

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Wednesday, December 27, 2023 7:05:58 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 Mr.

First Name David

Last Name Frankel

Today's Date 12/27/2023

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 Climate Impact Advisory Committee

Climate Impact Advisory Committee Position:	I have previous work or educational experience in renewable energy development.
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 1
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 am a retired (as of 2020) business attorney. During my 38-year legal career, I practiced in a range of business-oriented fields, including admiralty and maritime law, international trade law (which I taught for two years at the University of Puget Sound School of Law), and business and commercial law, with an emphasis on intellectual property licensing (which I taught for 10 years in the LLM program at the University of Washington School of Law). I started my career in legal practice with a large Seattle firm, worked in the legal department at Microsoft for almost 10 years, and had my own solo law office for many years. In my practice, I particularly enjoyed helping clients turn innovative ideas into businesses. I represented a client who developed anaerobic digester projects, and helped him conceptualize and present a proposal to the Port of Seattle to convert cruise ship waste to energy, which unfortunately proved to be infeasible because of siting concerns.

Over the course of my career, I also devoted a considerable amount of time, thought, and effort to volunteer activities. For 5 years in the 1980s and 1990s, I was a board member, program director, and then president of the Seattle World Trade Club, an umbrella organization of businesses and professionals engaged in trade-related activities. I was the founder, in 2008, and president, through 2014, of Washington Lawyers for Sustainability, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization whose mission was to find effective ways to leverage the professional skills and influence of attorneys to move society and economic activity in more sustainable directions, through education of members of the Bar and public, advocacy for changes in laws to promote more sustainable outcomes, and client counseling.

My educational background is broad. Besides my JD from the University of California Berkeley School of Law, I earned a BA from Yale University (where my coursework included a grounding in biology, ecology, marine biology, oceanography, and other sciences), and a multidisciplinary MSc in Sea Use Law, Economics, and Policy from the London School of Economics, focused on marine resources and maritime industries.

Since moving to Bellingham from Seattle in 2017 (to be closer to my wife's family, who are long-time Whatcom residents), I served for 4 years as alternate and then principal representative of Bellingham's South Hill Neighborhood on the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission. This service gave me a valuable overview of and insight into this unique and complex community.

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

Public service and civic engagement have always been important to me. Since boyhood, I have cared deeply about the natural environment and preserving its capacity to support us in every

or commission

way. We are all so fortunate to live in beautiful Whatcom County, with its incredibly diverse natural endowment; resourceful, educated and engaged citizens; and multi-stranded, vibrant economy.

It is clear, though, that the benign climate conditions that have produced this thriving place we care deeply for are changing rapidly, due largely to human activities on both a global and local scale. The potentially harmful impacts of climate change are extremely serious, and are already manifesting here. It is our responsibility as the current stewards of this special place to do sensible things to avert those harmful climate impacts that it is within our power to affect, and to take steps to mitigate and adapt to impacts that are inevitable due to factors beyond the scope of our control.

Mitigating and adapting to climate impacts effectively will require hard, rational analysis of credible data and information, commitment to collaboration across a diversity of often conflicting interest groups, and foresight and creative thinking to achieve economically and environmentally sustainable results. To the greatest extent possible, county policies, actions, and regulations should align with and harness private economic motivations and opportunities. Market-driven solutions are the most likely to be put into practice and have usually proven to be the most efficient and effective approach to achieving desired environmental and climate mitigation outcomes.

I believe that my educational background, professional experience, and analytical and communication skills will enable me to contribute effectively to the important work of the Climate Impact Advisory Committee. While I am not a subject matter specialist, I am capable of working with experts from different fields and of usefully synthesizing complex technical concepts. I am able to listen deeply and respectfully to different points of view, and to work productively with representatives of diverse interest groups to solve problems. I can use my legal training to analyze whether existing Whatcom County regulations have become counterproductive under changing climatic conditions, and to generate proposed revisions that are adaptive and pragmatic and that strive to balance fairly their effects on concerned interest groups within the community.

I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity of making a positive difference, not just locally, in Whatcom County, but far more broadly as what we achieve here in Whatcom may influence climate impact adaptations throughout the region and beyond.

Thank you for considering my application to serve on the Whatcom County Climate Impact Advisory Committee.

References (please
include daytime
telephone number):

Ray Kamada, (360) 547-7347
Stephen Gockley (360) 305-2944
Seth Fleetwood (360) 739-1284

Appointment
Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

David R. Frankel

Place Signed /
Submitted



(Section Break)
