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**Profile**

Sharon

First Name

Lumbantobing

Last Name

Email AddressHome AddressSuite or Apt

OLYMPIA

City

WA

State

98502

Postal Code

Primary PhoneAlternate Phone

Question applies to multiple boards

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, beginning April 1, 2021, the City will offer 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.

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

Questions? Contact Susan Grisham, Executive Assistant, 360.753.8244, [sgrisham@ci.olympia.wa.us](mailto:sgrisham@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.*

urban planner

Occupation

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**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

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Arts Commission: Submitted  
Heritage Commission: Submitted

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Question applies to multiple boards

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

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1 - Heritage Commission ; 2 - Arts Commission

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

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☒ West Bay Drive

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

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**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.**

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I recently moved to Olympia in December 2020. As a new resident, I am looking for ways to become engaged with and contribute to my new community. I previously lived in the city of Lake Oswego, OR, where I served on the Sustainability Advisory Board for one year and the Historic Resources Advisory Board for three years. I am passionate about historic preservation and the arts and would be honored to serve on either commission.

Question applies to multiple boards

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

Historic Preservation: I wrote several successfully funded historic preservation grants that were awarded by DAHP. I implemented several historic preservation grants awarded by DAHP,. I oversaw the Clark County's historic promotions grants program. I wrote numerous staff reports for nominations to the Clark County Heritage Register, I updated Clark County's historic preservation code and participated in the updating of the city of Lake Oswego's historic preservation code. I also facilitated subcommittees that analyzed code and policy changes aimed at slowing down demolitions and researched establishing an intangible cultural heritage register for Clark County. Arts: I collaborated on an annual Meet the Makers event and co-founded a gallery in my home called The Artisans Table in Jakarta. These initiatives brought together master craftspeople throughout Indonesia who are working on textiles, basketry, ceramics, glass, wood, leather, and other medium, and introduced them to new markets and audiences in Jakarta and the United States. I wrote grants to bring Indonesian artists to the International Folk Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico, two years in a row. I'm currently a volunteer research associate at Tracing Patterns Foundation in Berkeley, CA, which is a community of international scholars and weavers, dyers, craftspeople, and textile designers who contribute towards building a body of research on both traditional and contemporary textiles around the world.

Question applies to multiple boards

**3. Describe your involvement in the Olympia community.**

I recently moved to Olympia in December 2020. As a new resident, I am looking for ways to become engaged with and contribute to my new community. I previously lived in the city of Lake Oswego, OR, where I served on the Sustainability Advisory Board for one year and the Historic Resources Advisory Board for three years.

Question applies to multiple boards

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

I have a BA degree in anthropology and an MA in urban planning. I currently work as a land use planner in Thurston County. Previously, I worked as a land use planner in Clark County, WA. Prior to that, I worked for twenty-five years on forestry and marine conservation programs in Southeast Asia.

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?**

10-15

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.**

Historic Preservation Commission or the 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. Appointees 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?**

website

[Sharon\\_Lumbantobing\\_Resume\\_2020.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

Question applies to Arts Commission

**10. Currently, what is your relationship to the arts in Olympia?**

I recently moved to Olympia in December 2020. I am interested to become involved in the arts community in Olympia and reaching underrepresented communities and giving them a platform and access to new audiences. I lived in Indonesia for twenty five years and moved back to the US six years ago. While overseas, I collaborated on an annual Meet the Makers event and co-founded a gallery in my home called The Artisans Table in Jakarta. These initiatives brought together master craftspeople throughout Indonesia who are working on textiles, basketry, ceramics, glass, wood, leather, and other medium, and introduced them to new markets and audiences in Jakarta and the United States. I wrote grants to bring Indonesian artists to the International Folk Art Market in Santa Fe, New Mexico, two years in a row. I'm currently a volunteer research associate at Tracing Patterns Foundation in Berkeley, CA, which is a community of international scholars and weavers, dyers, craftspeople, and textile designers who contribute towards building a body of research on both traditional and contemporary textiles around the world.

**10. Why do you think Olympia's historic places are important?**

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Historic preservation of the built environment helps the city record, retain, and tell its story over time. Historic buildings and land use patterns are unique features of a community and create a sense of place and identity for its residents. Historic buildings are also tied to the social history of the people who lived there and contributed to the community, and architects who designed the buildings. Historic preservation, however, includes more than just physical places and buildings. It also includes historic artifacts, documents, photos, oral histories and cultural preservation and artifacts of pre-contact civilizations of the native peoples. In an even broader sense, historic preservation should include intangible cultural heritage that is unique to a place and its people and its landscape.

**11. What is your experience working with the history or preservation of built/cultural heritage?**

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I served for three years on the city of Lake Oswego's Historic Resources Advisory Board. Also, while I worked as a long range, land use planner in Clark County, WA, for the past five years, I served as staff to the Clark County Historic Preservation Commission, which is a joint city of Vancouver/Clark County commission. I wrote and implemented several historic preservation grants awarded by DAHP, oversaw the county's historic promotions grants program, wrote staff reports for nominations to the Clark County Heritage Register, administered historic preservation meetings, maintained the historic register and website, updated the county's historic preservation code, and oversaw outreach activities. I also facilitated subcommittees that analyzed code and policy changes aimed at slowing down demolitions and researched establishing an intangible cultural heritage register.

**Sharon Lumbantobing**

**Senior Planner, Development Services Division**

**12/1/2020- Present**

Community Planning and Economic Development  
Thurston County, WA

- Oversee the review of all land use and environmental aspects of the full range of development proposals.
- Advise appointed and elected officials on public policy issues, planning procedures, land use regulation and permitting, code compliance, as well as other regulatory ordinances.
- Prepare and present reports to hearing bodies, committees, community groups, and private organizations to explain the impact of planning and development on the community.
- Scopes and reviews the technical work of staff, consultants, contracting agencies, and other organizations as appropriate.

**Long Range Land Use Planner**

**9/2015-**

**11/2020**

Clark County, WA

- Manage and carry out planning projects involving complex technical analysis and policy development involving elected and appointed officials and a broad spectrum of interested parties
- Gather and interpret data and prepare studies, reports, recommendations, and presentations.
- Update the comprehensive plan, plan amendments, land use codes, and, capital facilities plans.
- Communicate effectively and regularly give presentations to city councils, county council, planning commission, neighborhood associations, and other stakeholders.
- Review and evaluate land use applications, including the preparation of staff reports and SEPA for public hearing decision-making.
- Communicate with the public on planning and land use issues.
- Identify, pursue, and manage grant opportunities, and research and develop project budgets.
- Work in teams that span multiple departments and state agencies to collaborate and achieve multiple objectives.
- Serve as staff to the Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and the Commission on Aging.
- Lead planner on the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.
- Negotiate, coordinate, and manage planning consultant contracts. Review

the work of consultants for compliance with contracts.

- Serve on the employee-led Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Group to develop and implement a two-year action plan.
- Co-coordinate the Northwest Public Employees Diversity Conference.

**Deputy Chief of Party**  
**8/2015**

**5/2014 -**

Sustainable Landscapes Partnership (SLP)/ United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Conservation International

- Provided strategic vision, management oversight, and technical support for the \$20 million SLP program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Indonesia's land use sectors through land use planning, conservation of forest lands, sustainable agriculture, and green supply chains for coffee, cocoa, oil palm and rubber;
- Joined this project at the end of its first year when it was under-performing, and successfully tuned it around to meet and surpass contract expectations.
- Responsibilities included recruitment, capacity building and management of more than 40 staff, subcontractors and consultants, representing multiple technical disciplines that integrate forestry, agriculture, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation planning, resource valuation, GIS, and communications;
- Oversaw partner relations with government of Indonesia officials at national and local levels, community organizations, donors, private sector partners, community members, and local and national media;
- Provided technical oversight for program communications, public outreach and communications, and oversight of the grants program and subcontractor activities.
- Developed multi-day training modules on climate change and biodiversity conservation.

**Senior Communications Specialist**  
**- 1/2014**

**11/ 2012**

Coral Triangle Support Partnership / USAID/ World Wildlife Fund, Conservation International, and The Nature Conservancy

- Project management and oversight of consultants in a consortium of three large American non-profits on a \$44 million regional ocean governance program in six countries in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Topics included eco-system based fisheries management, climate change, marine protected areas, economic development, and institutional strengthening and governance of marine and coastal resources;

- Developed and provided technical oversight for a communications strategy, covering six countries, two websites, a Facebook page, and YouTube channel; and
- Managed, edited, published, and distributed over 300 reports and publications in six countries.

#### **Founder/Director, The Artisan's Table**

**2010 - present**

- Curated a physical and online marketplace for master craftspeople living in remote areas of Indonesia, including co-organizing an annual arts and culture event called Meet the Makers.

#### **Senior Communications Consultant - 10/2012**

**11/ 2009**

World Bank Indonesia, Education Programs and Environmental Programs

#### **Team Leader**

**11/2005 - 10/2009**

Environmental Services Program / USAID/Development Alternatives, Inc

- Provided overall vision, management oversight, and technical support to two regional teams on a \$54 million program to conserve Indonesian tropical forests by focusing on forest management and land rehabilitation, watershed management, water resource protection, climate change adaptation, and biodiversity conservation. The program also promoted improved health outcomes through expanded access to clean water and sanitation;
- Responsibilities included recruitment, capacity building, and management of more than 40 staff representing 8 technical disciplines;
- Oversaw partner relations with local government officials and civil society organizations including the private sector and the media;
- Provided technical oversight on watershed management, program communications, public outreach communications, grants, performance monitoring; and
- Developed annual work plans, budgets, quarterly and annual reports, and oversaw procurement and grant/subcontract management.

#### **Deputy Director for Training and Publications 10/2005**

**4/ 2001 -**

Building Institutions for Good Governance / USAID/International City/County Management Association (ICMA)

- Co-designed and implemented single and multi-day workshops on performance budgeting on a \$19 million program implemented by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) that was designed to build the capacity of 46 local governments to prepare performance budgets and encourage citizen participation in the budgeting and planning processes;



- CO-supervised a 10-member training team, and a 70 person training pool, that trained over 3,600 local government participants annually; and
- Led the development of annual work plans, budgets, quarterly and annual reports, and training material.

## **Country Manager**

**12/1997 - June 1999**

Tetra Tech Environmental Management, Inc.

- Led a multi-disciplinary team in the US and Indonesia to prepare an environmental management master plan for the Bareleng Islands, and led two proposal writing teams for a World Bank funded coral reef rehabilitation and management program that was successfully awarded.

## **Grant Writer/Communications Specialist** **10/1994**

**/1992-**

Indonesian Environmental Forum

## **Recycling and Solid Waste Management Specialist** **7/1992**

**7/1990 -**

City of San Jose, California

- Developed a ten-year Source Reduction and Recycling Plan to meet state-mandated waste diversion goals of 50% of the waste stream by 2000. In 2000, San Jose became the first large city to meet the state's mandated goal; and
- Researched and designed a Request for Proposal for the city's first curbside residential recycling program, including making policy recommendations to city council and coordinating the countywide Technical Advisory Committee.

## **Education**

- M.A. Urban Planning, University of Michigan
- B.A. Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- American Planning Association, Oregon Chapter
- Historic Resource Advisory Board, City of Lake Oswego, Sept 2016-present
- Sustainability Advisory Board, City of Lake Oswego, Sept 2015- Sept 2016
- Metro and 1000 Friends of Oregon Land Use Leadership Initiative, Southwest Corridor, 2017