

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Sunday, November 26, 2023 8:13:55 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title Ms.

First Name Laura

Last Name Weiss

Today's Date 11/26/2023

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee Forest Resilience Task Force

Forest Resilience Task Force	Community member with expertise in watershed management (including Lake Whatcom) and/or land use planning
2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?	Yes
3. Which Council district do you live in?	District 2
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?	No
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?	No
8. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?	No
You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions	<i>Field not completed.</i>

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

I spent my career working on environmental issues, primarily in the non-profit and government sectors. Prior to running my own mission-driven business in Portland for 8 years, I served as a Program Director for the Oregon Environmental Council, focusing on programs to reduce risks associated with toxic chemicals. Before that I worked as a Regulatory Toxicologist for the Washington State Department of Ecology. In the mid-80's, I worked in Washington, D.C. on environmental policy for several not-for-profit organizations.

I earned my MBA in Sustainable Business from the Bainbridge Graduate Institute. I also hold a Master of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Bachelor of Science from Rutgers University, Cook College.

I am currently retired so I am privileged to be able to spend my time volunteering in the community. I am currently the Chair of the Board of the Community Food Coop, the Whatcom Million Trees Project and an active transportation advocacy non-profit called Walk & Roll.

From 2019 thru 2023, I served on the Lake Whatcom Watershed Advisory Board, and from that experience I gained a strong knowledge of the issues surrounding the Lake Whatcom watershed. I have also applied to serve on the City's newly-formed Water Resources Advisory Board

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

I believe it is critical that we find ways to increase the overall resilience of Whatcom County's forests to climate impacts and to improve the health of the Lake Whatcom watershed -- the source of drinking water for over 100,000 people. From my experience working on other Boards, I have a proven ability to work well in groups to help find common ground and develop a path forward. I feel that I can add value to this Task Force because of my knowledge of and previous work on Lake Whatcom watershed issues.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Kim Lund
Christina McGinnis - 360-961-8147

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Laura Weiss

Place Signed / Submitted



(Section Break)