



SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Date: 12/21/2022
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Locations: [Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – ID# 859 3797 0299 and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

Consistent with Government Code section 54953(e), and in light of the declared state of emergency, and maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can listen to the meeting and participate using the following methods.

How to participate in the meeting

- Access the live meeting, in-person, at the City Council Chambers
- Submit a written comment online up to 1-hour before the meeting start time:
city.council@menlopark.gov
Please include the agenda item number you are commenting on.
- Access the meeting real-time online at:
[Zoom.us/join](https://zoom.us/join) – Meeting ID 859 3797 0299
- Access the meeting real-time via telephone at:
(669) 900-6833
Meeting ID 859 3797 0299
Press *9 to raise hand to speak
- Watch meeting:
 - Cable television subscriber in Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Atherton, and Palo Alto:
Channel 26
 - City Council Chambers

Note: City Council closed sessions are not broadcast online or on television and public participation is limited to the beginning of closed session.

Subject to Change: Given the current public health emergency and the rapidly evolving federal, state, county and local orders, the format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be canceled. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website menlopark.gov. The instructions for logging on to the webinar and/or the access code is subject to change. If you have difficulty accessing the webinar, please check the latest online edition of the posted agenda for updated information (menlopark.gov/agendas).

According to City Council policy, all meetings of the City Council are to end by midnight unless there is a super majority vote taken by 11:00 p.m. to extend the meeting and identify the items to be considered after 11:00 p.m.

Special Session

A. Call To Order

B. Roll Call

C. Agenda Review

D. Regular Business

- D1. Recognition of outgoing City Councilmember
Not a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) project.
- D2. Consider and interview candidates and adopt a resolution appointing a member to the office of Menlo Park City Council for District 5 for the unexpired term of City Councilmember Mueller ([Staff Report #22-247-CC](#))
Not a CEQA project.
- D3. Swearing in of new City Councilmember
Not a CEQA project.

E. Adjournment

At every regular meeting of the City Council, in addition to the public comment period where the public shall have the right to address the City Council on any matters of public interest not listed on the agenda, members of the public have the right to directly address the Council on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the chair, either before or during the City Council's consideration of the item.

At every special meeting of the City Council, members of the public have the right to directly address the City Council on any item listed on the agenda at a time designated by the chair, either before or during consideration of the item. For appeal hearings, appellant and applicant shall each have 10 minutes for presentations.

If you challenge any of the items listed on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Menlo Park at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Any writing that is distributed to a majority of the City Council by any person in connection with an agenda item is a public record (subject to any exemption under the Public Records Act) and is available by request by emailing the city clerk at jaherren@menlopark.org. Persons with disabilities, who require auxiliary aids or services in attending or participating in City Council meetings, may call the City Clerk's Office at 650-330-6620.

Agendas are posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) or Section 54956. Members of the public can view electronic agendas and staff reports by accessing the City website at menlopark.gov/agendas and can receive email notification of agenda and staff report postings by subscribing to the "Notify Me" service at menlopark.gov/subscribe. Agendas and staff reports may also be obtained by contacting City Clerk at 650-330-6620. (Posted: 12/20/2022)



STAFF REPORT

City Council

Meeting Date:

12/21/2022

Staff Report Number:

22-247-CC

Regular Business:

Consider and interview candidates and adopt a resolution appointing a member to the office of Menlo Park City Council for District 5 for the unexpired term of City Councilmember Mueller

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Council consider and interview candidates and adopt a resolution (Attachment A) appointing a member to the office of Menlo Park City Council for District 5 for the Unexpired Term of City Councilmember Mueller.

Policy Issues

According to Ordinance No. 1092 (Attachment B) and Government Code Section 36512 the City Council can appoint or call a special election to fill a City Council vacancy within 60-days of the creation of a vacancy.

Background

On November 17, 2022 City Councilmember Mueller submitted a notice of resignation to Mayor Nash and the City Council. The notice of resignation specifies that City Councilmember Mueller's resignation shall be effective upon appointment of a successor, but no later than January 1, 2023. Thus, the vacancy would be created when the resignation becomes effective, either upon appointment of a successor or January 1, 2023, if there is no appointment.

The City Council directed staff to begin the recruitment process to fill the District 5 vacancy November 30, 2022. Since the appointment occurs after December 16, the vacancy will occur in the second half of City Councilmember Mueller's term of office and the candidate appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of City Councilmember Mueller (e.g., until December 2024.)

Staff released the received applications to date under the "Current Vacancy" section of the City Council webpage December 18, 2022. Staff continued to update the webpage as applications were submitted and verified up until the recruitment deadline of December 20, 2022 at 5 p.m.

Analysis

Resolution No. 6775 (Attachment C) establishes the appointment process for filling an unexpired City Council vacancy. As such, staff performed the following:

- November 30: Polled the City Council for a special meeting date to conduct interviews and make an appointment to the District 5 vacancy
- December 4, 11 and 18: Published notice of vacancy in The Examiner (English and Spanish)

(Attachment D)

- December 3, 6, 9, 15 and 19: Published notice of vacancy in The Daily Journal (English and Spanish) (Attachment D)
- December 1 – 20: Published vacancy ad on The Almanac online (Attachment E)
- December 2 – 20: Advertised on local and social medias and notified City subscribers
- December 1 – 20 at 5 p.m.: Accepted applications (Attachment F), listed in alphabetical order by last name:
 - Catherine Carlton
 - Sally Cole
 - Maria Doerr
 - Robin Glass
 - Nicole Kemeny
 - Diana No
 - Mark Noble
 - Thom Phan
 - Edward Schor
 - Andrew Slater
 - Paul Studemeister
 - Elizabeth Sullivan
 - Noria Zasslow
 - The city clerk verified with the County Elections Office each applicants District 5 residency and voter registration
- December 20: Published agenda packet including all qualified candidate applications

Process for appointment

- A. Interviews of the qualified candidates shall take place December 21.
1. *Order of interview.* Before the commencement of the interviews, candidates shall be placed in a random drawing to determine the order in which candidates are interviewed.
 2. *Introductions.* Candidates shall each be allotted five minutes to introduce themselves to the City Council. Time limits shall be strictly enforced during this phase of the interview. Candidates may all be present at the same time that another candidate is being interviewed.
 3. *Questions.* To ensure equal opportunity and standardization, each City Councilmember will have an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates from the list of questions in the questionnaire (Attachment H) and follow-up questions to responses that the candidate provided to the questionnaire.
 4. *Public comment.* The City Council shall hear from members of the public after the City Council has asked all questions of the candidates.
 5. *Discussion.* The City Council shall have the opportunity to discuss and deliberate the candidates.
- B. Election by motion. At the conclusion of discussion, the city clerk will ask each City Councilmember for their nominations. The candidate that receives the most nominations will be brought up for a motion and vote on appointment to the vacant office. If no candidate receives more nominations than any other candidate, any City Councilmember may move to appoint one of the candidates to the office. If the motion to appoint fails, the nominations shall continue until a motion is supported by a majority of the City Council. A motion to appoint must be supported by a majority of the City Council in order for an appointment to be made.
- C. Appointment and swearing in. Upon the affirmative vote of the City Council, the selected individual may be sworn in at this meeting or the City Council may direct the swearing in of the candidate to take place

at a future City Council meeting. The newly appointed City Councilmember shall be eligible to take part in City Council meetings after being sworn into office.

Staff has prepared a resolution to document the appointment, should City Council select a candidate.

Should the City Council defer the appointment of a District 5 City Councilmember, by vote of the City Council, shall continue this agenda to a time and date certain. Potential meeting dates are:

- Thursday, December 22 at 6 p.m. (hybrid)
- Friday, December 23 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
- Monday, December 26 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
- Tuesday, December 27 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)

Impact on City Resources

There is no impact on City resources.

Environmental Review

This action is not a project within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §§ 15378 and 15061(b)(3) as it will not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Public Notice

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with the agenda items being listed, at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Attachments

- A. Resolution
- B. Ordinance No. 1092
- C. Resolution No. 6775
- D. Notice of vacancy
- E. Online vacancy ad
- F. Applications
- G. Questionnaire

Report prepared by:

Judi A. Herren, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk

Report reviewed by:

Denise Bazzano, Assistant City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MENLO PARK
APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE OFFICE OF THE MENLO PARK CITY
COUNCIL REPRESENTING DISTRICT 5 FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF
CITY COUNCILMEMBER MUELLER**

WHEREAS, City Councilmember Ray Mueller was elected to the position of City Councilmember for District 5 in November, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the term of office to which City Councilmember Mueller was elected will expire in December 2024; and

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2022, City Councilmember Mueller submitted a notice of resignation to Mayor Nash and the City Council. The notice of resignation specifies that City Councilmember Mueller's resignation shall be effective upon appointment of a successor, but no later than January 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the vacancy would be created when the resignation becomes effective, either upon appointment of a successor or January 1, 2023, if there is no appointment; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 36512 and Menlo Park Municipal Code Section 2.04.190 provides that if a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of the City Council, the City Council may appoint or call a special election in order to fill the City Council vacancy, in conformance with the provisions of Government Code Section 36512, as that section may be amended. If the City Council decides to fill the vacancy by appointment, the appointment shall be made pursuant to an appointment process set forth in a separate resolution of the City Council, which resolution may be amended from time to time; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Government Code Section 36512(b)(2)(B), as City Councilmember Mueller's vacancy occurs in the second half of the term of office, the appointed person would hold office for the remainder of City Councilmember Mueller's term (e.g., December, 2024); and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the City of Menlo Park to fill the vacancy by appointing a successor until certification and presentation of the November, 2024 election results, anticipated to occur in December 2024; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Menlo Park Municipal Code section 2.04.190, the City Council established a process for appointment as set forth in Resolution No. 6775; and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2022, the City Council gave direction to staff to commence the process of seeking candidates to fill the vacancy by appointment; and

WHEREAS, the city clerk and staff performed the following actions in conformance with Resolution No. 6775:

- November 30: Polled the City Council for a special meeting date to conduct interviews and make an appointment to the District 5 vacancy
- December 4, 11 and 18: Published notice of vacancy in The Examiner (English and Spanish)

- December 3, 6, 9, 15 and 19: Published notice of vacancy in The Daily Journal (English and Spanish)
- December 1 – 20: Published vacancy ad on The Almanac online
- December 2 – 20: Advertised on local and social medias and notified City subscribers
- December 1 – 20 at 5 p.m.: Accepted applications
- The City Clerk verified with the County Elections Office each applicants District 5 residency and voter registration
- December 20: Published agenda packet including all qualified candidate applications; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 36512(e)(1) provides that City Councilmember Mueller may participate in the deliberations and may cast a vote on the appointment and his resignation will go into effect upon the appointment of his successor; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed regular meeting held on December 21, 2022, the City Council discussed qualified applicants who submitted applications; and

WHEREAS, the City Council having considered and voted upon the appointment in accordance with the Government Code Section 36512, has reached agreement in the matter.

I, Judi A. Herren, City Clerk of Menlo Park, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing City Council Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted at a meeting by said City Council on the twenty-first day of December, 2022, by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Official Seal of said City on this ___ day of December, 2022.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 1092**ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MENLO PARK
REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 2.04.190, "FILLING OF VACANCIES
ON THE CITY COUNCIL," OF CHAPTER 2.04 WITHIN TITLE 2 OF THE MENLO
PARK MUNICIPAL CODE**

WHEREAS, in 1974, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 559 establishing a process for filling vacancies on the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 559 is codified in Section 2.04.190 of the Menlo Park Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, on August 23, 2022, the City Council discussed the various options available to public agencies to fill vacancies of elected officers; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to repeal Section 2.04.190 and replace the provision with language that conforms to the requirements in Government Code Section 36512, which provides, among other things, that a city may appoint or call a special election within sixty days of a vacancy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MENLO PARK:

SECTION 1. Findings.

The above recitals are hereby declared to be true and correct findings of the City Council of the City of Menlo Park.

SECTION 2. Repeal and Replace. Section 2.04.190 - Filling of vacancies on the City Council of Chapter 2.04 - City Council of Title 2 - Administration and Personnel of the Menlo Park Municipal Code is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced to read as follows:

"Section 2.04.190-Filling of vacancies on the City Council

If a vacancy occurs in the office of a member of the City Council, the City Council may appoint or call a special election in order to fill the City Council vacancy, in conformance with the provisions of Government Code section 36512, as that section may be amended. If the City Council decides to fill the vacancy by appointment, the appointment shall be made pursuant to an appointment process set forth in a separate Resolution of the City Council, which Resolution may be amended from time to time."

SECTION 3. Severability.

If any provision or clause of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held to be unconstitutional or to be otherwise invalid by a final judgment of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or clauses or application, and to this end, the provisions and clauses of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. California Environmental Quality Act.

This Ordinance is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15000 et. seq.), including without limitation, Public Resources Code Section

Ordinance No. 1092
Page 2 of 2

21065 and California Code of Regulations 15378 as this is not a “project” that may cause a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment and if a “project,” is exempt under the “common sense” exception (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3)) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment.

SECTION 5. Publication; Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall be published once, in full or in summary form, after its final passage, in a newspaper of general circulation, published, and circulated in the City of Menlo Park, and shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after its final passage. If published in summary form, the summary shall also be published within fifteen (15) days after the adoption, together with the names of those City Councilmembers voting for or against same, in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Menlo Park, County of San Mateo, State of California.

INTRODUCED on the thirteenth day of September, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED as an ordinance of the City of Menlo Park at a regular meeting of said City Council on the twentieth day of September, 2022, by the following votes:

AYES: Combs, Mueller, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:
Betsy Nash
415F4B216DBF480...
Betsy Nash, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Judi A. Herren
39280A20D0BE491...
Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 6775**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF MENLO PARK ESTABLISHING A
PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES TO CITY COUNCIL SEATS
IN ORDER TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE CITY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, on the twentieth day of September, 2022 the City Council of the City of Menlo Park adopted Ordinance No. 1092, amending Menlo Park Municipal Code Section 2.04.190 pertaining to the filling of City Council vacancies to conform to the process identified in Government Code Section 36512; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish via Resolution a process that shall be utilized in the event of a vacancy on the City Council and the City Council decides to appoint someone to a City Council seat in accordance with Section 2.04.190 and Government Code Section 36512.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MENLO PARK DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The City Council hereby finds that the foregoing recitals are a true and accurate and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Determination. This action is exempt from environmental review as the adoption of this resolution does not qualify as a “project” pursuant to Public Resource Code Section 21065 and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15320, 15378 and 15061(b)(3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that adoption of this Resolution would cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment.

Section 3. Process for Appointment.

- A. Upon determination that the City Council desires to appoint someone to a vacant City Council seat, the City Clerk shall publish a notice of the vacancy in a newspaper of general circulation, advertise in local online media and social media, and post on the City’s website at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which the City Council will consider candidates to fill a vacated position. The City Clerk may also develop an application to be submitted by the candidates.
- B. The notice shall provide:
 1. The District in which the City Council vacancy has occurred;
 2. The date, time, and place of the meeting where the City Council will conduct interviews and appoint a candidate to fill the vacancy;
 3. The deadline for submitting an interested person’s name and other identified information or application prepared by the City Clerk; and
 4. Information about the Questionnaire identified in Section C below and where a copy of the Questionnaire may be obtained.
- C. An individual who is interested in filling the vacancy shall be requested to provide written answers to questions, which are attached hereto as Exhibit A (“Questionnaire”) on the date specified by the City Clerk so that the Questionnaire can be included in the agenda package and made public for the meeting at which the City Council conducts interviews of City Council candidates. If the Questionnaire is not provided on or before the date specified by the City Clerk, the candidate shall not be interviewed by the City Council and shall not be eligible for appointment to the City Council.

- D. Qualified Candidates. The City Clerk shall review the submittals from the candidates to ensure that each candidate resides in the District where the vacancy has occurred and has submitted all required documents to confirm that the candidate is a qualified candidate (“Qualified Candidates”).
- E. Interviews of Qualified Candidates shall take place during a regular or special City Council meeting, as determined appropriate by the Mayor and the City Manager. The following procedures shall govern the interview process:
 - 1. Order of Interview. Prior to commencement of the interviews, candidates shall be placed in a random drawing to determine the order in which candidates are interviewed.
 - 2. Introductions. Candidates shall each be allotted five minutes to introduce themselves to the City Council. Time limits shall be strictly enforced during this phase of the interview. Candidates may all be present at the same time that another candidate is being interviewed.
 - 3. Questions. To ensure equal opportunity and standardization, each City Councilmember will have an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates from the list of questions in the Questionnaire and follow-up questions to responses that the candidate provided to the Questionnaire.
 - 4. Public Comment. The City Council shall hear from members of the public after the City Council has asked all questions of the candidates.
 - 5. Discussion. The City Council shall have the opportunity to discuss and deliberate the candidates.
- F. Election by Motion. At the conclusion of discussion, the city clerk will ask each City Councilmember for their nominations. The candidate that receives the most nominations will be brought up for a motion and vote on appointment to the vacant office. If no candidate receives more nominations than any other candidate, any City Councilmember may move to appoint one of the candidates to the vacant office. If the motion to appoint fails, the nominations shall continue until a motion is supported by a majority of the City Council. A motion to appoint must be supported by a majority of the City Council in order for an appointment to be made.
- G. Appointment and Swearing In. Upon the affirmative vote of the City Council, the selected individual may be sworn in during that meeting or the City Council may direct the swearing in of the candidate to take place at a future City Council meeting. The newly appointed City Councilmember shall be eligible to take part in City Council meetings after being sworn into office.

Section 4. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Section 5. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining portions of this Resolution shall nonetheless remain in full force and effect. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Resolution, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions of this Resolution be declared invalid or unenforceable.

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Resolution No. 6775
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I, Judi A. Herren, City Clerk of Menlo Park, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing City Council Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted at a meeting by said City Council on the twentieth day of September, 2022, by the following votes:

AYES: Combs, Mueller, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Official Seal of said City on this twenty-first day of September, 2022.

DocuSigned by:



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Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

Exhibits:

A. Questionnaire

QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following questions.

1. Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.
2. Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Councilmember.
3. Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.
4. What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Councilmember and are you prepared to serve without reservation?
5. Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Councilmember?
6. Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.
7. Please describe the top three long-term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.
8. What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?
9. Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?
10. Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?



CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Have you ever considered running for City Council? If so, now is the time! We encourage you to apply for the City Council vacancy in District 5. Look up your district at menlopark.gov/districts

INTERVIEW PROCESS

The City Council will interview applicants and make an appointment at a special meeting scheduled for Dec. 21, 2022, at 6 p.m. via zoom and at the City Council Chambers, 751 Laurel St.

Developing **leaders**
within the community

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Apply by 5 p.m., Dec. 20, 2022
- A registered voter and live in District 5
- Over 18 years of age
- Committed to attending scheduled meetings

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Visit menlopark.gov/citycouncil
- Email jaherren@menlopark.org
- Call 650-330-6620



VACANTE EN EL AYUNTAMIENTO

¿Ha pensado alguna vez en presentarse como candidato al Ayuntamiento? Si es así, ¡ahora es el momento! Le animamos a que se presente a la vacante del Ayuntamiento del Distrito 5. Busque en qué distrito se encuentra usted menlopark.gov/districts

PROCESO DE ENTREVISTA

El Ayuntamiento entrevistará a los solicitantes y hará un nombramiento en una reunión especial prevista en diciembre de 2022, a 6 p.m. por zoom y a la City Council Chambers, 751 Laurel St.

Developing **leaders**
within the community

REQUISITOS DE ELEGIBILIDAD

- Aplicar antes de las 5 p.m. del 20 de diciembre de 2022
- Estar registrado como votante y vivir en el Distrito 5
- Ser mayor de 18 años
- Estar comprometido a asistir a las reuniones programadas

PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN

- Visite menlopark.gov/citycouncil
- Escriba a jaherren@menlopark.org
- Llame al 650.630.6620

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CITY COUNCIL VACANCY - DISTRICT 5

Have you ever considered running for City Council?
Apply by Dec. 20, 2022: menlopark.gov/citycouncil

[LEARN MORE](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 20 December 2022, 4:30PM
Receipt number: 16
Related form versions: 3

Applicant's full name (first and last) Catherine Carlton

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.

- **Menlo Park City Council – 2012-2020**
- **Vice Mayor of Menlo Park - 2013-2014**
- **Mayor of Menlo Park - 2014-2015**
- **California Department of Consumer Affairs: State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind, Board Member, appointed twice by Gov. Brown - 2012-2018**
- **Menlo Park Parks & Recreation Commission: Commissioner - 2009-2012**
- **City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG): Legislative Committee Member - 2014-2020**
- **Emergency Services Council (San Mateo County JPA): Board Member - 2014-2015, 2016-2017**
- **Menlo Park Emergency Operations: Committee Chair - 2014-2016**
- **Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce: Council Liaison – 2015**
- **San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority: Board Member - 2012-2016**
- **South Bayside Waste Management Authority Joint Powers Authority: Board Member - 2014-2020**
- **CERT Advisory Board: City Council Liaison - 2014-2015**
- **Community Grant Funding Committee: Member - 2013-2019**
- **Menlo Park Fire District: City Council Liaison - 2014-2018**
- **Menlo Park School Districts: City Council Liaison - 2016-2020**
- **National Conference of Mayors, Airport Committee: Board Member - 2014-2015**
- **League of California Cities Peninsula Division: Board Alternate - 2012-2020**
- **League of California Cities Public Safety Committee: Board Member - 2014-2020**
- **League of California Cities Environmental Committee: Board Member, Vice President - 2012-2020**
- **League of California Cities Annual Conference: City Representative, Alternate - 2014-2018**
- **San Mateo County Domestic Violence Council: Board Member – 2014-2020**
- **Council of Cities, San Mateo County City Selection Committee: Committee Member, Alternate - 2014, 2015, 2019**
- **Menlo Park Rail Sub-committee: Committee Member - 2012-2013**
- **San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District: Board Member - 2020 -**
- **Menlo Park Sister City Committee: Board Member, Chair - 2018-2020**
- **Peninsula Clean Energy: Founding Board Member - 2015-2020**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

I have an MBA and extensive business experience. I currently run an impact hub and advise entrepreneurs at the USC's Marshall Innovation Incubator, and the University of Oxford's Oxford Entrepreneurs. Thus, I understand the financial aspects of the City, the business environment, and various smart city technologies and opportunities that we may leverage. My business experience, for example, helped when we were working to create and build Peninsula Clean Energy. Having also lived and worked in Europe, Asia and South America, I appreciate the diversity of the many international cultures and languages that make up our population.

During my time on City Council, I served on various county, state and federal committees, which gave me a better understanding of the systems that impact our community on both a micro and macro scale. I also think that raising two children in Menlo Park, who are teens now, gives me a deeper understanding of the youth and family aspects of our City and its services.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

- Las Lomas Education Foundation: President, 2015-2016
- Las Lomas School's 2014 Grandparent's Day: Chair, 2014-2015
- Junior League of Palo Alto*Mid-Peninsula: Various roles, 2004 – 2016
- San Mateo Master Composter: Representative at events and taught composting, 2009-2012
- HIP Housing: Mentor, 2005-2006
- Boys & Girls Club: After school tutor, 2006-2007
- Girl Scouts, Treasurer and parent leader: 2011-2013
- Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired: Board Member and various other roles, 2006-
- Sharon Heights Owners Association: Neighborhood Representative and various event roles, 2005-

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

The time commitment for City Council is much greater than most people realize, both in the time that it takes to prepare for each meeting and the time needed for other related meetings and research. Yes, I am prepared to serve without reservation.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

No, I do not.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Housing Element

Traffic – including improvements for street safety

Electrification/ Climate – including green infrastructure and equitable healthy environments across Menlo Park

It is important to note that these three big issues are interconnected and part of a bigger system, both within our city and across the Bay Area.

Thus, they need to be addressed by our City Council, but also through Council members serving on county committees and JPAs (e.g., C/CAG), state groups (e.g., Ca. League of Cities), and through working with our state and federal legislators.

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Housing – inspiring people to build the housing that we need, including ADUs
Traffic – including long-term infrastructure, and smart city technologies
2030 Climate Action Plan – ensure that we meet and even exceed our goals (and then set new goals for 2040)

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

We can further improve Menlo Park's services, infrastructure and environmental policies to meet the needs of our community, and enhance the livability of our wonderful town. We should seek to make Menlo Park a haven not only for our residents and visitors, but also for our small businesses. We can have thriving, vibrant and connected communities not only in downtown, but across Menlo Park- from Sharon Heights to Belle Haven.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I was honored to be elected to City Council twice by the people of Menlo Park, and served as Mayor Pro Tem, Mayor and City Council Member. This makes me uniquely more qualified than any of the other candidates; the people of Menlo Park have elected me to represent them twice. It isn't a case of Council choosing who to represent the people, as the people have already expressed their desire to have me represent them.

I also bring a deep historical knowledge of the City and its programs. I was delighted to work with my Council colleagues over eight years to successfully complete projects that improved the city, while balancing the City budget. Further, my work on county, state and federal JPAs and boards provides me with a deep understanding of the systems that impact our city. Having represented the whole of Menlo Park, I have knocked on doors and personally connected with the members of our community from across all neighborhoods in the city, giving me an understanding of Menlo Park as a whole, rather than just my district. My experience will also allow me to begin serving without a long ramp-up period.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

When serving on City Council previously, I deeply appreciated the congeniality, respect and the passion that we shared for helping Menlo Park become the best that it can be. I would be genuinely honored to represent the people in my district again, and contribute to an even more vibrant and livable Menlo Park.

Contact and residency information

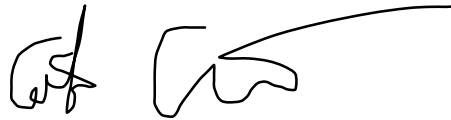
Email	[REDACTED]
Cell phone	[REDACTED]
Home phone	
Business phone	
Address 1	[REDACTED]
Address 2	
City	Menlo Park

State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	19 years
Current City Council district	District 5
If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):	Cellphone: Yes Business phone: No Home phone: No Email: No

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. **I agree**

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 19 December 2022, 10:37PM

Receipt number: 15

Related form versions: 3

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Sally Cole

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.

Yes, I have held appointed public offices, recently and earlier in my career, at the city, state and federal level.

- Vice Chair, Heritage Tree Task Force, City of Menlo Park. 2018-2019. Duties: Working with City staff and other Task Force members to revise the Heritage Tree Ordinance to make the application process more clear, efficient, and consistent and improve enforcement.

- Vice Chair and Chair, Complete Streets Commission, City of Menlo Park. 2021-present. Duties: Working with Commissioners and City Staff to review matters concerning the safety, accessibility and use of city streets and make recommendations to the City Council. Chair the Commission's monthly public meetings where we solicit public comment that we incorporate into our recommendations to Council.

- Chief Operating Officer, President's Council on Sustainable Development. Washington, DC. 1994. Duties: Set up operations and secured ongoing funding for this Council created by President Clinton to bring together business CEOs, Cabinet members and NGO leaders to produce a national strategy on sustainable development.

- Deputy Chief of Staff to EPA Administrator William K. Reilly, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 1991-1993. Duties: Served as advisor to the Administrator, specializing in international environmental policy. Partnered closely with senior government personnel in the US and abroad. Was responsible for EPA's weekly policy briefings to the White House. Served as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. delegation to the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio.

In addition to these appointed offices, I have worked in government in the following positions:

- Special Assistant to the Chief Financial Officer of New York State's Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA). 1986-1987. Duties: Ran the Agency's \$200 million Safe Harbor Lease program. Prepared financial and policy analysis of the operation and management of New York City's bus, train and subway system.

- Legal Analyst, Boston Redevelopment Authority. Summer 1988. Duties: Reviewed proposals to revise the city's zoning ordinances in its historic Back Bay district.

- Legislative Aide, U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (D-NY), Washington, D.C. 1983. Duties: Performed research and drafted remarks and correspondence for the Senator, with a focus on issues before the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

Through my recent experience serving on a City Task Force and Commission, I have learned a lot about how Menlo Park's City government works and operates and how to get things done. I think that experience will help me to hit the ground running and do a great job representing the residents of District 5 on the City Council.

However, I also bring a fresh perspective to City government. Over my career, I have worked in the corporate, nonprofit, and public sectors and I think that helps me to see all sides of an issue and find common ground. Most recently, I worked for 16 years at Google and Apple which gave me a lot of experience in working successfully and efficiently on teams, and leading and getting things done in complex environments. Working in tech also boosted my ability to bring creative thinking and approaches to solving problems.

I also think my work in Retail would be useful on the Council as it works to foster a healthy environment for businesses in Menlo Park. I spent nine years at Gap corporate in San Francisco, managing businesses at Old Navy and Gap. This taught me a tremendous amount about what it takes to succeed in retail and in the retail environment generally.

I was the Director of Employee Communications at Google and then Apple. I loved the work of building and maintaining a strong community and culture for employees, as these companies grew by leaps and bounds. I think an enormous part of fostering trust and engagement in a community is through communication and transparency. In representing District 5, I would communicate openly and frequently with my neighbors in the District and welcome their ideas and concerns. There are so many talented people living in Menlo Park and we're all in this together.

In terms of my education, I have a law degree and a MBA from Stanford. I would bring that knowledge and training to navigating and addressing the complex challenges and issues that the City faces.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

Prior to serving on the Heritage Tree Task Force, I actively participated in public comment and recommendations to the EQC on heritage tree removals. I volunteered as a room parent while my son attended Oak Knoll Elementary School. I regularly support local food banks and animal shelters, and every holiday season, my son and I harvest and donate the fruit from our trees to local churches and food banks.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

Serving on the Complete Streets Commission and attending City Council meetings this year has given me a much better appreciation of what is required of our City Councilmembers. The issues and decisions they manage are enormously complex and the time required to master those issues and prepare for meetings is significant. There is also a sizable amount of time devoted to public outreach and listening and responding to the concerns, ideas, and perspectives of Menlo Park residents. The Council doesn't make decisions in a vacuum, and Councilmembers must also work across the City in close coordination with local businesses, community groups, schools, and services like Police and Fire. In addition, I know that public service requires you to be ready to respond to the unexpected need or crisis.

I am prepared to serve without reservation.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

I do not.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

1/Managing growth and development / adding more housing

2023 is a big year for Menlo Park. There are major decisions and developments on the table which will define and shape the City for years to come.

Providing more affordable housing options is a critical priority for Menlo Park that I fully support. In the immediate short term, the Council must submit a revised Housing Element to the State by the end of January. Related to this, the SRI and USGS sites are coming up for redevelopment which presents a huge opportunity to design best-in-class use of these large properties in the heart of Menlo Park.

Serving on the Complete Streets Commission made me see that these growth and development conversations are happening across Menlo Park, every day, on projects big and small. For example, one of the most important questions at the center of the Middle Avenue Complete Streets Improvement project was, how do you equip a neighborhood to handle more activity and traffic from the Stanford development at Middle and El Camino, while retaining its character and improving safety? And how can we establish standard practices for doing this across the city?

The City Council has an incredibly important leadership role to play this year in planning and managing the city's growth with great thought and care. It's also an opportunity to reaffirm our values as a community, and to lay the groundwork for supporting the well-being of all residents, and providing services to all residents, equitably, across the City.

2/Revitalizing Downtown and Retail

While it's related to managing growth and development, I want to highlight the immediate priority I would place on improving the environment for businesses in the downtown area, and the retail environment in Menlo Park generally.

In the short term, the Council is facing an immediate February deadline to make a decision about the “parklets” (outdoor seating/dining areas created during COVID) in downtown.

More broadly, there has been ongoing concern about the number of vacancies and the turnover in shops downtown and elsewhere in the City. A robust retail environment is important to the City and to its attractiveness as a place to live and destination. And now that we are coming out of the pandemic (fingers crossed), this seems to be an ideal time to devote more focus and energy to this issue.

3/Keeping our streets safe and accessible to all

Serving on the Complete Streets Commission really brought this issue into focus for me. One of the very basic things that we have to get right is ensuring that people feel safe when they are walking, biking and driving in Menlo Park. It’s fundamental to quality of life.

Increased growth and traffic have put this in jeopardy. Many members of the public tell the Commission that they would welcome more traffic calming and speed control measures on our busiest roadways and routes to school, more dedicated bike lanes and sidewalks where needed, and more enforcement at stop signs and crosswalks.

This is going to require increased commitment, investment, and education by the City, but the benefits to Menlo Park are many, including improving quality of life and well-being, and making a dent in climate change by greatly increasing travel by bike and by foot.

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

1/Cost of Living/Affordability

This issue requires a focused and sustained effort to address it successfully, and should be a long-term priority for the City Council. There are many people who are struggling with the cost of living in Menlo Park, seen and unseen.

Whatever issue or action is before them, Council members should always look at it through the lens of the lived experience of those in our city who are struggling to make ends meet and make sure that they are taking their needs into account with every decision they make. Our community will be stronger and healthier for it.

2/Environmental Sustainability

I spent the early part of my career working on developing policy approaches that were good for both business and the environment. I also was part of the team that launched Earth Force, the first national, environmental action organization for children. Today, I am on the Board of the National Environmental Education Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Local action is key to reversing climate change globally. I understand that transitioning to technologies that are more beneficial to the environment takes time and adjustment, and requires investment and incentives. If appointed to the Council, I will work collaboratively with Menlo Park residents and businesses to make this happen.

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

I think it would be beneficial to take a look at the City's public outreach and communications efforts and assess where they are effective and where they could be improved. During the Middle Avenue Complete Streets project, Commissioners felt like the City Staff and the Commission had made a big effort to inform and engage the public about the proposed plans, but some residents felt that we didn't do enough. We should figure out how to close that gap.

I also think there is an opportunity to build community and identity as residents of the City of Menlo Park, across districts, neighborhoods, and income levels.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I think that my education in business and law, my years of experience of leadership and management in the private and public sector, and my four years of experience serving Menlo Park, provide me with a great background and qualifications to serve on the City Council.

I bring a lot of positive energy to everything I do. I love working with other people to bring about positive change. I am inclusive of others and respect diverse viewpoints, and am good at building consensus. I really enjoy public service and working on behalf of the common good.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

All my life, whatever I've done, I have worked to improve and strengthen the communities that I'm part of.

I love Menlo Park. When I moved to the Bay Area to attend graduate school in 1987, I lived in a group house off Coleman Avenue. After that, I always hoped to move back to the 94025 zip code. My son and I have lived here for 10 years and it's home. It has meant a lot to me to be able to contribute to the betterment of the City through my work over the past four years on the Heritage Tree Task Force and the Complete Streets Commission.

I would be genuinely honored to have the opportunity to contribute more to the City by serving on the City Council. It's a significant decision for the residents of District 5, the Council, and the City, and I appreciate your considering me.

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2

City Menlo Park

State CA

Zip code 94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident 10

Current City Council district District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):
Cellphone: Yes
Business phone: Yes
Home phone: Yes
Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Faly" followed by a stylized flourish and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submitted on date: 19 December 2022, 4:57PM

Receipt number: 14

Related form versions: 3

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Maria Doerr

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. I have not served in elected or appointed public office.

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Councilmember.

My experiences as a strategy and management consultant for nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies can directly apply to the role of City Councilmember. I am used to quickly getting up to speed on new topics, identifying ways to support my teams to meet their respective priorities, and using strategic approaches to create viable long-term solutions. I've built topical expertise in climate resilience, water and energy resources management, education, conservation, utility services, and economic development - all topics relevant to our city. My projects include launching a new climate-giving initiative with a major philanthropy, advancing a small business energy efficiency program with a utility that serves 1M users, and deepening equitable community engagement and communication practices at two federal agencies.

My work has taught me how to navigate bureaucracies and support collaboration with a wide array of stakeholders — from foundation executives to faith leaders, academics and community-based organization leaders to business owners. I speak English and Spanish and have worked in California, Latin America, and India. As City Councilmember, I could jump into dialogue with residents in District 5 and across Menlo Park with tact and cultural sensitivity.

My academic background in urban design and engineering allows me to be a knowledgeable contributor on district- and city-wide initiatives. I studied Civil and Environmental Engineering with a focus on urban environments at Stanford University and graduated in 2017. I bring a technical lens while also being familiar with policy and ordinance mechanisms to enact local change through previous experience with the Strategic Growth Council and the Governor's Office of Planning & Research. I will be able to keep up with the rigorous and fantastic work led by City staff and ensure that city and district decisions are beneficial for our communities.

I have been connected to Menlo Park for nearly five years and am part of a younger generation of residents who are grateful to call this city our home. I am committed to our city and to my District 5 neighbors. During my four years of undergrad between 2013 and 2017, I enjoyed Menlo Park's vibrant downtown and performed at Menlo Park residences as a member and director of Stanford Talisman. I hosted community events on campus attended by Menlo Park residents, including an event I co-organized with Al Gore in 2015. I moved back to the area at the start of this year and many former classmates and mentors of mine from Stanford also now live in Menlo Park. I am still closely connected to Stanford University, Menlo Park's largest institutional neighbor, and would be excited to explore areas of partnership as a City Councilmember.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

I currently volunteer with the MP City Team, where I am presently co-developing a petition to support safe and healthy homes through building electrification. I am an English Language Tutoring with the Rosalie Rendu Center (in East Palo Alto, as a similar opportunity wasn't available in Menlo Park), where I support low-income English language learners who predominantly speak Spanish.

Since moving back to Menlo Park, I have attended City Council Meetings and Environmental Quality Commission Meetings. I attended the San Mateo Climate Summit earlier this fall. In addition, I've been meeting and exploring ways to devote myself to public service with local civic and nonprofit leaders over the last few months.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council Member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

Over the last couple of weeks, I reached out to current Councilmembers to discuss the role and responsibilities that this position requires. Through their insight and my time listening to City Council Meetings, I have a good understanding of the commitment serving requires. I am prepared to serve without reservation.

In addition to the bimonthly City Council Meetings and in-depth preparations required to actively understand the agenda packets shared by Staff before the meetings, develop thoughtful stances on issues, and participate during City Council Meetings —

This position requires being available to constituents. I would plan to organize listening sessions throughout District 5 to meet more neighbors and hear their priorities. I would make myself available to residents and businesses across Menlo Park to meet and discuss issues. I would attend and support community events and be an engaged and active representative for my district and for the City.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council Member?

I do not have any responsibilities that would conflict with serving as a City Councilmember.

I work very flexibly as an independent consultant which allows me to devote all the time necessary to participate fully and actively as a City Councilmember. I can take calls and participate in City activities during the work day and evenings.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Housing - Menlo Park will be resubmitting the Housing Element by the end of January. Through immediate revisions, we can ensure adequate housing provisions that benefit existing and future residents, such as additional housing downtown.

Building electrification - We have immediate opportunities to make Menlo Park healthier and safer today and in the future. The \$4.5M state grant to electrify Menlo Park homes is a great opportunity to reduce indoor air pollution and reduce city emissions. The pilot program with BlocPower can help Menlo Park serve as a model for other cities.

Engaging a new generation in civic engagement - We have an opportunity to help younger residents feel more connected to the happenings in Menlo Park. New energy and perspective from a younger generation during citywide happenings can help us ensure the city is heading in a direction that its future (and present) leaders are excited about.

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Reducing Traffic and Improving Transit Options - Menlo Park can continue to address traffic congestion on key streets throughout the city and the associated air pollution that this creates. Through more bike lanes, tree cover, public transit, and collaboration with businesses with commuting employees, we can reduce traffic and improve city walkability and livability.

Infrastructure and Land Use - Projections show that Menlo Park will experience more hot days, greater fire risk towards the hills, and flooding near the Bay. We need adequate infrastructure to manage these changes and ensure the well-being of all Menlo Park residents. There could be opportunities to support new and improved infrastructure through Inflation Reduction Act funds.

Community Connection - Create space for relationship building, celebration, and learning between city residents. A community is more than the sum of individual residents and households: relationships make a community. From City Council meetings and recent public events I've attended, I get the sense that there is a separation between districts that we can work to bridge. I'd like to help foster connection and a united spirit through public events and activities that connect all Menlo Park residents.

What improvements do you think can be made in the city of Menlo Park?

Menlo Park is a beautiful city that can continue to advance by

- Finding a productive solution to housing that supports and protects existing residents while creating much needed new housing and affordable for new residents**
- Increasing the walkability, bikability, and transit to ensure safe and healthy access to schools, businesses, and shopping**
- Addressing the disparate pollution, flood risk, and tree cover experienced in different districts of Menlo Park so that all residents**

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I bring expertise in community engagement and collaborative design through my work with nonprofits, foundations, and government bodies over the last six years. I feel comfortable working with a wide array of stakeholders, managing conflict, and facilitating dialogues.

Serving Menlo Park effectively requires being able to reach and connect with all residents. My age (27) is an asset that connects me to the younger generation of Menlo Park and allows me to bring a new perspective to the experiences of our city. As a renter, I am also uniquely connected to the experience of other renters in District 5 and in Menlo Park at large. Furthermore, as someone who speaks Spanish, I can further connect with Menlo Park residents who feel more comfortable communicating in Spanish to ensure their perspectives are reflected in Menlo Park decisions.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

Thank you to the City Staff for their dedicated work for our City! I so appreciate their dedicated work to enable this election process and all other meetings I've attended with the City. I am impressed with their thoughtful leadership and their commitment to public engagement. Thanks to all for your consideration.

Contact and residency information

Email	[REDACTED]
Cell phone	[REDACTED]
Home phone	
Business phone	
Address 1	[REDACTED]
Address 2	
City	Menlo Park
State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	1
Current City Council district	District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone:	Yes
Business phone:	No
Home phone:	No
Email:	No

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a horizontal line at the end.

[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: **3 December 2022, 7:24AM**

Receipt number: **3**

Related form versions: **2**

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Robin Glass

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **I have not**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **I graduated from Duke with a bachelor of Public Policy and from Harvard with a joint masters in Public Administration (at the Kennedy School) and business administration. Throughout my career, I have worked in healthcare at the intersection of business and government. I have extensive leadership experience, having served as a senior executive at multiple companies over the past ten years.**

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **I grew up in the area (Palo Alto) and have lived in the Bay Area for much of my adult life. I moved to Menlo Park in 2018. I have three children who go to public schools here and have volunteered in small ways throughout their education. I am also an active volunteer and donor for the Ravenswood Education Fund. I've also coached and helped to coach my kids' teams.**

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **My understanding is there are Tuesday meetings at 6:00pm and I imagine a multitude of other commitments to be knowledgeable and engaged in the pressing issues of the city. I am prepared to take this on without reservation.**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **I do not perceive that I have any duties that present an ethical conflict with the role. I do have time commitments with my job, volunteer work I do, and family commitments. I am prepared to reprioritize that to focus on city council.**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **Affordable housing
Sustainable growth
Environmental impact**

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **I see the long term issues being similar as what I listed above. I do think we are heading into a challenging macroeconomic environment so there may be more budgetary issues on the horizon.**

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park? **Menlo Park is an incredible place to live. We do have opportunities to think about how it can be more accessible and equitable for people from more diverse backgrounds, including socioeconomic.**

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

As an engaged resident of Menlo Park, I anticipate bringing ideas and commitment to weighing the difficult challenges facing municipalities at this time. I also think I excel as a listener and would do a good job of bringing the perspective of my constituents to the council for effective policy making

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

I am honored to have the opportunity to be considered for this role.

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2

City Menlo Park

State CA

Zip code 94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident 4.5

Current City Council district District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: No

Business phone: No

Home phone: No

Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 10 December 2022, 11:33AM

Receipt number: 4

Related form versions: 2

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Nicole Kemeny

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.

I was elected to the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee in 2020 for a 4-year term. As a voting member of the SMCDCC I participate in the endorsement process for local Democratic candidates, and propose and vote on resolutions which express and further the values of the party.

Though not a public office, I was elected in 2016 by the Board of Directors of 350 Silicon Valley, the local grassroots climate organization, to serve as President. I remained in this position for 5 years. In that capacity my duties were varied and comprehensive, including leading the board, strategic planning, personnel management, fundraising, recruiting volunteers, mobilizing citizens to take climate action, and promoting and representing the organization.

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

I have a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan in Political Science, and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from the same institution.

My early career was in the nonprofit sector, as an advocate for anti-redlining legislation, affordable homeownership, and private sector programs to redress racial and income inequities in lending and homeownership. I worked locally, in Chicago, regionally with allied grassroots groups, and also at the federal level. My local work included grassroots organizing, and developing programs with local banks, affordable housing developers, and the secondary mortgage market to promote minority and low- and moderate-income lending and homeownership. My work at the national level included lobbying to preserve anti-redlining laws, writing new legislation to require Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to purchase a certain percentage of mortgages for minority homebuyers and low- and moderate-income homebuyers, working with bank regulators on enforcement of anti-redlining laws, and working with HUD Secretaries to show them the impact of FHA foreclosures in Chicago's minority neighborhoods and advocate for changes to minimize the damage of their policies.

I believe my educational and practical background in American politics, urban and housing policy, redlining, and climate advocacy give me a solid grounding in four of the top issues facing Menlo Park, all of which are inseparable from one-another; equity, housing, transportation, and climate.

As a leader in an all-volunteer organization, and Board member for 9 years, I have extensive experience working as part of a team, and I enjoy it. During my time in Chicago I worked closely with residents of neighborhoods around the midwest which were affected by discriminatory policies and practices, with bank presidents, with Senate Banking Committee staff, and with colleagues from all over Chicago. As a Board Member and President of 350 SV I recruited and collaborated with people in their 20's and in their 70's, from different countries, and different professions. I feel I can have a friendly, productive conversation with anyone.

I would like to share one short document from my time as President of 350 SV which I think will give you a window into how I work with others. It is a set of 10 guidelines I shared and reviewed periodically with the Board and team leaders to help ground our collaborative culture.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1URt-IKMfQhe7h1pexgcJ3Rcl_DGqr0LM/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106463912276230675572&rtpof=true&sd=true

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

As a member of the 350 Silicon Valley Menlo Park Climate Team, and as a long-time leader in local climate advocacy, I have co-hosted and participated in numerous community events and built a formal coalition of local leaders in related fields like transit (Silicon Valley Climate Action Alliance). When my children were younger I was a very active volunteer at Oak Knoll School in their classrooms, the library, and the multi-age Suzuki Violin class. I recently began ESL tutoring as a conversation partner at M-A.

I have also served many times as an EV ambassador through Acterra and other programs, allowing people to drive my car while I rode along and answered their questions. As I recall, only one such event took place in Menlo Park, others were located in nearby communities.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

I am aware of 2 monthly City Council meetings of variable length, as well as other meetings for special project teams, and time spent preparing for those meetings and engaging with constituents. I have given thought to managing the demands of serving on the Menlo Park City Council, and am highly motivated to engage with our local issues, residents, and decision-making. I enjoy meeting with and talking to people, and I think I am a good listener; this seems important to interacting with constituents.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

I do not.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

My answer covers more than 3 issues, I think, but they are all connected to the big themes of growth, housing, and transportation (circulation).

City Council has huge issues on the table right now. The Housing Element embodies all the major issues that will affect our quality of life for many years to come; meeting requirements for the creation of more and affordable housing, reviewing and renewing the plan for our downtown, insuring equity in all aspects of city life, formulating zoning to support those goals, preserving housing for residents who are in danger of losing it, environmental justice, growth in our circulation needs and safety improvements, public support for the growth and changes needed, are all contained in this document. I can't think of weightier set of issues. In addition, this growth will place additional demands on our services and infrastructure, and the increase in the number of citizens will demand a commensurate increase in the availability of services residents will need.

City Council will play a pivotal role in working with the Community Development Department, as well as all of the related city commissions, to try to shape the best development policies for Menlo Park's near and more distant future.

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

1. Growth, Housing, and Transportation

Menlo Park is visibly growing. The gap between the number of jobs in the area and available affordable housing has been a matter of public discussion that has been thoroughly explored, and which Menlo Park is actively wrestling with now. The addition of needed housing will result in growth, but growth is also happening in the number of local jobs, providing additional challenges. This growth affects everyone's quality of life and safety due to increased congestion and travel times (which affects climate), and the mixing of vehicle types. One important example of a safety issue is that of school children being hit by cars while traveling to and from school-- an all-too-frequent and unacceptable occurrence (I personally know several such children). In addition I'd like to mention EV charging; workers I've spoken to downtown wish they could save money and avoid polluting when they drive to our city for work. I would love to help make it easier for everyone to drive electric.

Navigating these issues will be a difficult task, requiring balancing a variety of factors, listening to competing views, studying other cities, and creative thinking. Change and growth are challenging for many people, and will require a lot of community discussion and transparency to gain wide acceptance of decisions that are made.

2. Wise resource use will be a growing topic of concern in every city. In our area water will always be an issue, and as we grow, efficient use of water, reclamation, and perhaps other techniques will increase in importance. But I'm concerned about using resources wisely in other ways, including our budget. I'm sure every member of our council will agree that we should always be trying to insure we get the most "bang for our buck".

3. Speedy, Equitable Transition away from Fossil Fuel in Buildings
Transitioning away from gas-powered appliances in buildings is a matter of urgent concern where local action can make a difference. There are several challenges which may need to be addressed in order to accomplish the transition in a timely manner. These could include working with some public resistance; conducting successful pilots and scaling them up; and removing obstacles to success.

Overarching Issue

I believe almost any issue one could name would need to be viewed through the lens of equity. I could have chosen to list "Equity" as an issue, but as it touches everything else, it needs to be part of the discussion in most or all decision-making.

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

I would like to see the residents of different neighborhoods in Menlo Park interact more and get to know each other (I don't have concrete suggestions at this time for how to achieve that). This is partly a function of what we do in the housing development arena, but goes beyond that.

I would also like to see us continue to build on our progress on the climate issue.

Lastly, I would like to feel that our City Council is pulling together with a common purpose of improving Menlo Park's vibrancy and livability for everyone in our city.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

My commitment to the public good is evidenced by my decision to devote years of intensive work to the climate issue without any remuneration, my working history of fighting redlining, and extensive volunteer activity. In these positions I have worked to accomplish goals which were agreed upon through consensus for the betterment of society. My work has not been motivated by a desire for money, popularity, or power (except for the power to try to accomplish climate progress). I have always been motivated by the desire to improve people's quality of life. This was the root of my climate activism; the desire to prevent human suffering.

I am knowledgeable about urban planning, housing, transit, and climate concepts and terms, all of which I believe to be critical issues facing municipalities in California. This background will help, but I want to acknowledge I will have a lot to learn.

More important than my substantive background, I think, is my history of working harmoniously as part of a team, and managing interpersonal relationships successfully by being straightforward, assuming positive intentions, being willing to change my opinion based on new information, skill in mediating conflict, and generally enjoying working in a group. I enjoy people and have a lifelong passion for public policy.

I am a 13 year resident of Menlo Park with no conflicts of interest, and time to perform the duties of the office. I think these fulfill the most important requirements of the job.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

If given the opportunity to join the council, I look forward to working together in a spirit of collegiality, humility, and transparency to accomplish the best for Menlo Park, present and future.

Contact and residency information

Email

[REDACTED]

Cell phone

[REDACTED]

Home phone

NA

Business phone

NA

Address 1



Address 2

City

Menlo Park

State

CA

Zip code

94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident

13

Current City Council district

District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: **No**

Business phone: **No**

Home phone: **No**

Email: **Yes**

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. **I agree**

Signature

[Uploaded signature image: IMG-0934.jpg](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: **4 December 2022, 12:02PM**

Receipt number: **6**

Related form versions: **2**

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Diana No

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **I have not held an elected or appointment public office position.**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **I am a graduate from Stonybrook University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Radiologic Science. I am currently a medical dosimetrist with Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara. My husband, children, and I work and live in Menlo Park and I hold multiple volunteer organizational and leadership positions within our local community.**

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **I am Directory Chair for the Parent Teacher Association for Las Lomitas Elementary school. I also spend time operating as a room parent for two Las Lomitas classrooms, helping to facilitate events and organize parent-focused communications. I help operate the local Brownies troop in Menlo Park. Additionally, I am a medical dosimetrist who helps treat and care for those with cancer from our communities.**

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **My understanding is that there are 2 meetings held monthly, on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, as well as special meetings that are scheduled as needed. This is not including work performed outside of these scheduled meetings. I am prepared to serve without reservation.**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **No.**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **Community crime prevention
Increasing number of community events
Affordable housing measure**

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **Improvement of the downtown district
Updating park playgrounds
Increased community child care facilities**

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park? **Improved park systems
Increased crime prevention
Increased community child care facilities**

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat? **I am well involved with our local community, particularly as a parent, and can provide strong insights from that perspective.**

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council? **No**

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2

City Menlo Park

State CA

Zip code 94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident

Current City Council district District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):
Cellphone: No
Business phone: No
Home phone: No
Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 19 December 2022, 3:57PM

Receipt number: 13

Related form versions: 3

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Mark Noble

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **If appointed, this would be my first public office.**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **As a long-time resident of Menlo Park (23+ years), I believe the city would benefit from my professional background, communication and interpersonal skills when working with colleagues and clients and leveraging my professional and empathetic views when making decisions. I've worked in Financial Services for my entire career (35+ years), ranging from banking (my current employer is Silicon Valley Bank), to Corporate Treasury functions for large companies on the Peninsula/SF and a start-up in San Mateo.**

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **Up until now (this opportunity), I've had very limited direct interaction with the City other than attending various city-sponsored events over the years (Menlo Park's annual street fair, summer concerts, various Recreational Center events and many of my kid's local school (Las Lomas, LaEntrada, MA High School) events. I've always been impressed with the effort the city makes with its programs and events, and would like to be part of the effort to see more community programs expanded going forward.**

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **I'm aware this position may require a commitment of between 10 - 20 hours/month in addition to the bi-monthly Council meetings. I also assume beyond the normal meetings, Council members will meet with citizens, answer emails from city staff/other council members, and even address the media. I realize duties can also include attending public events and gatherings in an official capacity.**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **I'm a full-time employee of Silicon Valley Bank (SVB), and am required to get SVB's approval before officially accepting this position.**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **My immediate concerns facing the city:**
1) Addressing the elevated crime problem (neighborhoods/local businesses)
2) Creatively/fairly solving the affordable housing issue (focusing on housing for city workers and local teachers)
3) Growing downtown/El Camino traffic

Please describe the top three long-term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

My long-term concerns facing the city:

- 1) Maintaining/enhancing the elevated quality of life Menlo Park has been known for
- 2) Promoting economic development while maintaining financial stability via reasonable growth
- 3) Ensuring ongoing public safety

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

Menlo Park is already an outstanding community, providing a safe/clean/stable environment for its citizens, but improvements should always be top of mind. City's planners should be laser focused on a vision for its future, whether it's managed growth, ensuring fiscal prudence or simply building stronger ties with the general community. Obviously I would be very new to city government, but will be open to any new opportunity that will further improve the long-term quality of Menlo Park.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

Being a long-time Menlo Park resident, I've watched the city grow into the well-established community it is today. My long career in Financial Services has enabled me to not only own a home in Sharon Heights, but has enabled me to raise my family in this safe/well-managed community. At this point in my life, I want to now give back to my community by serving on the City Council, providing an independent POV on vital issues that will have an impact on Menlo Park's future. I feel that my experience with fellow colleagues and clients over the years has given me the ability to work effectively with fellow Council members and the community at large.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

I'm looking forward to wherever this opportunity takes me. At the very least, I'll appreciate the good fortune of meeting/interacting with Menlo Park's current Council Members and the Mayor as the process progresses. Many thanks for considering me for the vacant Council seat.

Contact and residency information

Email	[REDACTED]
Cell phone	[REDACTED]
Home phone	[REDACTED]
Business phone	[REDACTED]
Address 1	[REDACTED]
Address 2	
City	Menlo Park
State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	23+ years (current), 30 years total

Current City Council district

District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: **Yes**

Business phone: **No**

Home phone: **No**

Email: **No**

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I agree

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Noble". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the left of the first letter.

[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 6 December 2022, 2:08PM

Receipt number: 9

Related form versions: 2

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Thom Phan

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **No, I have not held an elected or appointed public office.**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **Although I have not held public office in the past, I have significant relevant experience that would be very helpful the City of Menlo Park and the City Council.**

- Former active duty Air Force officer. Experience in service to the US directly translates to a fundamental understanding of and appreciation for those who serve locally, including first responders, teachers, and local civil servants
- Investment banking experience at Morgan Stanley covering both regulated utilities and renewable energy. Familiarity with the intersection of the utility's P&L, regulatory requirements, and service to the rate payer
- Over 15 years of Silicon Valley experience in corporate finance, corporate development, engineering, and sales. Includes large companies (eg, Google/Waymo, Samsung, Cypress Semiconductor) and multiple startups. Can bring years of experience building budgets, executing projects, and developing frameworks for accountability
- Education: The Wharton School at University of Pennsylvania, MBA and University of Virginia, BS Electrical Engineering
- Immigrant: immigrated to the US in 1975 from Vietnam after the war. US citizenship gained ~1983/1984

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **- Oak Knoll & Silicon Valley International School (Willows Campus, Menlo Park) parent and volunteer. Connected to both the public and private school systems in Menlo Park and can bring first hand perspective representing the student, parent, and school constituencies**
- Alumni admissions interviewer for the University of Pennsylvania. Regularly interviews seniors at Menlo-Atherton High School

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **I am prepared to give as much time as needed to properly execute the duties of this office. I am fortunate enough to have retired from professional life just over two years ago, so this role would not compete with a "day job." That said, I am father of two young girls (ages ~4 and 5.5 years), and my family will always be a top priority, as I am sure it is for many others.**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **See above**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

- **Affordable housing:** finding ways for people who work and serve Menlo Park to also enjoy the benefits of living in Menlo Park
- **Traffic/transportation:** with the opening of significant new office space and apartments on El Camino between Middle and Valparaiso, ensuring that multiple, safe alternatives are available to personal vehicle usage. Moving forward, thoughtful consideration to balance growth with livability
- **Environmental:** specifically, water conservation and renewable electrification. I am naturally very interested in these two issues and would welcome the opportunity to find the right mix of incentives to make Menlo Park a responsible, sustainable city that can be California's gold standard

Please describe the top three long-term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

- **Affordable housing:** As the needs of Menlo Park grow, so will the work force required to support it. Solving this is of critical importance to not only Menlo Park, but also to California and every metropolitan region in the US
- **Environmental:** this is both an immediate and long-term issue. In my opinion, there is no viable short-term solution that does not dovetail into a long-term, sustainable state
- **Balance business and residential growth:** as Menlo Park evolves, a steady and growing tax basis will be important. It will be critical to sustainably balance the first two issues with fiscal realities

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

To be clear, I love living in Menlo Park. But the way Menlo Park continues to lead a desirably place to live and do business is to continually evolve. Clearly, the above thoughts are what I believe are the priorities, both immediate and long-term. Beyond that, I think the city and its leaders could do a better job at being more accessible and visible in the community. A stronger connection with average residents could lead more representative decisions, whether real or perceived. For example, a stronger presence at school events or routine canvassing of businesses could give the average resident more accessibility to the city.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

As I mentioned earlier, while I do not have a history in elected office, I have a strong affinity for service. My military experience instilled in me a strong desire to be a part of something bigger. In the Air Force, we thought of it as "service before self," and I think that motivation is foundational for public office or even to be a civil servant working in the city.

On a more practical level, while many people will likely have equally impressive professional backgrounds, I believe my broad experiences both professionally and personally make me unique. My ability to connect with both tech/investing community and the community responsible for providing the infrastructure that enables the tech community is a differentiator. I would be honored to represent all constituents of District 5 and Menlo Park.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

I am happily retired and spending time with my family. This is one of very few opportunities that have sparked an internal flame for me. And it comes down to the ability to serve the community while leveraging a career's worth of experience and and lifetime of personal experiences.

Contact and residency information

Email	[REDACTED]
Cell phone	[REDACTED]
Home phone	n/a
Business phone	n/a
Address 1	[REDACTED]
Address 2	
City	Menlo Park
State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	n/a
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	7
Current City Council district	District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: **No**
Business phone: **No**
Home phone: **No**
Email: **Yes**

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: **16 December 2022, 11:16AM**

Receipt number: **11**

Related form versions: **3**

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Edward Schor

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **No**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **I am a physician and former academician, state public health official (Iowa), and foundation executive. I have worked on child and family policy for several decades, serving on many state and national advisory committees, and consider myself an advocate for families. My education includes a degree in psychology, a medical degree, and post doctoral work in social and behavioral sciences and school health. I worked extensively with the child welfare system in Baltimore and nationally. My core skill is in system assessment and development.**

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **None**

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **I understand that I would have to attend meetings, regularly scheduled and ad hoc, and be readily available to residents of Menlo Park**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **None**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **Traffic and transportation
Role/influence of large employers on quality of life and government decision-making
Public safety**

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **Balancing residential and commercial development, including open-spaces and environmental issues.
Enhancing diversity of input into public policy discussions and decisions.
Intergovernmental decision-making, i.e., within and across counties and with the state.**

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park? **Increased use and quality of public spaces
Greater visibility of public officials and employees and their work
More preventive law enforcement**

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I am a well-educated, well-informed citizen who approaches issues thoughtfully and with an open-mind but also with a commitment to ensuring that all residents have the opportunity for a reasonable standard of living and good quality of life.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

I have long felt that I should move beyond my role as an advocate and commit to working within government to improve public services.

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2

City Menlo Park

State CA

Zip code 94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident 13

Current City Council district District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: No

Business phone: No

Home phone: No

Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 1 December 2022, 5:36PM

Receipt number: 2

Related form versions: 2

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Andrew Slater

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. I have not

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

I have a range of experiences that give me the qualifications to understand how local government works, the ability to ask questions about proposals and weigh competing options, and the capacity to make decisions where we have to weigh costs and benefits while being true to our inclusive democratic values and serving varied constituents. I have a deep commitment to creating a more just inclusive equitable community that is demonstrated in my career choices. I have been a public school teacher for 10 years, specifically teaching middle and high school history and social studies, and I'm National Board Certified. I have served on School Site Councils. I have taught for the past 5 1/2 years in East San Jose. I also have a master's degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management, with a concentration in Politics and Advocacy. This included classes in budgeting, accounting, and consulting to help government agencies be more effective. I have a history degree from UC-Berkeley. I am a Bay Area Native, and have been a homeowner and taxpayer in Menlo Park for the past 5 years. I am a father of two children, one is at Las Lomas and one will be soon. My wife is a health research and policy professor at Stanford, and my dad is a consultant to local governments on affordable housing, so I've learned a lot about health and housing issues from them. Combined, I think those experiences will allow me to understand a range of perspectives, to listen to the needs of working families in my district, and be able to prioritize making local government work for those working families.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

I volunteered for the No on V campaign. I signed up to join the Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo. I also participate with my daughter's Girl Scout troop; for example this week we are making food for 50 people to bring to a homeless shelter. Other than that, I read a lot about local government, as well as state and national government, and talk to people I know about issues especially related to education, health, and housing access and equity.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

My understanding is I need to attend regular meetings as well as do the required preparation and follow-up from the meetings. And of course to meet with constituents. I am prepared to serve, as long as the meetings are not during the regular work day 8-4 because I am a teacher.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

I don't think so, I assume teachers are the kind of people the City Council would want.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

- 1) Affordable, accessible housing to allow working class families to live in this community**
- 2) Ensuring that our public schools, child care, and other programs for children equitably serve all students, regardless of neighborhood, race, wealth, immigration status, language spoken at home, and parents' education.**
- 3) Ensuring that small businesses, particularly family-run small businesses, can survive and prosper in Menlo Park and aren't driven out by large corporate chain stores that are not based here.**

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

- 1) Building more housing so that all social classes can live here, especially the kind of working and middle class families who don't come from wealth, but make the city work (teachers, firefighters, police officers, government workers, small business owners); and that young families can start out here without it being cost-prohibitive.**
- 2) Ensuring the budget is investing in a sustainable future here in Menlo Park, in terms of the mix of accessible path-to-middle class jobs, affordable housing, public transportation, open space, and schools and child care, so that all types of families of every class and race can thrive here.**
- 3) Coordinating policies with our fellow local governments so that our policies are aligned and not conflicting, and we work together to create a sustainable, affordable, and just Peninsula.**

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

I think the City works very well for people who already have money, a good job, own a house, can afford childcare and have flexible jobs, and have the educational background to navigate the schools and the bureaucracy. I think we could make it more affordable and inclusive to a lot more people, by focusing on the issues I mentioned above. That probably starts with making sure a range of voices are heard, and that constituencies who are not already well-connected are being heard on the City Council.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I think my educational background in Urban Policy Analysis and Management, where I learned from real world examples and did actual consulting with government agencies, gives me an idea of the difference between a "great idea" and effective implementation that is efficient and considers the needs of all constituents. I think my years as an accomplished teacher in primarily low income communities of color give me a sense of where a lot of families are coming from, what they want and need, and also where schools can be effective and need to improve at being inclusive and accessible for all. I think my experience as a parent in the community and the local schools gives me a sense of what works and where the gaps are at making sure every family can access a high quality education. At the same time, I know I would be new and would have a lot to learn. I started out as a teacher not knowing much and I learned a lot from my mentors, the more veteran teachers, and I expect to do the same.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

I am hoping to be seriously considered because I think I bring a different perspective and set of experiences to the City Council, but at the same time I would be excited to listen and learn and would not think I had all the answers. I know from my training and experience that urban policy is complex, you have to listen to different constituencies, consider all the different possible effects, weigh costs and benefits, and it's not as simple as campaign slogans make it sound. So I would have a lot to learn and I'm excited to do that because, as a teacher, I find democracy really interesting! I am happy to answer any follow-up questions.

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2

City Menlo Park

State CA

Zip code 94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident 5

Current City Council district District 5

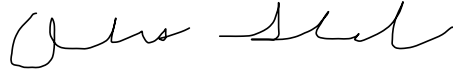
If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: No
Business phone: No
Home phone: No
Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. **I agree**

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Smith", written in a cursive style.

[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: **6 December 2022, 9:41AM**

Receipt number: **8**

Related form versions: **2**

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Paul Studemeister

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties. **No.**

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member. **I have a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley. I have a Ph.D. from the University of Western Ontario. Training certifications include 40-hours of OSHA HazMat. Work Experience in the past 20 plus years: engineering and environmental geologist for engineering and environmental consulting firms and President of a Menlo Park-based Homeowner's Association.**

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated. **My only involvement in the recent past was calling 911 to report on package thieves, mail-stealing thieves and abandoned/stalled vehicles on private property, these calls led to brief interactions with MP Police to address the issues reported.**

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation? **I am currently unemployed so I can commit time at the schedule of your choice.**

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member? **Not that I know of.**

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park. **1. Demand by pedestrians, bicycle riders and now motorized vehicles (power bicycles, mopeds, boards) not currently regulated by the DMV for safe and free access to roadways throughout Menlo Park, and residents and contractors wanting to park their vehicles on public streets essentially blocking bike lanes, making it difficult if not impossible for the municipal garbage/recycleables/compostable waste hauler to service residents.
2. Forestall or mitigate inflation-driven measures that negatively impact City budget and require tax and fee increases.
3. Increased request for police response due to increased criminal activity, increased use of City streets by non-vehicular traffic and conflicts with vehicular traffic, increased calls to 911 for non-criminal activity, and new laws and regulations enacted by county and state that result in increased need for City services.**

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

1. Zero waste - allegedly the county or state aim is for zero waste from each city.
2. Developing inflation-proof and cost savings in the operations of the City.
3. Developing risk-minimization procedures to avoid lawsuits against the City.
4. Reducing government cost measures by such measures as reducing city workforce, transferring city tasks to vendor or contractor (outside entities) who will take-up the workload (relieve the need for City workers) , insurance cost and liability for those specific tasks.
5. Health and safety, and environmental compliance throughout the City by both the City departments and by homeowners, residents and visitors of the City.

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

Assuming there is a budget for all of these:

1. Measures to reduce the cost of government, reduction in taxes across the board.
2. Avoid implementing policies that are poorly thought-out and due to unforesee consequences, end up costing the City big bucks in the long term.
3. Avoid adopting and implementing poorly formulated policies that have consequences not considered by the proponents of such policies, and the impact on City budget and impact on the need to address the unexpected consequences.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

I have advanced degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and University of Western Ontario. As far as I am aware, I do not have a criminal record - clean criminal record scan. For over 20 years, I have worked in engineering and consulting firms in the Bay Area addressing engineering and environmental and health and safety issues with commercial/industrial clients and some residential clients. I have also been president of a Sharon Park-based homeowners association working with a community manager to handle maintenance issues, resident complaints, budget control, environmental mitigation, and project oversight.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

Please confirm my District, the district for Paul Studemeister, 675 Sharon Park Drive. The City needs to operate within the approved yearly budget. At all cost, the City should avoid raising taxes or imposed fees on the residents of Menlo Park.

Contact and residency information

Email [REDACTED]

Cell phone [REDACTED]

Home phone [REDACTED]

Business phone NA

Address 1 [REDACTED]

Address 2 [REDACTED]

City	Menlo Park
State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	None - Unemployed
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	Over 20 years
Current City Council District	District 5
If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):	Cellphone: No Business phone: No Home phone: Yes Email: Yes

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. **I agree**

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 7 December 2022, 1:41PM

Receipt number: 10

Related form versions: 2

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Elizabeth Sullivan

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.

I have not held an elected or appointed public office position.

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

I have worked in the community for the past seven years. I started a pop gallery and major museum-style show in Menlo Park and opened a small art gallery in Palo Alto. I have developed excellent working relationships with the community and brought international artists to the area. I engaged the local community by hosting numerous events and artist lectures at the gallery and participated in panel discussions.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

In February 2015, I led the transformation of the former Tesla dealership in Menlo Park into a 20,000 sq. ft. digital art experience showcasing twenty diverse art installations by the Japanese collective teamLab, generating over \$360,000 in ticket sales in 10 months. I developed a successful public relations team to bring awareness to the community.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

I understand that my commitment would be limitless in serving the community of Menlo Park and I am prepared to do without reservation.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

I have a job that requires me to travel several times a year, but I am here in the area for the most part.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

The three immediate issues I think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park are:

1. Oversee the performance of the local public employees and see where things can get better
2. Bring more arts and cultural events to Menlo Park
3. Expand downtown and hear what the people want.

Please describe the top three long-term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

The three long-term issues that the City Council needs to address are:

1. Review and establish long- and short-term objectives and priorities
2. Review public and local public employees' output and performance
3. Work on responding to constituent needs and complaints

<p>What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?</p>	<p>The improvements I think can be made in the City of Menlo Park are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listening more to the community's needs - hearing what they would like. - Bringing more culture and opportunities to the city. - Working closely with educators and schools. - More fun races to raise awareness and funds.
<p>Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?</p>	<p>With my education and commitment to working with a community, I am a great candidate for the City Council seat.</p>
<p>Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?</p>	<p>I love the City of Menlo Park, and with the City Council being the community's core, I would like to give something back to a place that has given so much to my kids and me.</p>

Contact and residency information

Email	[REDACTED]
Cell phone	[REDACTED]
Home phone	
Business phone	
Address 1	[REDACTED]
Address 2	
City	West Menlo Park
State	CA
Zip code	94025
Business address	[REDACTED]
Number of years as a Menlo Park resident	7
Current City Council district	District 5

<p>If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):</p>	<p>Cellphone: Yes</p> <p>Business phone: No</p> <p>Home phone: No</p> <p>Email: Yes</p>
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Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given here are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature 

[Link to signature](#)

City Council vacancy application



Submission date: 19 December 2022, 10:28AM

Receipt number: 12

Related form versions: 3

Applicant's full name (first and last)

Noria Zasslow

Applicant interest, experience and qualifications

Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.

Appointed on the City of Menlo Park's Parks & Recreation Commission on April 2013. Served her term.

Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Council member.

Has lived in Menlo Park since 1992. She started a career in the US Justice Department, and switched to become a Disability Advocate, after her daughter's diagnosis.

She volunteered with The Autism Society of America Bay Area Chapter; Parents Helping Parents and PARCA; The Wings Learning Center. She helped her local Elementary/Middle/High School, to create inclusive programs for Special Education Students. She was on the City of Menlo Park Parks and Recreation Commission, and advocated to include disabled residents.

She is currently advocating for appropriate support/services in the areas of education; communication; personal care; vocational programs and employment.

She is on the list of the California Office Of Administrative Hearing to provide free support to parents of Special Education Students.

Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.

Served on the City of Menlo Park's Parks & Recreation Commission, supported Activities and recreation opportunities in the community for children, with special needs.

What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Council member and are you prepared to serve without reservation?

The City Council is the city's governing body. Its members are, generally, elected by district to four-year overlapping terms. They must attend meetings, generally held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month and start at 6 p.m. with, sometimes, special meetings scheduled as needed.

Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Council member?

No.

Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Safety.
Zoning.
Traffic.

Please describe the top three long term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.

Finances.
Environment.
Economic development.

What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?

To reopen programs that were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?

Because I've known the City and its residents for 30 years.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

No.

Contact and residency information

Email

[REDACTED]

Cell phone

[REDACTED]

Home phone

Business phone

Address 1

[REDACTED]

Address 2

City

Menlo Park

State

CA

Zip code

94025

Business address

Number of years as a Menlo Park resident

30.

Current City Council district

District 5

If I am appointed, the City is authorized to post the following information on the city website (please select at least one):

Cellphone: No

Business phone: No

Home phone: No

Email: No

Application acknowledgement and submittal

I certify that the answers given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree

Signature



[Link to signature](#)

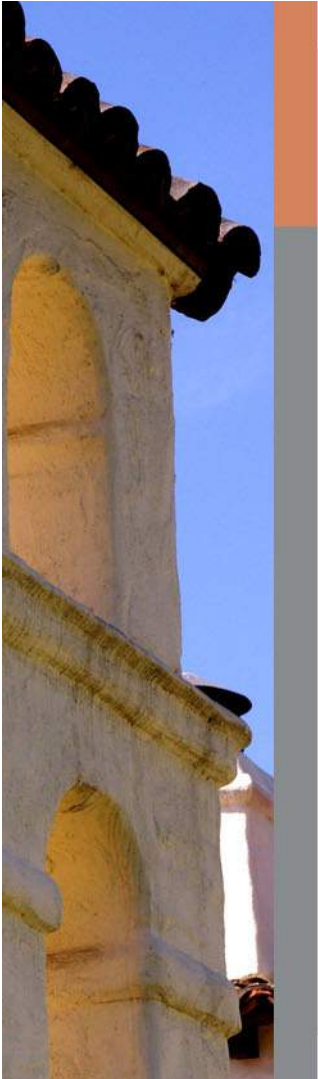
QUESTIONNAIRE

Please answer the following questions.

1. Have you ever held an elected or appointed public office? If yes, name the office title, dates of service and describe the duties.
2. Please describe your qualifications, education and work experience/training that you believe would be relevant in your role as a City Councilmember.
3. Tell us about your previous involvement with the City of Menlo Park? Please include any service organizations or community engagement in which you have participated.
4. What is your understanding of the time commitment and the responsibilities associated with serving as a City Councilmember and are you prepared to serve without reservation?
5. Do you have any duties or responsibilities that would conflict with the duties of a City Councilmember?
6. Please describe the top three immediate issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.
7. Please describe the top three long-term issues that you think the City Council needs to address in Menlo Park.
8. What improvements do you think can be made in the City of Menlo Park?
9. Why do you think you are qualified to be appointed to the vacant City Council seat?
10. Is there anything else you would like to share with the City Council?

A scenic landscape photograph of a river or stream flowing through green hills under a cloudy sky. The image is framed by a blue horizontal band containing text. The text is white and reads: "CONSIDER AND INTERVIEW CANDIDATES AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE OFFICE OF MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT 5 FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF CITY COUNCILMEMBER MUELLER Judi A. Herren, City Clerk".

**CONSIDER AND INTERVIEW CANDIDATES AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION
APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE OFFICE OF MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL FOR
DISTRICT 5 FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF CITY COUNCILMEMBER MUELLER
Judi A. Herren, City Clerk**



STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- The City Council consider and interview candidates
- Adopt a resolution appointing a member to the District 5 term expiring December 2024



BACKGROUND



- November 17, 2022 – Received City Councilmember Mueller notice of resignation
- November 30, 2022 – City Council directed staff to pursue the appointment process
- December 3-20, 2022 – Published and advertised notice of vacancy
- December 1 – 20, 2022 at 5 p.m.: Accepted applications
- December 18, 2022 – Published received applications



INTERVIEW PROCESS



- Established by Resolution No. 6775
- Before beginning the interviews, the city clerk will randomly selected the order of candidates
- Each candidate is allotted up to five minutes to introduce themselves to the City Council
 - Time limits shall be strictly enforced
- Each City Councilmember will have an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates from the list of questions in the questionnaire and follow-up questions to responses that the candidate provided to the questionnaire
- Public comment will be taken after the City Council has asked all questions of all the candidates
- The City Council will discuss and deliberate the candidates.



APPOINTMENT PROCESS

ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION NO. 6775

1. The city clerk provide ballots to each City Councilmember
2. Each City Councilmember will circle one candidate they wish to nominate
3. The candidate with the most nominations will be brought up for a motion

A motion to appoint must be supported by a majority of the City Council in order for an appointment to be made
4. If no candidate receives more nominations than any other candidate, any City Councilmember may move to appoint one of the candidates
5. If that motion to appoint fails, return to Step 1.



OPTION



- Defer the appointment of a District 5 City Councilmember
 - Requires a vote of the City Council, to continue this agenda to a time and date certain.
 - Potential meeting dates are:
 - Thursday, December 22 at 6 p.m. (hybrid)
 - Friday, December 23 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
 - Monday, December 26 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
 - Tuesday, December 27 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)



THANK YOU