

Profile

Yen

First Name

D

Middle Initial

Huynh

Last Name

yendhuynh@gmail.com

Email Address

115 1/2 Quince St NE

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Olympia

City

WA

State

98506

Postal Code

Home: (360) 451-9150

Primary Phone

Home:

Alternate Phone

Question applies to multiple boards

Applications are accepted for the calendar year only. The Olympia City Council's General Government Committee recommends appointments to the full Council. Recommendations are made following review of applications and interviews of qualified candidates.

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

Three absences from meetings in a year may result in removal from an advisory board.

Questions? Contact Susan Grisham, Executive Assistant, 360.753.8244, sgrisham@ci.olympia.wa.us

If you saved or submitted an application and did not receive a confirmation, please check your spam folder.

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources.

When filed with the City, your application and attachment documents are public records and may be subject to public release.

Supplier Diversity Program
Specialist - OMWBE

Occupation

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

If you applied for multiple boards or commissions, please rank them in order of interest below.

N/A

Select Your Neighborhood (you must live within Olympia City limits to serve on a board or commission) *

Downtown

If you choose "other" please write in your neighborhood here:

Interests & Experiences

Question applies to multiple boards

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. Olympia residency is not required; however, it is a primary consideration. You may attach a resume.

Question applies to multiple boards

1. Briefly describe why you wish to serve on this advisory committee.

I am a lifelong Olympian and I have strong ties to this community. I care deeply about the future of our city, the land, and its residents. I feel a genuine civic responsibility to contribute to the long-term growth of Olympia and ensuring its success. I wish to be a part of representing the voices of our community. Of the advisory committees, I am most enthusiastic about the planning commission as I believe that is where I can make the most impact.

Question applies to multiple boards

2. Describe your qualifications and/or skills which would benefit this advisory committee.

I would bring a unique perspective to this advisory committee as a young woman of color, a daughter of refugees, a renter, and a longtime Olympian. I have a Master's Degree in Public Administration and professional experience in public service, including creating policies and championing equity and diversity and inclusion work. Additionally, my strong interpersonal skills, cultural competency, and understanding of the holistic impacts of city planning policies, would be an asset to this advisory committee and the public.

Question applies to multiple boards

3. Describe your involvement in the Olympia community.

I was born and raised in Olympia. I graduated from South Puget Sound Community College and The Evergreen State College, my family has a business in downtown, and I currently live and work in Olympia. I have volunteered at the Thurston County food bank, YWCA, and the Olympia Film Society. I attend our city's community events, vote in our elections, and participate in public events to stand in solidarity with other Olympians. I am deeply rooted in our community. I acknowledge the city's beauty as well as its challenges and would like to be a part of making positive changes here for many years to come.

Question applies to multiple boards

4. List your educational and professional background and area of study.

Educational background: I earned my Master's Degree in Public Administration at The Evergreen State College, with an emphasis in Public Policy. This past year I completed the Real Change and Advocacy Fellowship sponsored by the organization, Results -- wherein I engaged with my Congressional delegation to fight for anti-poverty legislation both locally and in Washington DC. I recently completed the state sponsored Peabody course for writing effective policies and procedures and am beginning my diversity professional certificate through the Institute for Diversity Certification. Professional background: I feel an abundant sense of value and fulfillment in the work I do at the Washington State Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises as the Supplier Diversity Program Specialist. In this role, I partner with state agencies and higher education institutions to increase spending with small minority-, women-, and veteran-owned businesses. As Class Chair of the 2019 Alene Morris National Education for Women's (NEW) Leadership cohort, an organization that brings together college students from across the political spectrum to discuss the roles of women in leadership and politics, I serve on the NEW Leadership Planning Committee and act as a liaison between the 2019 class and the University of Washington Women's Center. My prior experiences include serving as an Education Advocate for incarcerated youth in the Southwest region of the state and functioning as an Academic Coach to at-risk youth for GED attainment and college access at Educational Service District 113. My multicultural upbringing has resulted in a deep passion for equity, diversity, and inclusion work.

Question applies to multiple boards

5. Appointment to this committee will require your attendance at evening meetings. How many hours per month are you willing to commit as a volunteer?

If I am appointed to the Planning Commission, I would make every effort to attend each commission meeting and any other time commitments pertinent to the work of the commission. I have reviewed the Planning Commission's schedule and do not foresee any conflicts.

Question applies to multiple boards

6. If you are not appointed to this committee at this time:

Question applies to multiple boards

6a. Do you wish to be considered for appointment to another advisory committee?

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

6b. Do you wish to be considered for future appointment to this committee?

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

6c. Would you be willing to volunteer for other City activities?

Yes No

Question applies to multiple boards

If you answered yes to 6a, please identify what other Advisory Committees you would be interested in being considered for in order of interest.

N/A

Question applies to multiple boards

7. 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 No

Question applies to multiple boards

8. Citizens appointed to advisory committees are assigned and required to use a City email address for all advisory committee business.

Do you agree to comply with this expectation?

I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

9. How did you learn about this advisory committee recruitment?

City of Olympia website

[Yen_Huynh_Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Question applies to Planning Commission

10. In your own words, what is the role of an Olympia Planning Commissioner?

The role of an Olympia Planning Commissioner is to represent the voice of the community through careful review of proposals brought before the commission, studying issues, policy proposals and evaluating their consistency with the comprehensive plan and their impacts on people's lives. Ultimately, Planning Commissioners must work collaboratively with the rest of the commission to make recommendations to the city council. In order to be successful, Olympia Planning Commissioners must honor their commitments to the commission by putting in the time to study beforehand, attend meetings, listen to public input, and be ready to dive deeply into issues. Commissioners must also work collectively to understand our community's competing needs, welcome healthy discussions, and to persevere through challenges.

Question applies to Planning Commission

11. What interests you most about community planning?

Through community planning, we have the ability to design spaces to positively shape and strengthen our community. We are able to encourage more human centered interactions within our gathering spaces, increase equity, support business prosperity, promote healthy activities, and heighten feelings of safety in Olympia. I am fascinated with the possibilities of creating spaces that influence positive human interactions and produce beneficial long-term outcomes for the city of Olympia.

Question applies to Planning Commission

12. What skills would you bring to the work of the Planning Commission and what do you hope to learn?

I would bring a unique perspective to this advisory committee as a young woman of color, daughter of refugees, a renter, and a longtime Olympian. I have a Master's Degree in Public Administration and professional experience in public service, including creating policies and championing equity and diversity and inclusion work. Additionally, my strong interpersonal skills, cultural competency, and understanding of the holistic impacts of city planning policies, would be an asset to this advisory committee and the public. I would look forward to learning from the perspectives of other planning commissioners, city staff, and the public as well as about the intricacies of each project brought before the commission.

Question applies to Planning Commission

13. Have you ever taken a Short Course in Local Planning, read an OPC packet or attended a meeting?

Yes, I have completed a Short Course in Local Planning through the Department of Commerce, read the Olympia Planning Commission's 2019 Work Plan, and have begun attending commission meetings.

Question applies to Planning Commission

14. What is your knowledge of the City's Comprehensive Plan and how it relates to planning?

I have reviewed the entire Comprehensive Plan. Olympia's Comprehensive Plan serves as the foundation for planning the direction of our city, measured against the demands and objectives of the Growth Management Act. The plan is a guiding document, produced with public input that outlines how we want to evolve as a city over time. The plan is composed of two parts. The first portion covers a wide range of interrelated planning elements from community vision/values and public participation to transportation, natural environment, and land use. The second portion contains the capital facilities plan. Within both parts are goals and policies that inform the city's budget, development guidelines, and other crucial decisions. Due to competing goals, a constant challenge of the comprehensive plan is to remain internally consistent. To stay relevant to our ever growing community needs, the plan is amended annually and subject to larger updates every eight years. Current core opportunities outlined in the plan include: increasing sustainability, revitalizing downtown, addressing climate change, integrating the Shoreline Management Program, and long-term funding. Over the next 20 years, Olympia is expected to grow by 20,000 individuals as well as experience significant sea level rise. The comprehensive plan is key to ensuring that Olympians are able to maintain and improve our environment and standard of living while accommodating population growth and responding to environmental challenges.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Supplier Diversity Program Specialist

Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises, Olympia, WA Sep. 2019 - Present

- Liaison to the Governor's Business Diversity Subcabinet
- Created the Community of Practice website to share supplier diversity tools and resources
- Leads statewide inclusion planning meetings with state agencies and higher education institutions to increase equity in public contracting and procurement
- Speaker at the DES Fall IT Open House

Supplier Diversity Project Coordinator

Dec. 2018 - Aug. 2019

Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises, Olympia, WA

- Provides technical and administrative support to the Governor's business diversity subcabinet, workgroup and action teams.
- Supports coordination and leading of statewide annual inclusion planning meetings with state agencies and higher educational institutions.
- Participates in statewide business diversity improvement efforts related to contracting and procurement processes, conducting research and analysis on current issues related to supplier diversity, develop and coordinate collaborative solutions for diverse businesses facing challenges in navigating state contracting.

Graduate Research Intern

Jun. 2018 - Dec. 2018

Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises, Olympia, WA

- Benchmarked successful strategies regarding supplier diversity
- Assisted certification manager with LEAN initiatives related to certification
- Assisted with agency outreach and communications
- Assisted with agency meetings, special requests, and planning of upcoming trainings
- Reviewed public records requests and prepared records for transmittal
- Created a formalized agency on-boarding process

MPA Student Ambassador

Sep. 2018 - Jun. 2019

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

- Supported planning and implementation of MPA related events
- Solicited and implemented social media campaigns
- Advised MPA Assistant Director on recruitment/marketing decisions
- Represented MPA program at public events & outreached to prospective students

Retro Coordinator

Jun. 2017 - May 2018

Washington Hospitality Association, Olympia, WA

- Functioned as WA State Labor & Industries and Employers Northwest liaison
- Created and published detailed Retro newsletter highlighting industry happenings
- Created agenda and prepare data for reporting, meeting, and presentations
- Serviced internal, external team members and industry stakeholders
- Performed administrative support duties and maintained accounting records
- Quickly learned complex systems and balanced various demanding projects
- Collaborated with business development department to reach quarterly revenue goals

Office Technician II

Feb. 2016 - May 2017

Capital Region Educational Service District 113, Tumwater, WA

- Managed database for data reporting accuracy among five field sites
- Provided strong written & verbal communications to technical support staff, community partners and potential clients

- Responded to a variety of inquiries from internal & external parties; coordinated calendars and projects as well as duplicated and distributed various printed materials
- Maintained department/program records; compiled and distributed materials/reports
- Monitored program documentation for compliance with financial & legal requirements

Education Advocate

Nov. 2016 - May 2017

Capital Region Educational Service District 113, Tumwater, WA

- Worked with incarcerated and previously incarcerated students from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds
- Monitored and advocated for students, coordinated services, provided ongoing feedback and encouragement, and emphasized the importance of staying in school
- Reviewed student academic performance and intervened when issues were identified, with the goal of providing support for students to stay in school and graduate
- Developed, coordinated, and provided a Student Success Plan for students receiving services through the program, in partnership with school personnel, family members, and community service providers

Academic Coach

Sep. 2015 - Nov. 2016

Capital Region Educational Service District 113, Tumwater, WA

- Substituted as a certified instructor, instructional assistant & case manager
- Worked with at-risk youth to achieve GEDs, employment, and college readiness

EDUCATION

Master of Public Administration, emphasis in public policy

Jun. 2019

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

- Capstone: “The Washington State Business Case for Supplier Diversity”
- Culminating research: “Racial Equity in the Workplace: How are Washington State organizations utilizing diversity management strategies to become anti-racist and what strategies are missing?”

Alene Moris National Education for Women’s Leadership Institute

Jun. 2019

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

- Learned from women leaders who are actively engaged in changing society with a cohort of women from a wide range of socioeconomic, ethnic, racial and educational backgrounds.

Real Change Organizing and Advocacy Fellow to Fight Poverty

Jun. 2018-2019

RESULTS, Washington, D.C.

- Conducted Media advocacy through written op-eds and letters to the editor
- Lobbied members of congress to fight domestic & global poverty issues
- Led grassroots organizing movements within legislative district

Bachelor of Arts, emphasis in public administration

Jun. 2015

The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA

CERTIFICATIONS

- edX Verified Certificate for Statistical Thinking for Data Science and Analytics
- Motivational Interviewing Certificate

Dec. 2016
2017

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Vietnamese - proficient

AWARDS & HONORS

- TwinStar Higher Education Scholarship
- Master’s in Public Administration Merit Scholarship

Fall 2018
2017-2018