



APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO WHATCOM COUNTY ADVISORY GROUPS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY and COMPLETE ALL ITEMS

Name: Joseph L. Stimp Date: 3-2-26
Residential address: [Redacted]
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Mailing Address (if different from street address): _____
Primary Telephone: [Redacted] Secondary Telephone: N/A
E-mail address: [Redacted]

- 1a. Name of advisory group: **See next page** Planning Commission
- 1b. Which position are you applying for? **Refer to vacancy list** District 1 representative
- 2. Do you meet the requirements of the position for which you're applying?
(If applicable, please refer to vacancy list.) _____ yes () no
- 3. Which Council district do you live in? _____ One () Two () Three () Four () Five () Not Applicable
- 4. Have you ever been a member of this advisory group? _____ () yes no
If yes, dates: _____
- 5. 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? _____ () yes no
If yes, please explain: _____
- 6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.005(8)) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? _____ () yes no

You may attach a résumé or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions.

- 7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education.
Attorney at Law focusing on real estate, business, and land use
Planning Commissioner experience (Carlsbad, CA)
Extensive local government background
- 8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this advisory group:
Interest in contributing to responsible, balanced land use planning in Whatcom County

References (please include daytime telephone number): Roy Meenes [Redacted]
Peter Merz [Redacted]; William Kamenjakin [Redacted]

My signature affirms that the information provided in this application is true and correct. If appointed, I will comply with the [Council & Executive Expectations of Advisory Group Members](#) and complete Open Government Training as required by RCW 42.30.205.

Signature of applicant: [Signature] See next page for additional instructions.

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the above information 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.

JOSEPH L. STINE

SERVICE ON PUBLIC ENTITY & OTHER NON-PROFIT DECISION-MAKING BODIES

City of Carlsbad, CA (mid-sized city governed by 5-member City Council)

Planning Commission, Feb. 2019 – July 2025

Chair, 2022, Vice-Chair, 2021

Duties: Public hearings under California open government laws to make final decisions on a wide variety of land use permit applications

Growth Management Plan Update Citizens Committee

Planning Commission representative, March 2022 – April 2023

Duties: Recommend changes to city's growth control plan

La Costa Valley Master Association (1,000+ resident community, \$1.4 million budget)

Board Member, 2005 – 2008; President 2007 – 2008

San Dieguito Union High School District (11,000+ students; \$85 million budget)

Board Member, 2003 – 2004

San Diego Mediation Center (now Nat'l Conflict Resolution Center) (\$1 million+ budget)

Board Member, 1993 – 1994

LEGAL CAREER

Law Office of Joseph L. Stine, Vista (Aug. 2000 – Feb. 2016) Carlsbad (Mar. 2016 -)

Attorney Services: Represent parties in real property, business, and land use disputes in/outside of litigation; real estate and business transactions; government / administrative proceedings

ADR Services: mediator, arbitrator, discovery referee, hearing officer

San Diego County Superior Court – mediator since 1995 (500+ cases)

C.A.R. Real Estate Mediation Center for Consumers– mediator since 2015

L. A. Co. Employees Retirement Ass'n – hearing officer 2009 – 2022

Orange Co. Employee Retirement System – hearing office 2011 - 2019

City Attorney's Office, City of Oceanside, Aug. 1988 – Aug. 2000

Positions

Assistant City Attorney, Feb. 1998 – Aug. 2000

Acting City Attorney during periodic absences of City Attorney

Senior Deputy City Attorney, Oct. 1991 – Jan. 1998

Deputy City Attorney, Aug. 1988 – Sept. 1991

Duties / Responsibilities

Counsel to city council, city manager, department heads, other city staff

Counsel to city boards and commissions in 1990s

Planning Commission

Cable Television Franchise Committee

Manufactured Homes Fair Practices Commission

Lead city negotiator in land use, construction, real property disputes

Lead litigation counsel in lawsuits challenging land use decisions

Criminal prosecutor; police department legal advisor

Code enforcement counsel – zoning and building codes

Type of Practice: Advisory services, litigation; supervision of outside counsel

Practice Areas: breadth of municipal law with emphasis in land use, contracts, public works, public records, police affairs, Brown Act requirements

Special Honors:

Mayor's Excellence-In-Service Award, 1998

Contributor, Municipal Law Handbook

Speaker, League. of Cal. Cities, Planning Com. Program, 1999

Private Practice in San Diego, Encinitas, and Carlsbad: Mar. 1984 – July 1988

Areas of Practice: Business litigation, real property, criminal law, personal injury

Associate, Houk, Hicks, Spain & Line, Visalia, CA, Feb. 1982 – Feb. 1984

Areas of Practice: Business litigation, administrative law, real property, construction law, criminal law, personal injury

Tulare County Deputy District Attorney, Visalia, CA: Apr. 1981 – Jan. 1982

Area of Practice: Criminal prosecution (felonies & misdemeanors)

Research Attorney, Tulare County Superior Court, Visalia, CA: Sept. 1979 – Apr. 1981

Areas of Practice: Civil, criminal, juvenile, family, appellate

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & ACTIVITIES

San Diego County Superior Court

Temporary Judge –conducted over 500 small claims trials (2005-2017)

Pro Tem Settlement Officer – settled dozens of cases as part of 2-attorney panels

Youth in Court volunteer, 2000 -

Bar Association of Northern San Diego County (900 members), 1985 -

Board Member, 1998 – 2000, 2013 – 2016

President, 2016

Real Property Section Chair, 2009, 2011-2012

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Section

Section Chair, Jan. 1993 – Dec. 1999

North County Chapter, American Inns of Court, 2000 –

Master (highest level of membership)

Member, Executive Committee

EDUCATION

University of San Diego, School of Law: Aug. 1974 – May 1977 (J.D.)

University of California, Santa Barbara: Sept. 1972 – June 1974 (B.A.)

University of California, San Diego: Sept. 1970 – June 1972

Joseph Stine

From: Peter Merz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2026 1:14 PM
To: Joseph Stine
Subject: Endorsement & Recommendation for Joseph L. Stine for Whatcom County Planning Commission

Attn: Whatcom County Council

Joseph Stine and I served together on the Carlsbad, CA Planning Commission for six years. During that time, he also served as Chair of the Planning Commission in 2022.

I give Joe my highest recommendation. He was always well prepared and often invested the extra time to do the necessary research to understand an application before us. As Chair he handled meetings efficiently and with professionalism. His comments and insights helped us fellow commissioners better understand the issues when deciding on an application.

It was a pleasure serving with him as a Planning Commissioner and I am confident he would be a valuable addition to Whatcom County Planning Commission.

Peter Merz
Principal
Lee & Associates | North San Diego County

C 760.685.1813
D 760.448.1362
O 760.929.9700
pmerz@lee-associates.com



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Carlsbad, CA 92008



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**WILLIAM C. KAMENJARIN
MEDIATION & LAW OFFICES**



February 26, 2026

Whatcom County Council Office
311 Grand Ave.
Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225.

Re: Joseph Stine
Letter of Support for appointment to the Whatcom County Planning Commission

I am pleased to write this letter of support for the appointment of Joseph Stine to the Whatcom County Planning Commission. Without any doubt, Mr. Stine is a highly experienced candidate for this position.

I have known Mr. Stine for over thirty years, as a fellow city of Carlsbad, California planning commissioner, mediator, and attorney. As a planning commissioner and as Chair of the Planning Commission, Mr. Stine was always prepared, thorough, and impartial. While he and I may have disagreed and voted differently on certain projects, Mr. Stine was always respectful and open minded.

.Mr. Stine is an exemplary attorney. In over forty years as an attorney, he has been active in this community, the bar association as president, as a visionary in the promotion of mediation to resolve lawsuits, and as a long term Master of the Lopardo chapter of the American Inns of Court.

Mr. Stine has devoted his life to public service, problem solving, open communication and civility.

While he has relocated to your county, the city of Carlsbad's loss is your county's gain.

Feel free to contact me should you desire any more information on this outstanding candidate.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM C. KAMENJARIN

William C. Kamenjarin

Joseph L. Stine

March 2, 2026

Whatcom County Council Office
311 Grand Ave Suite 105
Bellingham, WA 98225

Re: Application for Appointment to the Whatcom County Planning Commission

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am resident of District 1 and would welcome an appointment to the Planning Commission.

Enclosed please find the following:

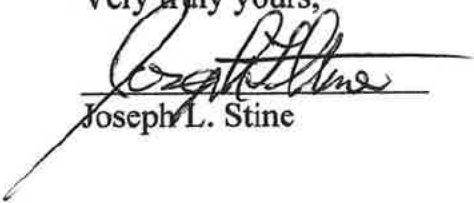
- 1) Executed application form for Commission appointment;
- 2) 2026 resume with most relevant experience highlighted;
- 3) Email of support from Peter Merz; and
- 4) A letter of support from William C. Kamenjarin

In August, I moved from Carlsbad, CA to Whatcom County. Carlsbad is a city of 120,000 residents in northern San Diego County.

I have had a plethora of relevant experience, highlighted by over six years on Planning Commission of the City of Carlsbad, California, prior to moving to Bellingham. The Commission conducts bi-monthly public hearings on a wide variety of land use permit applications, including zoning and general plan amendments. References Roy Meenes, Peter Merz, and William Kamenjarin served with me on that Commission.

Decades of practical experience in land use, local government, and real estate which could be put to good use on the Whatcom County Planning Commission.

Very truly yours,


Joseph L. Stine