suitable spaces to lease. Yes, I mean new and not extensions of already existing businesses. Let's bring back real business diversity! In conclusion, I can understand that there is no "right" answer and that this issue is nuanced, but through**

prioritization and small, meaningful, changes in policy we can adjust the trajectory enough to rebuild Ashland's working families.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Ultimately, to help Ashland do better by its residents and breathe life back into our community. I think I have a unique insight to offer as a 30-something entrepreneur and, perhaps, it's arrogant of me to think that my passion, critical thinking skills, and creative solutions could make a difference but I have ZERO chance of making a difference from the sideline. I want to see Ashland thriving again and I know it's possible.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I enjoy taking classes at the YMCA and attending Rotary hosted events, such as the German Beer Garden or the Ice Rink. I actively support small local businesses and enjoy exploring the pop up markets. I plan to attend the kite festival at Lake of the Woods this weekend and enjoyed the Dirtwire show at LATA a couple weeks ago and attend plays put on by OSF or SOU multiple times a year. Currently, I'm interning under the wonderful winemakers at Irvine & Roberts and am a Staging Stylist with Meadowlark Interiors that works closely with local realtors. I'd love the opportunity to be a part of the creation of more city and community events that build closeness and meaningful connections with our neighbors.**

Role of City Councilor: **To represent the community, first and foremost, through determination of objectives, ordinances, resolutions, and contracts, budget votes, etc..**

Educational background: **High School Diploma, 1 year at University of Alaska Southeast, Early Childhood Education My traditional education may seem lacking but I consider myself a forever student and am always learning new things and expanding on my opinions and ways of thinking.**

Related Experience: **Financial Fitness, 6 week class I worked the 2020 Census as an Enumerator, collecting private data, and volunteered to work nights at targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations to ensure every person was counted. Also, in 2020 I worked with a Eugene based toxicology lab to provide Ashland with access to free Covid testing.**

Interests: **An avid outdoors person that enjoys all of the local recreation opportunities. Indoor and outdoor climbing, mountaineering, winter sports, rafting/kayaking rivers. More generally, learning new skills and eating good food!**

Availability: **I have built a fairly flexible life and can be available to attend meetings, both special and regularly scheduled, with preference to evening meetings.**

Additional Information: **A Jill of all trades, here. I've previously spent time as an independent researcher doing deep dives into Public Records, was an authorized caregiver for a teen through the Office of Children's Services, and have partnered in multiple start-ups. Most interestingly, Leidos managed a \$2 billion contract where I worked as a program participant. There I witnessed the atrocities of big budget contracts. The wasteful you-**

don't-use-it-you-loose-it spending philosophy, the expendable nature of employees, change orders, and costly bureaucratic delays. Here, I developed an ability to identify the misappropriation of funds and the greater impact of a dollar well spent. In addition, I own my home in Ashland as of 2020 and am currently the Project Manager for a detached ADU to be used as a long term rental.

Signature: **Lauren Michiko Lewis**

Name: **Jeffrey R Dahle**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Morale and a unified vision of hope for the future. We are and have always been extremely fortunate to boast an exceptionally talented, active, diverse, passionate, and engaged citizenry. Many of today's social and economic challenges currently facing municipalities as well as individual households are not unique to Ashland, but rather due in large part to decades of legislative decisions at the federal and state level. Unfortunately, adverse outcomes from these policies continue to be manifested and magnified locally. As residents of a small, tight-knit city, we spend most of our time living, working, participating, and volunteering within our community. Local public officials and staff are tasked with deliberating and ultimately executing on very difficult and complex policy decisions, balancing seemingly infinite needs with limited resources while attempting to maintain the level of essential services that Ashlanders expect from their government and tax dollars. The city will not have all of the immediate answers to every issue. However, I am certain that through collaborative discussion and exploring new, innovative ideas and technologies, our city will make substantial progress by engaging in transparent, non-ideological, cooperative approaches to solving novel problems.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Ashland is my home. It is family, friends, and a community like no other. I have no special agenda other than my desire to contribute to a truly unique and exceptional place. I intend to invest my time and energy into providing new ideas and tools in a positive, collaborative, and transparent manner. I believe in humble leadership by example through thoughtful collaboration. I believe in aligning multiple visions of the city's future through transparency and partnership. I believe in observation while simultaneously reserving judgment. I will make every effort to meet the challenge of maintaining that which has historically made Ashland so desirable to both residents and visitors alike while considering updated ideas tailored to a new decade and beyond a future committed to promoting unmatched quality of life and culture, economic policies that encourage entrepreneurial dynamism by giving our local businesses the tools and support need to thrive, and thoughtful, responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Local small-business owner Ashland Airport Commission (2020–2023, Chair 2022–) Ashland Citizen's Budget Committee (2023, appointed two-year term)**

Role of City Councilor: On the surface, a Councilor's role is enacting intelligent and effective strategies through thoughtful deliberation, creating policies that are socially equitable, financially sustainable, respectful of our environment, and which are consistent with the desires of the community as defined in the City's Master Plan. I envision the role as much more than policymaking; I believe the entire Council should act as unifying leaders and role models. Councilors represent so much more than the votes for or against policies for which they cast. Rather, they represent optimism as well as the means for which Ashland's collective vision, strategy, and hopes are carried out. Finally, I firmly believe that a Councilor should be accessible by way of engaging in regular, in-person dialogue to better understand the collective needs of the constituency.

Educational background: **Univ of Oregon 1992–1994. Univ of Phoenix (2003–2005), Bachelor of Science, Information Technology. Southern Oregon University (2019)**

Related Experience: **Over two decades of experience as a director and leader in a corporate environment, responsible for managing multi-million dollar budgets, complex staffing levels and large-scale strategy execution while simultaneously owning and operating multiple small businesses. As a lifelong learner and a perpetual "student" of life, I am always open to any further training.**

Interests: **If you would have asked me fifteen years ago to gauge my knowledge of public service and administration, I would have struggled to explain anything other than a basic understanding of municipal government. However, as an engineer by trade, I possess an insatiable curiosity as to how systems function and a penchant to improve upon them. This curiosity, coupled with a desire to understand how individuals, families, businesses and organizations live, interrelate and prosper within a community has led me to a desire to serve and contribute. I am by no means an expert in every field, however I bring a wide range of creative and actionable ideas as well as ingrained flexibility, and a desire to always seek out and respect alternative viewpoints.**

Availability: **I am available to attend all meetings. As to day/evening, my preference would be predicated on which time(s) encourage the most participation by the public rather than what works best for me.**

Additional Information: **I was born in Ashland in 1975, attending Ashland elementary, middle, and high schools, moving out of state in 1995 to pursue professional opportunities, though my immediate family continued to live in Ashland until 2000. I returned to the Rogue valley in 2010, splitting time between two residences for family and professional reasons. My wife, Carrie, also born in Ashland and a third generation Ashlander and I**

purchased our current Ashland residence in 2016. Three of our four grown children also call Ashland their home, one of which graduated Ashland High School, the fourth proudly serves in the United State Navy.

Signature: **Jeffrey Robert Dahle**

Name: **Lyle Scheer**

Position to be considered for: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **- balancing the budget - keeping the city functioning well with that balanced budget - understanding external trends and planning for the future, including items such as: - climate change, and effects to tourism - equity and inclusion - affordability**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Ashland needs an effective council, I believe I can help make it effective. There are vacancies, and I don't know how big of a pool you will be pulling from. There may be other more qualified applicants, and I would be happy if the city found applicants more qualified than I.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Not so much recently. In the past, I have served as a board member for the private non-profit Redwood Mutual Water Company in Redwood Estates, California, and for a couple of years as President of the board. This company served the community of Redwood Estates and surrounding communities after the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989. At the time I was involved in helping manage the rebuilding of the community center, the operations of the Montevina Pipeline, a multi-million dollar project built after the earthquake to bring water to multiple communities in the Santa Cruz mountains formerly supported by wells destroyed in the earthquake, and establishing for the first time in that communities history a reserve fund to help plan for much needed road improvements. Much of the work for the community center and the pipeline was funded by grants from FEMA in the wake of the Loma Prieta earthquake. In Ashland, I was a founding member of Ashland Cohousing community, and helped create the community have it built. This was a consensus driven process to build 15 townhouses with a community center and community garden and included two low income units. In the past 10 years or so, I have focused on my family and raising my children.**

Role of City Councilor: **I imagine the councilors to be much like the board members of the private non-profit that was the core of the Redwood Estates community. There is a whole city organization of full time employees who manage the work of the city, and it is the role of the councilors and mayor to guide and direct that activity to the benefit of the city. This includes creating resolutions, forming committees to come up with proposals, approving budgets, dealing with legal issues, creating a space for public input to the process of**

governing the city. Be the interface between the residents of the city and the employees who do the work of maintaining the city. Be the interface between the city and the state and other governmental agencies. In the land of analogies, they're in a way the glue that holds it all together plus the oil that makes them all work smoothly, and sometimes it's really hard to be both glue and oil at the same time.

Educational background: **1991 Bachelor of Science from the California Institute of Technology**

Related Experience: **I mentioned both RMWC and ACC up above in your recent activity question. Had a number of legal issues dealt with at RMWC (lawsuits brought against RMWC, lawsuits brought by RMWC), and even some legal issues during my time with ACC. I would imagine for the City of Ashland having more experience or training in working cross-functionally with other government agencies will be critical for planning for the future of the city. This would involve not only legal issues, but learning about dealing with other governmental agencies (grants, partnerships, etc), from the county to the state to the federal government.**

Interests: **I like to help, and have not done so in a while. I don't imagine that I know fully what I'm getting into by applying for this position, but I have some idea. I do not know the depth or breadth of experience in the pool of applicants you will be receiving, so I am tossing my hat into the mix and hoping the pool is not so shallow that I stand out. Honestly I hope the city has many applicants more qualified than I to choose from, as that would benefit both myself and the city. In the case that it does not, I would strive to do my best to serve the city in a way that helps the city prosper, and my hope/goal would be to both see the city flourish, but also learn and grow personally from the experience.**

Availability: **I work from home as a manufacturing test engineer. My job is flexible, but is primary. I support factories both in the united states and in europe, so I tend to do a little time zone jumping, but this allows me to be more flexible in my schedule. Evening meetings are preferred, but there is room for some daytime meetings.**

Additional Information: **Moved to Ashland in 2002. Dad Divorcee Avid mountain biker, skier, juggler.**

Signature: **Lyle Nathan Scheer**

Name: **Jon Merripen**

Position Interested in: **Position No. 2**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Fiscal Balance and Livability**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **Bringing a new perspective to the council, to represent a plurality of our electorate that is underserved.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Charitable causes and supporting small business entrepreneurs**

Role of City Councilor: **make responsible and deliberate decisions that are of greatest benefit to the greatest number of constituents**

Educational background: **N/a**

Related Experience: **Senior management at companies from startup to worldwide enterprise**

Interests: **there is a need to have diverse voices in any credible deliberative body**

Availability: **yes, either is fine.**

Additional Information: **7 years**

Signature: **Jonathan Merripen**

Name: **Sidney Brown**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Balancing the city's fiscal responsibilities to its taxpayers against the exploding needs of the unhoused and the environment.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I've run a small company that has been a contractor to a federal agency for 30 years. I am an excellent listener and work well with others in a collaborative and respectful way. This new city government needs to rebuild faith and trust within a very diverse community. It's not going to be easy and requires people who are willing to set aside personal needs for a greater good.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I am a regular user of the city parks; I developed and maintained a mixed use building on A street. I have been an active member of several environmental organizations in southern Oregon.**

Role of City Councilor: **The city councilors represent the residents of their districts and provide counsel to the mayor and city manager on a variety of topics.**

Educational background: **BA in Anthropology from Stanford University 1984; coursework at SOU for a masters in management.**

Related Experience: **I specialize in managing the obsessive compulsive personality; I know when to lean in and push and when to bide my time. I know how to get things done. I value the process and enjoy breaking each task into its individual parts in order to solve each one while keeping the whole moving forward. I think these could be skills that would help the council be more effective in its work.**

Interests: **I am curious to know more about the issues facing Ashland, to help develop a vision for the future and to learn about city governance. I want to help.**

Availability: **Yes; I work full time but am available after 2 pm during the week and can be available with prior notice for special meetings.**

Additional Information: **My husband and I moved to Ashland in 2004; both our sons attended Ashland public schools.**

Signature: **Sidney Thompson Brown**

Name: **Mark Brouillard**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **I feel that the biggest issues facing the city are as follows: 1. Affordable housing 2. Image issue of city government 3. Second income source for our economy 4. Racial and social equity 5. Climate change**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **To be an advocate for those in the community who want to speak up and out, but are afraid of the process. There is a reason I attend many different committee meetings is that I know of residents who want to same something but are afraid to. When I ask why, I get several general comments, with most being in one of the following comments: 1. City doesn't care or already made up their minds so why should I say something 2. I don't want to make a fuss about it 3. I don't want to get involved though it has an outcome that effects me That makes me sad in a way that folks don't feel like speaking up, and they have a voice but choose not to use it. Also, I love data. Most presentations given to Council to review has lots of data to review, and for that I am a good candidate.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I am on the Transportation Advisory Committee (vice-chair). My involvement with the TAC has lead us to having a**

Near Miss program (subcommittee), Traffic Calming program, and something that I am really proud of is the emergency on ramp at North Mountain and I-5 overpass. That was my idea and mapping, however we did it as a commission so I can't take credit for it, but do think it is extremely important to have, especially with climate change. I also actively participate in as many meetings as I can; be it Town Hall, Planning, Historic, Climate, and Council. And not for items that I have a vested interest in, but for the betterment of the community.

Role of City Councilor: To listen without bias to presentations. To make recommendations on the presentations without bias. To make sure the City is going in the correct direction according to our comprehensive plan. To have public debate without casting others in a negative way. To communicate the City's vision and goals. To assume the best in everyone. To help decide policy issues. To act as one and not divided.

**Educational background: Umpqua Community College - 1990 - 1992 - Social Science
Southern Oregon State College/Southern Oregon University - 1993 - 1997 - majored in Archaeology (Paleolithic Indians) and minored in History See related experiences for more.**

Related Experience: As you have read above, I am on the Transportation Advisory Committee. Besides that I have done search and rescue, participated in CERT, have help pick up over a million pounds of garbage from our national forests, and have volunteered plenty of time at public libraries and youth sports at the YMCA. I have also ran multi-million dollar companies (like many others) and currently over see the largest division of the company I work for. In that role, I oversee all pricing negotiations with vendors for our plants in Georgia and California. In just that role alone, I have saved our company millions of dollars. I regularly attend summits/symposiums/conferences in the coatings industry. This has lead me to be considered an industry expert, and regularly get asked my interpretations and/or governmental affairs opinions. I work with trade publications for verification of information, my insights to the industry, and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). At the a conference I attended in December in our nation's capitol, I got to ask uncomfortable questions. It was a sustainability conference, and one particular topic was "decarbonization." So I asked a couple of billion dollar chemical companies how do we get past greenwashed marketing. They seemed a little confused and I then said something to the effect of "how is it that we are at a sustainability conference in Washington D.C. and the water being provided to us is either sparkling from Italy or still from France? And the still water from France has 'carbon neutral' on the label? How is this possible?" You should have seen the laptops open and smart phones come out. The answer was \$\$\$\$; the carbon credits where bought. The follow-up question was "what about socioeconomic impact of companies that can't buy their way out with credits and have to make real change?" Question went unanswered. And yes I do feel that it is advantageous to do further training in city, county and state government. The League of Oregon Cities is an incredible resource, and they offer several benefits to many a group. We can and should always strive to do better and learn from others.

Interests: I love data and our city. Having family in or associated with city, county and state

(and one federal) government, it has taught me a lot over the years and we should all give back to our community. Be it volunteering at the library or picking up rubbish on our lands to helping our underserved communities or being involved on advisory committees, we all need to do it. I am very good at reading and interpreting codes be it OAR, ORS or AMC's, I love to go through them; for me it is fun.

Availability: **I am available to attend special meetings in addition to the regularly scheduled meeting EXCEPT for two week in January where my division has to participate in a trade show. I prefer evening meetings, but I have a flexible work schedule and work from home except for the two weeks in January.**

Additional Information: **I first moved to Ashland in the summer of 1992 to eventually go to SOSC, from Myrtle Creek, Oregon. I left for a year in 2000 to go to Portland moved back in fall of 2001 into the house we live in today. I did get transferred to Seattle and Los Angeles for about 10 years and moved back to Ashland in 2015. SOSC/SOU and the Myrtle Creek connection has taught me a lot. First, one of my classmates was Ty Burrell, and we would discuss how his great-grandmother became the first person of color to own land in Oregon; and in all places Myrtle Creek. One of our current US Senator's, Jeff Merkley, is also from Myrtle Creek, and I have regular contact with him and his team on many issues Oregon related (though no connection through SOSC/SOU). On the Myrtle Creek side, my father was the Mayor for many years along with retiring from the Post Office there as the Postmaster. My mother was a librarian for Douglas County Library system, and when there were budget cuts, she quit her paying job there to volunteer so that others who needed the income could stay employed. And as several of folks have heard, my great-great grandfather was Ashland's first Fire Chief. My parents and I donated the photo that is seen in the station today. Which means my family has been involve in Ashland and Oregon government for a minute or two.**

Signature: **Mark Todd Brouillard**

Name: **Jim Bachman**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **I am presenting the answer to this question as a list of concise statements, in no particular order; I look forward to discussing them at length during the interview process: 1) Getting Information Out to the Public: Ongoing, meaningful communication between the City and its stakeholders to improve decision making, and to reduce the amount of misinformation circulating in the community, must become and remain a high priority. 2) Fiscal Management: The entire budget process---including crucial variance analyses when actual results vary materially from the budget---ought to play a large part in 1) above, and not be viewed simply as a biennial "season" during which the formal balanced budget is presented for approval. When communicating with the public, we must clearly differentiate between our formal biennial budget document (which**

serves as a two-year operating plan) and our necessarily less accurate longer term forecasts. Management of long-term concerns about having sufficient revenue to cover expenses in the out years must not be confused with the balanced biennial budget adopted every two years. 3) The Future of Parks, Recreation and Senior Services: Working out the long-term relationship between the Council and the APRC is long overdue. 4) Building City Resilience: This includes, but is not limited to, improving and protecting Ashland's financial strength and critical City infrastructure---streets, sourcing and treatment of drinking water, wastewater treatment and our electricity distribution system. Also included are building a robust emergency response capability and mitigating our town's wildfire risk. 5) DEI: Our community must be inclusive. That means, in addition to the lens of economic viability, every decision taken by Council should be analysed through other lenses. At a minimum, that means considering support for the most vulnerable people among us, environmental sustainability, and the many dimensions of human diversity. 6) Housing: Government has a huge role to play at the city, state and federal levels. Housing people with limited means is necessarily a social service issue. It's time to find and embrace a new city paradigm where Ashland plays a much larger role in housing its residents. This paradigm will require a regional model with financial support from state and federal sources. The time to start was yesterday.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: Ashland government is working through a turbulent period in its recent history. In 2020, voters approved a major change in Ashland's form of government from Mayor/Administrator to Council/Manager---a difficult adjustment under the best of circumstances. This transition, which included hiring a new City Manager, was complicated by Council's difficulty resolving policy differences. Uncertainty surrounding these events helped create an unusually rapid staff turnover in key positions throughout city government, followed a few weeks ago by the resignation of our mayor and a councilor. It's time to calm the waters. I believe that, if appointed, I have the temperament, judgement and experience to add value to this Council on day-one. We need to bring the Council back to "regular order," where respect for process, council peers, staff and community values leads to productive policy debate, deliberation and sound decision making. What the Council needs most are councilors who value constructive engagement while working toward common goals. I'm ready, able and willing to fill that role in either of the two open positions.

What community and city activities have you been involved: I am currently serving as an APRC commissioner. After my appointment by the Council to vacant Position #3 on the Commission last spring (that term expired 12/31/22), I ran for and was elected to a full four-year term this past November (this term expires 12/31/26). Prior to that, I served on the Citizens' Budget Committee over the last two cycles, 2019-2021 and 2021-2023. During the last cycle I was elected Vice Chair. I resigned last spring when appointed to the APRC. While a member of the CBC, I served on several ad hoc subcommittees, including the Ad Hoc Cost Review Subcommittee chaired by Councilor Slattery following the 2019-2021 budget meetings. I was a member of the Senior Advisory Council for RVCOG for approximately three years. I also served as a volunteer co-manager of the Ashland Creek Park Community Garden for several years before joining the APRC. I resigned from my garden

manager position to avoid any appearance of possible conflict of interest with APRC staff that my APRC system oversight and volunteer garden manager roles might present. I do, however, continue to enjoy working my plot in the community garden.

Role of City Councilor: First, the Role of the City Council as a Whole: Ashland's Council has several important roles: 1) Comprising six elected people, the Council provides a single voice on matters that come before it via the voting process. 2) It is the legislative body for the City, deciding policy issues and enacting municipal code. 3) It serves a "quasi-judicial" role when conducting public hearings such as land use appeals. 4) Its sole administrative role is the oversight of the City Manager. The Role of an Individual Councilor: With the above as context, the individual councilor's role is to: 1) Know and follow the policy making process, including Roberts Rules of Order and Ashland Council Rules. 2) Come to meetings fully prepared to engage with other councilors on agenda items, ask clarifying questions of staff, and be prepared to act on motions before the body. In other words, to do the homework necessary to understand the material in the agenda packet. 3) Be prepared to apply the law to a specific set of facts when hearing appeals. 4) Understand that the City Manager alone hires, directs, evaluates and makes retention decisions concerning city staff, and that councilors must refrain from acting in any way to influence the City Manager's decisions on such matters. 5) To seek common ground, then constructively engage peers with an open mind during deliberations before deciding how to vote. 6) Be willing to accept the will of the majority and "speak with one voice" once a matter is settled by a vote. 7) Work to understand the will of the people on any given issue.

Educational background: UCLA 1976: BA Psychology (Physiological Emphasis (NKA Cognitive Neuroscience) SDSU 1978-1979 School of Business MBA Program (Accounting Emphasis) National University 1994--1995 California Teaching Credential 1999-2001: Association of California School Administrators' courses covering school district Human Resources and Business Management 2019: Oregon Public Meeting Law, Records Retention and Conflict of Interest Training 2019: Oregon Citizens' Budget Committee Training

Related Experience: Related Experience: 1979-1993: Corporate accounting and finance staff and management positions with San Diego Based subsidiaries of International Harvester, Caterpillar Tractor Company and Allied Signal Corporation 1994-2008: Public school teacher (middle school math and science); school site (middle school) and district level administration (school business office and human resources) What I learned that applies to the vacant council positions: Effective group decision making requires engaging constructively with other members of the group within the framework of the group's norms/rules. Constructive engagement means working together toward a shared goal which requires building personal relationships. These relationships can only be fruitful if constructed upon a foundation of mutual respect and trust. Trust means believing the other person is dealing in good faith. I have found this to be universal human behavior in every decision making group I've experienced in both the private and public sectors. It's all about personal relationships. Training Opportunities: I am a committed life long learner. City Council work requires knowledge of a broad array of issues, particularly in Ashland's case because we own our own electric, water treatment, and waste water facilities, as well

as a fiber optic network. I would welcome every opportunity to attend relevant conferences and seminars.

Interests: **I am applying for this position because I care about the Ashland community, I love public service, and my life experience has prepared me for hitting the ground running if I am appointed. As I have written in response to other questions on this application, I think I possess the most important qualities required to work collaboratively with council peers and the Mayor in the best interests of Ashland's stakeholders---residents, visitors, business owners, city staff, people who work in Ashland, partner NPOs, and other government entities.**

Availability: **I am retired and available for special and regularly scheduled meetings. Both afternoon and evening meetings work fine for me.**

Additional Information: **How Long in Ashland: I started my ninth year as an Ashland resident this month, and have enjoyed visiting since moving to Siskiyou County in 1969. I began learning to ski at Mt Ashland that fall. My Yreka high school language arts class attended a modernized production of Antigone in the newly completed Angus Bowmer Theatre in the spring of 1970. My high school friends and I spent countless hours shopping in Ashland and exploring Liithia Park. In other words, Ashland has been in my blood for a long time. When my wife and I retired from our education careers in San Diego, we began talking about moving to Ashland, arriving here in early 2015.**

Signature: **Jim Bachman**

Name: **Russell Phillips**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **I believe budgets, funding, maintenance, services (water, water treatment, sewage treatment, power, roads, etc), affordable housing, sustainable growth, tourism, city government stability and community image are some of the biggest issues facing the city today.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **My primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat is that I would like to use my unique skillset and be in service helping to make healthy decisions for our community. I have lived mostly in Ashland for the past 20 years, am raising children here, and am invested in the future of Ashland.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I am currently serving on The Committee for Ashland Elementary School Rebalancing where we are working with a data analytics company to study population trends and redraw district lines. In terms of other community activities, my children aged 5 and 9 are currently in aerial dance, wrestling through South Medford High School and youth basketball at Ashland's YMCA.**

Role of City Councilor: **The role of the city councilor is to work with the other members to create policy, approve budgets, and as a whole serve as the governing body for Ashland's residents.**

Educational background: **I graduated Mountain View High School in Bend, OR in 1999. I attended Central Oregon Community College 1997–1999 and Southern Oregon University 2000–2002. I do not have any degrees but I studied Chemistry, Physics and Engineering in College. I have graduated SOUs 10-month Small Business Management course offered in the 2020/2021 school year.**

Related Experience: **My most relevant experience for this position is being the owner of the small business, DomeGuys International LLC, for nearly 7 years. DomeGuys is an event based (although we operate in several industries) geodesic dome rental, sales and installation company. DomeGuys has roots in Ashland, OR before expanding to larger spaces in Medford and now Central Point, OR. Since I have owned the company, it has achieved substantial growth and our banner year pre-COVID saw \$2.1M in gross revenue. I have navigated COVID shutdowns and acquired government assistance programs for PPP and EIDL loans. I recently purchased a new building for the business and have been building out an audio, video and projection division to the company for the past 10 months. I have completed projects in most major cities in the United States, Canada, Ireland, Macau, and Abu Dhabi. I have produced projects for Google, Amazon, Nike, Tesla, CocaCola, Netflix, Disney/ESPN, Instagram, and so many others. I know what it takes to succeed. I serve on the Ashland Elementary School Rebalancing Committee. We are using data from an analytics company to project future growth and ensure school attendance goals are being met for class sizes. Community feedback is then used to strike a balance with the school district's needs. I am excited to take on growth and learning opportunities like conferences and seminars.**

Interests: **I am interested in the issues facing the city and nurturing areas the city is already excelling in. I am interested in planting seeds that can grow for future generations. I enjoy problem solving and looking for solutions where all sides benefit, when possible. I am interested in being in service to community. I find intrinsic value in listening to others with openness. There is always something to be learned and perspective gained.**

Availability: **While I have two young children, I have a support network which allows me to make myself available for regularly scheduled and special meetings. Evening meetings would be best for me, but can make myself available as needed.**

Additional Information: **I moved to Ashland in the year 2000. I have lived in Phoenix and Medford for short periods of time, having since spent most of my time in Ashland. My additional qualifications include an undeniable work ethic, consistency, and belief in ongoing learning. I believe I can help make a difference with this opportunity. I am excited about the potential of serving on the Ashland City Council.**

Signature: **Russell Phillips**

Name: **Leslie Gore**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Empty downtown storefronts. Acknowledging there are limitations of authority, I would put efforts into keeping the downtown vibrant. The plaza is the nexus of Ashland, and vacancy for months, even years, is an indicator that the Ashland economy is not healthy. Untended buildings invite unwanted activities and make it additionally difficult for the businesses that remain. I would partner with stakeholders for creative initiatives to attract new ventures and support established ones. Opening the street for dining when COVID first impacted downtown restaurants is an example of an innovative, low-cost action I would support. I would like to investigate the viability of Jill Franko's Vacancy Tax proposal.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I do not have a specific project or agenda that motivates my application for the council seat. The current vacancies and the reporting indicate the council is in crisis and has been for much of the 20 years I have been a resident of Ashland. I would strive to be a positive contributing member of a functional body. I see strength in a first-follower leadership model and see my obligation if appointed, is to listen and learn.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **My primary civil engagement has been in schools. I have been an active parent volunteer throughout my children's school days, including being on the site council at Helman Elementary and being the Booster Club Co-President at Ashland High School. I am most proud of the impact of the first day of school coffees, which I organized to support parents and build a community that still endures many years after my children have graduated. I was a regular overnight volunteer when the floating homeless shelter was hosted at Trinity Episcopal Church. Last year I returned to coaching soccer for Ashland Soccer Club and look forward to the spring season, which will be my 3rd with the team. I have been a finalist for the Becton Dickinson Life Changer Award.**

Role of City Councilor: **A city has many essential duties, but like any successful organization has to have a guiding set of principles. A city councilor's role is to shape these guiding principles. In my view, a councilor is obligated to be informed, engaged, and put personal agenda aside for the greater good. No action will make everyone in the community happy. Still, people should feel the process is fair, the decisions are thoughtful, and the resources are being stewarded as well as possible.**

Educational background: **I have a B.A. in English literature from the University of California**

Santa Barbara. I enjoy learning and have taken opportunities to further my education in various activities I engage in. Examples included: Parenting courses, Neuroethicis, Series 65 Uniform Investment Advisor Law exam, FlowCytometry intensive course at UC Davis, and Soccer C – Coaching license.

Related Experience: **When I first came to Ashland, I intended to relocate the company my Father founded in 1978 to Southern Oregon, but the economy had other designs. I had supervised a crew of 10, ran a manufacturing facility, and delivered projects valued in the millions, yet I had never had a job interview. I had to rebuild my professional career entirely. My path to my current position as Business Operations Manager at Becton Dickinson was circuitous, but each job gave me the experience and perspective I bring to every new challenge in my life. I would be very open to any further training and investigating best practices. However, I would look to local resources first.**

Interests: **I have been in Ashland for 20 years, and I have always felt our secret sauce is: we all give back a little more than we have to to create the community we want to live in. Recently, I felt that sense of community waning. I feel strongly that the first step in changing that trajectory is re-engaging myself. Civic service has always been part of my life. Still, I also understand that it is not an insignificant sacrifice to serve on a city council, maybe especially the Ashland City Council. City government It is not like being a soccer coach with no conflict and daily positive feedback. Still, in so many ways, local government has a weighted impact on day-to-day lives, making this a significant opportunity.**

Availability: **I have a full-time but flexible work schedule. Overall I would prefer evening meetings but could schedule time in the day if requested.**

Additional Information: **I believe I have touched on my qualifications but will add that if appointed, I would serve in my mother's honor, Nancy Gore, who was Mt Diablo School District Board Member for 14 years, and Mayor of Concord, California, in turbulent times. She was a fiscal conservative, and a fierce advocate for inclusion and equity before the terms were coined.**

Signature: **Leslie Gore**

Name: **Kimberly "Kimber" Bishop**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **The short answer is money. The complicated answer is how to balance the all the competing factors around money. ? How to raise enough revenue to provide for the needs of the City's infrastructure and services to our citizens without excessive taxation that is oppressive to those citizens. ? How to enable and support a**

community that is a great place to live for year-round residents and also a draw for tourists. ? How to support long-standing economic assets while projecting a vision of a diversified future that exploits our ability to offer cultural, culinary, enological, educational, and recreational opportunities. ? How to allow development that supports a viable economic future while respecting and protecting nature. ? How to ensure the required support and resources for the most vulnerable in our community and equally ensuring the educational, recreational, and security needs of the most capable and self-sufficient. ? How to address climate change that is impacting our physical safety with drought and fire threats and our economic stability by diminishing tourism, while understanding our limited ability to impact a global challenge. This balancing act forces hard choices and the only sure thing is that someone won't be happy.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **I have committed to living in Ashland for the rest of my life, and therefore have a deeply personal desire to see this community maintain it's unique ambiance and thrive into the future. I believe successful government at any level requires participation, and I find myself at the point where I have the time and resources to participate beyond voting. I believe I have relevant experience working with a diversity of people and addressing complex problems. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Ashland's population is approximately 30% aged 65 and older. As my husband and I are swiftly approaching retirement, I can represent this community.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I moved fulltime to Ashland in July 2020, in the middle of a pandemic that severely limited interaction in community events and activities. However, in my relatively short time here I have had many interactions with the City of Ashland. I registered my business and obtained a home occupation permit, and renewed the same. I began renovating an historic home which led me to numerous interactions with Planning, Building, and Electrical Departments and the Historic and Tree Commissions. I have had several interactions with the Ashland Police, as a victim and a witness. My dog Jax and I frequently visit the dog park. Prior to moving to Ashland, I have been a member of Rotary, active in my faith community, and engaged in volunteer activities predominantly related to health. These activities include serving on a nutrition coalition for children and low income people, running free immunization clinics for three years, and on an international level I traveled to Vladivostok, Russia to support health related efforts and volunteered at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital in Georgetown, Guyana on quality issues. I attempted to volunteer with both the local hospital and Jackson County Health Department when Covid-19 vaccines rolled out, using my experience with immunization clinics, but was told no volunteers were needed. In recent years prior to the pandemic, my career demanded extensive travel which limited volunteerism to serving on my condominium board of directors, including several years as president.**

Role of City Councilor: **To serve the citizens of Ashland by: ? Listening to advocates and individuals to understand the community's vision and wishes. ? Making oneself informed based on fact-based research from experts and peer-reviewed sources. ? Attending and participating in scheduled and ad hoc meetings as needed. ? Using the fact-based**

knowledge and community sentiment to advance policies, including making hard decisions. ? Modeling good citizen’s behavior and having high expectations for City employees and elected officials. ? Being transparent to the press and community about actions and motivations; avoiding conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest. ? Maintaining optimism about Ashland balanced with realism when addressing City issues. ? Celebrating all that is wonderful about this place where we get to live.

Educational background: **I graduated from Holy Names Academy High School in Spokane, Washington and attended Baylor University in Waco, Texas. I do not hold any advanced degrees. Through hard work and self-study I built a career in health care and health insurance, culminating in a consulting business operating since 2008. My consulting company serves health care delivery systems, health-related vendors, and health insurance companies throughout the U.S. with a focus on health care quality and efficiency. While my formal education was short, I have been a lifelong learner and would be open to opportunities to learn more and grow in skills and knowledge related to the role of City Councilor.**

Related Experience: **I know how to work with people, how to listen and how to communicate. In my career I have worked in cross-functional teams with colleagues at all levels in an organization. I have managed teams of two up to hundreds of staff. As a manager I had to balance business needs, federal and state regulations and company policies, and budget constraints. I am a problem solver. As a consultant I help my clients focus on the highest value activities to achieve their business goals. Every client has its own culture, advantages, and challenges which requires me to be flexible and adapt to constantly changing conditions. As a consultant I am often brought in when unexpected circumstances require specialized skills. I have no doubt that as a City Councilor I would face unexpected challenges. As noted above, I am open to opportunities to learn more and grow in skills and knowledge related to the role of City Councilor.**

Interests: **Sustained financial and social stability of the community ? Diversified revenue ? Education and career opportunities ? Public safety**

Availability: **I can make myself available as needed, including day or evening times.**

Additional Information: **My father was in the Air Force, so I spent my childhood in 6 states (Texas, Massachusetts, Mississippi, California, Minnesota, and Washington) and Germany. With no family roots in a specific place, I got to choose my home and I chose Oregon. My husband, son, and one grandchild were born in Oregon. I fell in love with Ashland in my 20’s when I stayed several weeks with a friend who was attending Nursing School at SOU (at that time SOSU). My husband and I met and married in Seattle but vacationed in Ashland annually, except for a few years when career took us to Connecticut. We especially enjoyed the Oregon Shakespeare Festival which I admit put me in good stead with my mother-in-law, an English professor at the University of Oregon specializing in Shakespeare. In 2008 we purchased a condo to facilitate regular travel here, and in 2016 we purchased our intended retirement home on Siskiyou Blvd. We use the condo exclusively**

ourselves and we rented the house to SOU students for several years before embarking on the current renovations. In summary, I fell in love with Ashland 40 years ago and while my husband's career and mine have taken us to other places, I have made incremental steps since then to make it my permanent home. I have a passion and commitment to this place and have literally bet my life on it.

Signature: **Kimberly Bishop**

Name: **Craig Anderson**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **I feel that the issues of affordable housing, staffing, budgeting, and public trust are among the City of Ashland's most pressing concerns. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: The lack of affordable housing in Ashland threatens our local economy by making it difficult to recruit employees in our most critical employment sectors. It threatens Ashland's social fabric by making it nearly impossible for working families to afford to live here. And it is an extremely challenging problem that requires an understanding of complex laws and procedures. STAFFING: The City has several critical positions that remain vacant. Although they may not have direct responsibility for hiring most employees, the Council is the public face of the City and, as such, bears some responsibility in recruiting a talented and dedicated workforce, as well as maintaining employee morale. As someone who has spent over 20 years working in government, I see this as an issue deserving of greater attention. BUDGETING: Particularly in the aftermath of COVID, the City's budgetary priorities remain highly divisive in our community. Navigating solutions to these issues puts tremendous pressure on staff and the Council while requiring civil and respectful engagement and dialog in an atmosphere of openness and transparency. This is an area where improved communications are critical. PUBLIC TRUST: Official actions of the City that are determined to be illegal or improperly justified can only engender distrust. Ashland's highly engaged citizenry will not stand idly by as these infractions of the public trust remain substantially unaddressed. Consequently, the public's need for a responsive and accountable government is of paramount importance.**

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **My primary motivation for seeking a vacant council seat is to assist my community with issues like those identified above. I am also especially encouraged by the current composition of the Council and believe that, although we may not always agree, I can be of assistance on issues of great importance to our community. Lastly, I believe that my extensive background in local government makes me particularly well-suited to serve in this capacity.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **I have been professionally involved in City of Ashland planning and transportation issues through my employment in three separate government agencies between 1999 and 2019. I also served on the City's**

Transportation Commission and the City's Downtown Parking Management and Circulation Ad Hoc Advisory Committee between 2012 and 2014. In the time since leaving government employment, I have been actively involved in a few planning-related actions and have closely followed many of the Council's deliberations on other issues. Finally, my son was born in Ashland in 2003 and attended four different schools within the Ashland School District. Consequently, my community involvement has also extended to activities within Ashland's school system and extra-curricular activities in which he participated.

Role of City Councilor: The primary role of a city councilor is to both guide and act upon staff's recommendations. In this capacity, their job is not to 'micro-manage,' but rather to ensure that tax dollars are spent wisely and in accordance with adopted plans and policies, as well as local, state and federal laws. In addition, a councilor must consider and act upon a wide range of issues in a manner that respects the democratic process while maintaining civility and striving for consensus when possible. Finally, a city councilor should have vision grounded in knowledge and be able to effectively and coherently communicate that vision to the public.

Educational background: California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, B.S. in Natural Resources Management, 1988.

Related Experience: - City of San Luis Obispo, Planning and Public Works Departments, 1991-1993. Management-level contract position responsible for planning and coordinating bicycle transportation projects on a city-wide basis and for staffing the city's Bicycle Committee. These activities resulted in a dramatic (and highly controversial) expansion of San Luis Obispo's bicycle lane network and has contributed to San Luis Obispo's national recognition as a bicycle-friendly town. - Jud Consultants, San Luis Obispo, Transportation Planning Consultant, 1994-1997. Employed by Eugene Jud, FITE, to design and coordinate planning of traffic calming projects in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. - Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Senior Transportation Planner, 1999-2005. Responsible for Regional Transportation System Plan development, regional transportation financial forecasting, regional travel demand model development, air quality conformity analysis, transportation project implementation tracking, staffing MPO Technical Advisory Committee and transportation planning coordination with MPO member jurisdictions. - Rogue Valley Transportation District, Support Services Manager/Senior Planner, 2005-2007. Responsible for managing all transit planning activities, marketing, and bicycle/pedestrian integration programs for RVTD. - Jackson County, Senior Planner, 2007-2019. Responsible as lead comprehensive planner for overseeing quasi-judicial and legislative land use hearings before the Planning Commission and Board of Commissioners including Statewide Planning Goal exception applications, UGB amendments, inter-agency coordination activities, transportation impact analyses, water quality planning, staffing of County's Bicycle Committee, and planning-related GIS projects - Southern Oregon University, Adjunct Lecturer, Environmental Science (ES-439) Land Use Planning, Fall Term 2017. Lecturer for an upper

division class of approximately 20 students. – Curry County, Planning Director, 2021–2022. Responsible for supervising planning staff and for overseeing all planning activities in Curry County during a brief term of employment.

Interests: **As stated above, my interest is in serving my community of over 23 years. More specifically, I believe that Ashland is at a crossroads with respect to planning and development issues. A greater level of professionalism is needed in this time of increased political polarity. As a participant in the approval of hundreds of housing developments and complex land use planning actions, I see the need for a bridge between the technical, political, and aspirational in our community. And I believe that my background and experience – as well as my passion – is uniquely oriented to facilitating this objective. I'm also interested in engaging more of Ashland's youth in the democratic process, particularly around the issues of transportation and land use planning, while encouraging a greater understanding of how these and other issues impact our climate footprint, our finances, our livability, our economy, and our civic coherence. Finally, I want our City Council to demonstrate – particularly to our children – how, despite our differences in opinion, government can be a force for positive change, free from the petty political squabbling that has characterized too much of Ashland's governance of late.**

Availability: **Yes. Evening is preferable as I work during the day.**

Additional Information: **My first wife and I moved to Ashland in 1999 and raised a child here together with the assistance of Ashland's amazing people and institutions. I've lived here since 1999, minus a brief stint in Curry County. My qualifications for serving as a council member are stated above and stem from my 20+ years working in government and serving elected and appointed officials throughout the Rogue Valley on a wide range of transportation and planning-related issues. Thank you for your consideration.**

Signature: **Craig Anderson**

Name: **Shawn W. Saleme**

Position Interested in: **Both**

Biggest issues facing the city: **Ashland is one of the most unique towns in the United States. It has a rich history, and hopefully a bright and thriving future. While I was not here for the duration of the pandemic, I have visited and loved Ashland over the last 20 years and I think that working to ensure Ashland is an economically thriving town, full of spark and opportunities for all is an issue to be cognizant of. Improving the quality of life is the goal. I have seen other parts of Oregon change as they attract those from around the nation as we enter into a "remote based" work environment, and I think as the desire for settling in Ashland continues, the city should keep an amount of affordable housing options available for citizens and not end up turning into an exclusive town. Protecting the elements of**

culture and values that have shaped this town for the last 100 years should be considered and incorporated no matter the economic changes that are bound to occur. As climate change continues, thinking in the long term for protecting and adapting to the changing environment is a key issue to focus on. I also see a generation gap of sorts in Ashland, with what seems like a majority of the population over 50 and a lack of participation from our younger citizens. As someone who is 41 years old, and a young father, I would hope to represent the voices of those who are younger, and encourage their support for this beautiful town so they can carry the values of this town into the continued century.

Primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat: **For most of my life, I have traveled this world and experienced it, and served it via non-profit projects, writing and through the arts. It took me to over 70 countries, 47 states and 4 years living abroad. Now, I am a settled family man, with a young 5 month old son and my partner. We both felt Ashland was the place for us to bring our son into the world, and to contribute to the local town. Our family plans to be here for a long time, and as someone who has always served in some volunteer capacity for the last 20 years, I felt compelled when I moved here to serve this town in some way. I could see there were issues with capacity regarding the utilities, I heard chatter about the city not exactly working up to par and I began looking for places I could serve and help the town with the skills and experience I have. My motivation is to support the City/Town/Village of Ashland, to ensure issues facing the council are addressed and moving forward, and to be a voice for the citizens who may not have the capacity to give 20 hours plus a week to this public service. I also am motivated to represent the voices of those voters who are under 40 and who will ultimately carry the torch of governance moving forward. I would hope if appointed, to inspire others to seek council and public service.**

What community and city activities have you been involved: **Since this my first year fully living in Ashland, living in the Siskiyou-Hargadine district, I have made many walks engaging with business owners. Each walk, I hope to make acquaintance with a business owner or employee and learn about their business, how it has been going, how long it's been around and so forth. In addition to connecting with the current businesses here, my family and I attended public music from the City Band in Lithia Park, the Pride Parade and festivities, the famous Halloween parade, gatherings at the local schools, farmers markets, Schneider museum of art exhibition openings, public art markets facilitated by Golden Grove Collective, the MLK jr day gathering in the square, and First Fridays art walks. My partner has also been volunteering at the Jackson Well Springs and we have become more connected there.**

Role of City Councilor: **The role of the councilor is to be a representative of the citizens of the city, to review and decide upon policy for the city. The primary functions this could involve would be: Reviewing and approving the annual budget, establishing long- and short-term objectives and priorities, oversee performance of the local public employees, overseeing the effectiveness of programs, establishing tax rates, entering into legal contracts, borrowing funds, passing ordinances and resolutions, modifying the city's charter, regulating land use through zoning laws, regulating business activity through licensing**

and regulations, regulating public health and safety, exercising the power of eminent domain, communicating policies and programs to residents, responding to constituent needs and complaints and representing the community to other levels of government.

Educational background: **Bachelors of Arts, Cultural Anthropology : Vanguard University Ecole le Foret, Lausanne, Switzerland: Humanities study abroad program - with program in India for a semester.**

Related Experience: **I felt compelled to represent fellow colleagues since 6th grade when I successfully ran for a representative of my class. In high school, I was the Junior class president, and then the Student Body President. At University, I was a member and leader of the Students for Social Action advocating for causes and issues that needed more attention and action. In my life I have been an advocate and always will be an advocate. In the previous projects I have focused on in the last 10 years, I have advocated for greater understanding amongst the diversity of human beings on this planet. I have done this primarily through working communications and community coordination for international hospitality exchange networks (which are open sourced projects) and also through the Burning Man Global network, which comprises of over 100 events and 50 global communities facilitating arts and social impact. I facilitate global meetings weekly, and there are always a diverse set of participants. As someone who is culturally competent if I may use the term, I have proven to be able to be a calm voice gently identifying the goals and working towards those goals collectively. Previously, I worked in the non-profit sector for 10 years working for some of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world, starting my own educational projects and working as a volunteer or employee in various non profits. I have started a Village myself at the Burning Man gathering, which is a city of 70,000 and also had worked as a full time employee at Burning Man Project, which I identify as very similar to cities in the United States. There are lessons to be gained when facilitating a city of 70,000 to be built and taken down in a short period. I worked as a program coordinator to the social impact arm of Burning Man Project, Burners Without Borders. I am a giver, a community advocate, an active listener, constantly aware of my own bias that can exist, and an anthropology researcher. I can accumulate large sets of data both qualitatively and quantitatively, and make sound decisions based on that data to serve the project at hand. I feel I am fair and would support the best interests of the city. I would constantly interview non-formally every day to better hear what citizens want to see in their beloved city at this time and for the future. I have observed enough city council meetings to know I can successfully flow with the rules of order and move along city business at a good pace.**

Interests: **I want to represent the voices of this city, to carry on the values and culture that have existed for decades such as the commitment to arts, inclusion to all, promotion of peace, and an openness to alternative/many ways of living. I want to connect deeper in this city, to better understand the processes and programs that exist in depth and to be a decision maker in helping Ashland be a thriving city for the next hundred years. My interests revolve around community, inclusion and connection. I want to see not only this city but any city to be able to have opportunities for all the citizens to connect, respect**

each other and learn from one another. Any program that can help promote connection in our city, I would likely be for. I want to see the next generation carry the torch of democracy for this town and learn to care enough to serve in one of the many committees and to also be an active participant in city governance. I am applying because I have the bandwidth, I know it can be a lot of work for little compensation, and I am applying to help represent a demographic of the city that is large, the 18-40 years age range.

Availability: Yes, I can be made available. I don't have a preference to day or night meetings. Sunday mornings are usually full for me as it is the best time for International meetings to happen, with participants across many timezones.

Additional Information: Like I said, I have always appreciated Ashland, have had good friends from the area and always visited. I always thought I would move here one day when I would have a family, and now I do have a family and I (we) love it. We moved here last Summer, and had a homebirth for our son (a primary motivation as well for being here) in September. So, in total 7 months. I find Ashland to be similar to my own town where I grew up, Woodside, California. It was a town of 5,000 close to Palo Alto in the San Francisco Bay Area, and through my fathers involvement with the planning commission and observing the council happenings through the years, I observed how a council can help steer and protect the qualities of the town that were definitely challenged by some of the wealthiest and most powerful people and their legal teams in the world. I want to ensure that Ashland is protected and preserved in a way that keeps what has made Ashland so wonderful all these years. We have seen how cities can be transformed when outside economic interests dominate, and I don't want to see Ashland become a city only available to higher income demographics. I would add as someone who has supported arts, expression, and diversity through my life, this would also be a qualification as Ashland is full of expression, and hopefully as the pandemic comes to an end, that expression can be present more than ever. Thank you Councilors for your consideration, I would hope to only make this service easier to achieve and have some fun while at it. Thank you for your service.

Signature: Shawn William Saleme

#end