

Profile

Roussa

First Name

R

Middle Initial

Cassel

Last Name

roussa@artisansgroup.com

Email Address

1710 5th Ave SE

Home Address

Suite or Apt

Olympia

City

WA

State

98501

Postal Code

Business: (360) 570-0727

Primary Phone

Home: (360) 951-7903

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.

Architect

Occupation

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Design Review Board: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

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

Design Review, Heritage Commission, Arts Commission

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

Eastside

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 passionate about the revitalization of Olympia in a fashion that embraces and preserves our existing building stock, character, and independent businesses while recognizing the need for growth and increased density in our region.

Question applies to multiple boards

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

Practicing architect with 15 years experience. Excellent organizational and communication skills. Engaged citizen and self-described urbanist.

Question applies to multiple boards

3. Describe your involvement in the Olympia community.

Current co-owner and principal Architect at small local firm operating in Olympia for 20 years. I have worked as a designer of residential and commercial projects including Olympia Coffee Roasting Co. (downtown and Wildwood), the Cherry St Parklet, Little General Foodshop, 222 Market and Dillingers expansion. Co-owner and operator of Stable Studios, which hosted many community and arts related events. Participant in the Missing Middle workgroup. Volunteer and participant at Downtown Strategy Meetings.

Question applies to multiple boards

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

Licensed Architect in Washington and Oregon. Masters Degree in Architecture from University of Oregon with an emphasis in Urban Design (Thesis work at the U of O satellite campus in Portland OR). BA from Evergreen State College with an emphasis in Environmental Design and a certificate in civil and architectural drafting from SPSCC.

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?

8-10

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.

Heritage Commission, Arts Commission

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?

Catherine McCoy

[Roussa_Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Question applies to Design Review Board

10. Describe your experience, training, or education in architecture, urban design, landscape architecture, or development (residential, commercial, or other).

(See above) MArch in Architecture with an emphasis in urban design. Experienced residential and commercial interior designer. Work closely with business owners and City on tenant improvements.

Question applies to Design Review Board

11. What do you consider influences on building and/or site design?

Context, context, context...Scale, light, climate, solar access and orientation, materials, proportion, creation of outdoor space (negative space created by buildings), articulation of the facade, safety, historical context, color, acoustics, adjacent traffic, circulation, etc..

Question applies to Design Review Board

12. What does “good design” mean to you?

The city is a living organism. Design interventions need to be woven into the urban fabric with respect shown to our unique local character and public spaces and places.

Question applies to Design Review Board

13. Describe your experience reading site plans and design drawings.

I have drafted site plans and design drawings for 15 yrs in my work as a designer. I am fluent with construction drawings, terminology, symbols, etc..

Roussa R. Cassel

Architect, LEED AP, PHIUS Certified Builder

Artisans Group

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Architectural Experience

2014 - Present

Principal, Architect, The Artisans Group, Olympia, WA

2011 - 2014

Independent Designer and Sole Proprietor, Olympia, WA

2013 - 2014

Product Designer, Windfall Lumber, Tumwater, WA

2010-2011

Graduate Research Fellow, University of Oregon

2006-2008

Architectural Associate, Scherer Associates Architecture and Planning

Professional Affiliations

NCARB

Passive House Institute of the United States (PHIUS)

United States Green Building Council, LEED Accredited professional

Northwest EcoBuilding Guild

Olympia Master Builders

Awards

2017 City of Olympia Historic Preservation Award winner for remodel of 1945 Art Deco commercial building

2017 Professional Builder Magazine "40 under 40" professional award

Education

Masters of Architecture, University of Oregon, 2011

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Emphasis in Design, Sustainable Architecture, Minor Emphasis in Fine Art, The Evergreen State College, 2005

Guest Lecturer & Conference Speaker

Guest Lecturer at University of Oregon School of Architecture
Guest Lecturer and Design Critic at Evergreen State College
Guest Lecturer at Expanding your Horizons Annual Conference
Guest Speaker at Olympia Design Month Event Series

Professional References

Available upon request