

Laurel Humphrey

From: Joe Camacho [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 15, 2025 4:53 PM
To: CityCouncil
Subject: Position 6 Application

Attached are the documents needed for the position 6 application. Thank you!
This is the email I will monitor for correspondence



JoeCamachoApplicationPosition...



JCRResume

-Joe

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the City of Tukwila network. Please **DO NOT** open attachments or click links from an unknown or suspicious origin.

Education

MIT Master in Teaching

*Secondary Teacher Education Program: General Science, Multilingual Learner (ELL)
University of Washington – Seattle, Washington*

2017 March

Education for Environment and Community Certificate

IslandWood– Bainbridge Island, Washington

2015 June

B.S. Environmental Management and Protection: Environmental Education and Interpretation; Geology Minor

Humboldt State University – Arcata, California

2014 May

Teaching Experience

Environmental Science + Teacher Academy Teacher - CTE (Foster High School)

2019 – Present

*Created a 3-year environmental science program at Foster High School including an introductory environmental science course, a second year course focusing on internships and work experience in the environmental field, and a third year course focusing on environmental education and preparing students to become future educators.
Coordinated 5th grade field trips*

8th Grade Science Teacher (Aki Kurose Middle School)

2018 – 2019

Modified Amplify curriculum to meet the needs of 8th grade students at Aki Kurose. Worked with middle school teachers across the district to supplement computer based curriculum.

Biology Teacher (Mount Rainier High School)

2017 – 2018

Modified curriculum to meet the needs of multilingual learners in biology. Planned and coordinated multiple field trips to the University of Washington, Washington State University (Imagine Tomorrow science competition), and other post-secondary opportunities for students.

Summer School Teacher (Seattle World School)

2017 - 2020

Co-taught math and science for multilingual learners during the summer session at Seattle World School. Worked collaboratively with other teachers to plan and align co-taught lessons.

IslandWood Instructor

2014 - 2015

Instructor for IslandWood's school overnight program (SOP). Worked with groups of students from the greater Seattle area in an outdoor learning environment for four days a week teaching lessons aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards.

Teaching Endorsements/Certifications

Careers in Education (CTE)

2023

Agriculture Education (CTE)

2021

English Language Learner Endorsement

2017

Science (General) Endorsement

2017

Work Experience

City of Tukwila Parks Commissioner	2023 - Present
King County Climate Equity Community Taskforce	2022 - Present
Tukwila Outdoor Experiences	2022
Sustainability Ambassadors	2021 - Present

GeoCorps America: Geoscientist in the Parks 2014 Summer

Designed and created an original junior cave scientist booklet for the National Park Service's junior ranger program for youth ages 4-12. Translated - Spanish 2021.

4 Stops 1 Destination Participant 2014 – 2015

Participant of Hispanic Access Foundation's 4 Stops 1 Destination Program. Traveled to 9 state and national parks across the western United States. Met with state senators, representatives, Director Jarvis of the U.S. Department of the Interior, and others in Washington D.C. about the importance of Hispanic participation in the park service.

Publications

Abolins M, Young S, Camacho J, Trexler M, Ward A, Cooley M, Ogden A. **A road guide to the Harpeth River and Stones River fault zones on the northwest flank of the Nashville dome, central Tennessee.** *Diverse Excursions in the Southeast: Paleozoic to Present: Geological Society of America Volume 39.* 2015.

Memberships/Associations

Latino Conservation Week Seattle Organizer/Attendee	2023 - 2025
Latino Outdoors Seattle Volunteer/Attendee	2015 - Present
NSTA <i>National Science Teachers Association</i>	2013 - Present
SACNAS <i>Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science</i> University of Washington Chapter President (2015 – 2016) Humboldt State University Chapter President (2013-2014)	2011 - Present



City of Tukwila

City Council

Application for Councilmember Pro Tem Tukwila City Council Position #6

Applicant Information

Full Name	Joe Camacho
Street Address	[REDACTED]
City, State, Zip	Tukwila, WA 98168
Phone	[REDACTED]
E-Mail Address	

Eligibility Requirements, Notification and Signature

I understand that Councilmembers for the City of Tukwila must be registered voters in Tukwila, King County, Washington and must have lived in the City of Tukwila for 12 consecutive months prior to being appointed to office. I understand that as an applicant for appointment to public office, the information provided on this application will be available to the public.

Signature	Joe Camacho
Date	9/15/2025

Additional Information

Are you registered to vote in Tukwila, WA?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Are you a resident of the City of Tukwila?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
How long have you been a resident of the City of Tukwila?	Spring 2021	
How long have you lived at your current address?	Spring 2021	
<i>If you have lived at your current address for less than 12 months, please list your previous address.</i>		
Previous address and length of time at address.		
Do you or any family member residing in your household, have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency which conducts business with the City of Tukwila?		
YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		NO <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please explain.		
Tukwila School District Teacher		

Time Commitment

Appointment to the City Council will require your attendance at a number of regularly scheduled and special meetings, which occur at various times including evenings and weekends.

Councilmembers also serve on Council committees, regional boards and commissions, and represent the City Council at various community functions.

Council activities generally require a minimum time commitment of 10 to 15 hours per week. Are you able to commit this amount of time and can you commit to arrange your schedule to participate fully as a member of the Tukwila City Council?

YES ☒

NO ☐

Have you ever attended a Tukwila City Council meeting?

YES ☒

NO ☐

If yes, please estimate how many Council meetings you have attended in the past year.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of appointed Councilmember for the City of Tukwila.

Why are you interested in serving as a Tukwila City Councilmember?

As a teacher in the Tukwila School District, I care deeply about this community and the people who live here. I see every day how decisions made at the city level directly impact our families, especially those who are often left out of the conversation. I want to help change that.

Tukwila needs stronger direction when it comes to fighting the climate crisis and standing up for frontline communities—those who are most affected but often have the least say. I want to make sure our city is showing up in regional spaces like K4C and other climate-focused efforts at the county and state level.

I also see a real opportunity to build a stronger connection between the City Council and the School District. As someone who works closely with students and families every day, I'd bring that perspective to the table. I want to be a voice for our community, especially for families who don't always feel heard, and help make sure Tukwila is moving forward in a way that's fair, sustainable, and focused on the people who live here.

As a resident of Tukwila, I've always been proud of the diversity, resilience, and beauty that make our city unique. From our parks and green spaces to the welcoming spirit of our neighborhoods, Tukwila has so much to offer. I'm passionate about serving on the City Council to not only highlight the best parts of our city but also set an example for other cities in terms of climate action and sustainability. Tukwila has an opportunity to lead the way in creating a more sustainable, green future by improving energy efficiency, investing in green transportation, and more.

Describe your background in community service, including any volunteer work you have done in or around Tukwila.

I've been actively involved in the Tukwila community for several years in a variety of ways. I co-lead Tukwila Outdoor Experiences, a program through the Tukwila Community Center where we took youth to outdoor spaces around the region. I have also collaborated with Green Tukwila Partnership for restoration projects with students.

I helped bring an air quality education event to Foster High School by advocating for our students to be included in a regional program on lead and air pollution. As part of the event, students had the chance to learn about environmental health and take home a free air purifier for their families.

I received a grant from the Port of Seattle to help start a community garden on the Foster High School campus. The garden has created a space for students, families, and neighbors to connect over food, culture, and sustainability.

I regularly attend both school board and city council meetings because I believe staying engaged and informed is essential to making positive change in Tukwila and I host yearly block parties for the Cascade View Community.

What do you think are the most important issues facing Tukwila in the next 2-4 years?

The biggest issue Tukwila faces is responding to the climate crisis. Extreme heat, poor air quality, and environmental health risks are already affecting our community, especially renters, elders, and families with fewer resources. Tukwila needs to take a stronger role in local and regional climate efforts, prioritize sustainable building practices, expand green spaces, and make sure frontline communities are included in climate planning.

We need to grow in a way that protects long-time residents, low-income families, and immigrant communities. Growth should be community-led and culturally respectful, focusing on affordable housing, walkability, and creating vibrant neighborhoods people are proud to call home.

Supporting our youth is also essential. We should invest in education, mentorship, and clear pathways to jobs—especially in the trades and green industries—that don't always require a college degree. It's important that young people feel valued and see a future here.

Public safety means more than policing; it includes mental health services, youth programs, and housing stability. Families need to feel safe and supported. Finally, stronger, trusting partnerships between the City and Tukwila School District are crucial. Schools are where families connect with the community, and better collaboration can help support youth and families more effectively.

Describe your understanding of the importance of regional collaboration and partnership in city government.

Partnerships help Tukwila have a stronger voice in important decisions that happen at the county or state level. For example, being involved in efforts like the K4C means we can push for policies that protect our frontline communities and promote sustainable growth. The challenges we face take a collaborative effort to address and our city has to be at the table to advocate for the folks who live here and are impacted.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

I have a strong background working collaboratively with diverse groups, especially around climate equity, youth opportunities, and community engagement. For example, I've been part of the King County Climate Equity Community Taskforce, which brings together leaders from different sectors and backgrounds to ensure that climate policies address the needs of communities most impacted by environmental injustice.

As a teacher and the career and technical education department chair at Foster High School, I work closely with staff and students from a wide range of backgrounds. I'm also part of the building leadership team, where collaboration and open communication are key to supporting the whole school community.

Outside of school, I've partnered with local organizations to create programs that increase participation—especially focusing on Latino families—in outdoor experiences. These efforts have taught me how to build bridges across cultural and language differences to create welcoming and inclusive spaces.

I've had the privilege of collaborating with families, especially those who've benefited from having interpreters, ensuring their students get the support they need to succeed in school. I've seen this firsthand with students who lived at the church, where language access plays such a crucial role in bridging the gap between families and the school. These families, like all residents in our community, whether immigrants, refugees, or those without stable housing, deserve the resources and attention they need to thrive. Language access is not just a nice-to-have; it's a basic human need, and it's essential that we make sure all residents have the tools to succeed in our city.

Discuss your qualifications relevant to the position of Tukwila City Councilmember.

As a teacher in the Tukwila School District, I' ve had the privilege of working closely with students and families from all parts of our community. Every day, I see the resilience, creativity, and potential of our youth, as well as the real challenges many face. That' s what motivates me to step up and serve on the City Council—to help make sure our city is doing everything it can to support families, create opportunities for young people, and build a stronger, more connected Tukwila for everyone.

Serving on the Tukwila Parks Commission, where I help guide policies that expand access to safe, inclusive, and well-maintained parks and recreational programs. I understand how vital these spaces are for youth development, community health, and neighborhood connection.

I bring a focus on environmental justice and suitability by participating on the King County Climate Equity Community Task Force, where I represent the voices of communities like Tukwila in shaping environmental policies. I work to ensure that our neighborhoods are resilient, healthy, and prepared for the future.

I engage in community events, whether through school, civic, or cultural gatherings. I' m especially passionate about creating opportunities for youth—whether through mentorship, internships, or partnerships between the city and our schools. As a teacher, I' ve seen the transformative power of investing in young people, and I believe our city government should be a strong partner in that effort.

Please provide any additional information or comments you believe will assist the City Council in considering your application.

I will advocate for policies that protect our health, improve air and water quality, and invest in suitable infrastructure, and I am committed to building the resilience of frontline communities in Tukwila. As we face the growing impacts of climate change, our community is vulnerable and will need targeted support and proactive policies to protect our health and safety.

Thank you for your interest in serving the Tukwila community as a member of the Tukwila City Council.