



City of Olympia Boards and Commissions Committee Application

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Friday, December 13th at 5:00 PM PST

Advisory committees are a structured way for individual community members to share their opinions and perspectives, study issues, and develop recommendations in a focused small group. Their primary purpose is to provide judicious advice, from a community member's perspective, to the Olympia City Council.

Committee activities may include study of critical issues, hearing public testimony, independent research, and reviewing staff reports and recommendations - all of which is intended so that the committee is prepared to discuss, formulate, and forward well-developed, thoughtful recommendations to the City Council in a timely manner.

The City of Olympia values participation from all perspectives and life experiences and looks for equity and inclusion in advisory board appointments.

To reduce barriers to community member participation, the City offers stipends of \$25 per meeting attended to Advisory Committee members. Those members who certify as low income are eligible to receive stipends of \$50 per meeting attended. Advisory Committee members may waive the stipend upon request.

The Olympia City Council's Community Livability and Public Safety Committee recommends appointments to the full Council. Recommendations are made following review of applications and interviews of qualified candidates.

All of this careful consideration takes time, please be aware that you will not be notified until February of 2025 of any next steps in the process.

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources. Questions? Contact Dawn Carvalho, Executive Services Assistant, 360.753.8065, dcarvalh@ci.olympia.wa.us

If you saved or submitted an application and did not receive a confirmation, please check your spam folder. When filed with the City, your application and attachment documents are public records and may be subject to public release.

Name	Sare Webster
Email	[REDACTED]
Primary Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

Some appointments require that applicants reside within Olympia city limits. Even though your mailing address may be Olympia, you may reside in the County or another jurisdiction. Are you a resident of the City of Olympia?

Yes

Select your residential area (Olympia residency is not required; however, it is a primary consideration.)

Other

If you choose other please write in your area:

Lilly Rd and Martin Way area near St. Peter Hospital

Which Boards and Commissions would you like to apply for?

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

If you applied for Multiple Boards and/or Commissions, please rank them in order of interest below:

1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Interests & Experiences

Please keep answers concise and informative. You are introducing yourself to the Olympia City Council and sharing with them why you are interested in being considered for appointment. You may attach a resume.

Attach a Resume



Resume- S. Webster.pdf

Briefly describe why you wish to serve on this/these Advisory Committee(s).

Recreation and ease of/access to movement are key attributes that make a city 'a nice place to live'. There are many critical needs such as affordable housing, access to services, etc, that make it possible to live in a place, but to love a place people need to be able to interact with their city, enrich themselves in their city, and find community in their city. The Recreation committee and the Bicycle and Pedestrian committee address needs that help people find joy in their home, and I'm interested in helping with that.

Describe your experience, qualifications, and/or skills which would benefit the advisory committee(s) you are applying to.

I have served as a volunteer in Yellowstone National Park, I worked as a lead on an excursion train providing historical information and themed programming, at the Oregon Zoo as admissions and Lorikeet Aviary staff, and worked for six years as a senior library assistant in Beaverton, Oregon. I'm skilled with public engagement, informal education practices, de-escalation, customer service principles, and navigation of rules of public spaces. What all of these roles share in common is deep experience in what enriches a community and how people respond when enrichment is accessible and meaningful to them. My positions in the library and zoo had a deep focus on equity and accessibility and I feel I could bring valuable perspectives and experience with public service to City of Olympia advisory committees. Currently I work as Contracts and Grants Specialist with the Washington State Dept. of Ecology and spend my time carefully adhering to and educating staff and the public on RCW requirements. Both my Beaverton and State of Washington roles have given me ample experience on understanding and communicating city

and state law.

On the administrative side of things, I'm skilled with MS Office applications, Google suite, multiple email platforms and web browsers, formal correspondence, data verification and analysis, and project management.

Share the ways you've been involved or have volunteered in the community.

In summer 2023 I was an Olympia/Lacey Centennial Station volunteer. Aside from that I've given to many food drives, prioritized local businesses in my personal economics, and donated to local non-profits.

List your educational and/or professional background and area of study.

I earned a bachelor's degree in General Studies: Natural Sciences from CWU (interdisciplinary science degree)

I took post-bachelor courses in Earth Science education from Boise State University

I completed the Native Education Certificate Program at the University of Washington Continuum College

I completed the Mt. St. Helens Volcano Naturalist program with the Mt. St. Helens institute.

Professionally, I spent several years working in libraries as access services staff, three years as an administrative professional with Capital Region ESD 113, and currently work as a contracts and grants specialist with the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Appointment to an advisory committee will require your attendance at evening meetings, and undertake other work (reading, meeting preparation etc.). How many hours per month are you willing to commit as a volunteer?

10

Question Applies to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Describe your participation with walking and biking in Olympia.

My preference is to walk whenever I'm in downtown Olympia and will either park on the outskirts of downtown and visit everywhere I plan to on foot, or take the 62A/B downtown and not worry about parking at all. I walk and bike frequently on the Western Chehalis trail (and I am IMMENSELY grateful for the bridges over Martin Way and I-5). I will also bus and then walk to any festival type events, to avoid adding to the problem of parking congestion.

Question Applies to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Do you have a unique perspective on walking and biking? If so, please explain.

Yes. I grew up in Shelton, WA, and spent my adolescence biking everywhere in town. After college I moved around and spent over seven years in Portland, OR, five of which I chose not to own a vehicle and used public transit, walking, and biking as my day-to-day transportation. I have significant experience in navigating crowded streets and unsafe intersections on a bicycle and on foot, how street and transit design can either encourage or discourage accidents, injury, and behavior incidents, and how interacting with a place at bike or walking speed drastically increases my enjoyment of the place.

Question Applies to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Have you done any other volunteer work in the community? If so, please describe it.

Yes, I was an Olympia/Lacey Centennial Train Station volunteer during summer 2023. I would staff the information desk with a partner volunteer and assist travelers with whatever questions they might have, meet every train and monitor the track and plaza while each train was in the station, assist travelers with using the Amtrak ticket machine, monitor the cleanliness of the station and the grounds and report any problems to Intercity Transit, and communicate with Intercity Transit nightly if it looked like any travelers may be stranded (if the last train came in after the last bus).

Question Applies to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee: Describe your interest in and use of parks in Olympia.

I like to spend time in Olympia parks walking, attending community events, and finding quiet places to think. Squaxin Park is my favorite walking trail park, Percival Landing is my favorite place to bring a book on a nice day, and my favorite festival location, and the Heritage Fountain is incredibly appreciated when

it's way too hot during Lake Fair.

I'm interested in parks being places of connection for people of all abilities without the pressure of being a customer, and of parks giving people access to the natural lands and processes of our home. That we can access the water, find trails, natural water, and creatures in so many of our parks is a gift and desperately important for a healthy and connected community.

Question Applies to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee: Please describe your interest in recreation (sports leagues, summer camps, classes or trips) in Olympia.

I think they are critical for our community. My interest runs towards art or language classes, but having all types of city managed recreation is a major benefit in our community. I say city managed in particular, because that means staff are reliably hired and given quality training to provide this recreation and that reliability and quality is critical for residents to want to engage with these services. Sports leagues give kids fun, connection with other children and families, and adult sports give adults joyful movement and people of all ages to connect with. Classes of all types let people explore skills without pressure and meet other people in their community. Summer camps and trips are wonderful tools to keep kids engaged during the long summer break and prevent summer slide.

Question Applies to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee: What particular perspectives or skills would you bring to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee?

My library experience is particularly relevant here, because a large part of being a successful library is finding the balance between remaining true to the library mission, and adapting to the needs and wants of the community it serves. A park can be many things, but understanding the things it is and the things it is not helps deliver a better park to the community. Different parks can have different purposes and identities and they should! The variety is beneficial to any community, but especially one that recognizes and plans for what each space is capable of being in concert with community wishes.

Consistent and responsive outreach is key to this process. Community consensus will often surface with enough outreach and responding to that consensus will result in better engagement with park resources and trust in the parks department. On the same end, sometimes community consensus reveals a need that is better served by another entity or area, and it's crucial to communicate that back to the community so they know they have been heard. Understanding and analyzing outreach data and conducting outreach is a skill I can offer.

I have experience with reviewing and proposing financial reports and strategic plans from my time serving as the Oregon Library Association Support Staff Division Chair, as well as planning conferences and annual retreats, public speaking, and project management.

I have significant administrative skills (MS Office applications, Google Suite, multiple email platforms and web browsers, formal correspondence, data verification and analysis, and project management), and extensive customer service and de-escalation skills that translate well to committee work with active listening and inclusion.

Finally, I am a state employee and work as a contracts and grants specialist with the Dept. of Ecology, and formerly worked with the Region 16 Comprehensive Center grant, and would be able to use my familiarity with grants processes to assist with review of City of Olympia grants.

If you are not appointed to a Board or Commission at this time:

Do you wish to be considered for appointment to another Board or Commission?

Yes

Do you wish to be considered for future appointment to your preferred Board or Commission?

Yes

If you wish to be considered for another Board or Commission, please identify others you would be interested on being considered for in order of interest:

Cultural Access Advisory Board

**Thank you for your interest in serving on a City of Olympia
Advisory Committee!**

**Please hit the "submit" button below when you have completed
your application .**

Sare Webster

PEOPLE FOCUSED AND DATA DRIVEN

All success begins and ends with respectful and cooperative effort. With expert people skills, broad administrative, logistical, and financial experience, and learning forward mindset, I am here to foster success and further the mission

EXPERIENCE

Oct 2023 – Present

Grants and Contracts Specialist, WA Department of Ecology

- Administer grants for the Air Quality program of the Washington Dept. of Ecology
- Serve as financial manager for Air Quality grants and contracts, including evaluations, agreement development, and reimbursement review
- Assist project managers with tracking deliverables and supporting recipients
- Ensure that all applicable RCW is being followed in all procedures

Nov 2020 - Oct 2023

Administrative Professional, Capital Region ESD 113

- Team logistics, administration, and financial/budget support for Capital Region ESD 113 Communications Team, Washington Project Team of Region 16 Comprehensive Center, and Executive Director of the Washington Association of Educational Service Districts

Oct 2014 – Nov 2020

Senior Library Assistant, Beaverton City Library

- Provided library services to the patrons of the Washington County Cooperative Library Services library system.

Sept 2018 – Dec 2020

Executive Board Member, Support Staff Division Chair, OLA Financial Review Task Force member, Oregon Library Association

- Served on the executive board of the Oregon Library Association, providing leadership to the Support Staff Division, serving on executive committees, and leading the planning of the Support Staff Division Annual
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EDUCATION

Sept 2003 – Dec 2007

B.S. General Studies, Natural Sciences
Central Washington University

Sept 2011 – May 2012

Earth Science Education Coursework
Boise State University

Jan 2021 – March 2021

Volcano Naturalist Program
Mt. St. Helens Institute

Aug 2022 – June 2024

Native Education Certificate Program
University of Washington – Continuum College

SKILLS

Leadership
Staff Training
Organization
Logistics
Public Speaking
Event Planning

VOLUNTEERING

May 2023 – Aug 2023

Railroad Station Volunteer
Olympia-Lacey Centennial Station