

**Laurel Humphrey**

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**From:** Ardo Hersi [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2025 12:09 PM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Subject:** A. Hersi Council Application  
**Attachments:** A. Hersi Council Vacancy Application.pdf

Hello,

I hope this email finds you well. I've attached a pdf of my application.

Best,  
Ardo

**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.



Application for Vacancy by Appointment  
Tukwila City Council Position #7

Applicant Information

Full Name	Ardo-Khadra Hersi
Street Address	[REDACTED]
City, State, Zip	Tukwila, WA, 98188
Phone	[REDACTED]
E-Mail Address	[REDACTED]

Eligibility Requirements, Notification and Signature

I understand that Councilmembers for the City of Tukwila must be registered voters in 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	Ardo-Khadra Hersi
Date	2/15/2025

Additional Information

Are you a registered voter 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?	25 years	
How long have you lived at your current address?	9 years	
<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 type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If yes, please explain.		

### 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. **3**

### 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?

I am passionate about community advocacy and ensuring that all residents of Tukwila have access to equitable opportunities, resources, and services. My background in program supervision, youth development, and community engagement has given me the tools to listen to residents' concerns, build strong partnerships, and implement policies that address real community needs. As a councilmember, I want to ensure that Tukwila remains an inclusive, thriving city by focusing on housing, economic development, and environmental sustainability

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

I have over a decade of experience in community service and advocacy. As Program Supervisor for Catholic Community Services, I managed over 60 students and volunteers while fostering partnerships with local organizations to create enriching programs. At YWCA, I worked directly with youth, developed curriculum, and coordinated mentorship programs. Additionally, I have served on various committees, such as the WA State Family Relief Fund Steering Committee, where I helped allocate \$5 million to families impacted by COVID-19. My work with Voices of Tomorrow, the Port of Seattle Environmental Grants Program, and KUOW Radioactive Youth Media has further solidified my commitment to community engagement and advocacy.

Currently, as a Program Coordinator at Empower Me, I focus on strengthening community engagement by fostering relationships with key stakeholders, coordinating mentorship programs, and developing workshops that connect individuals to vital resources. My role allows me to advocate for historically underserved populations and work towards systemic change.

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

**Affordable Housing & Economic Development:** Ensuring that residents have access to affordable housing while supporting local businesses to create a strong economic foundation.

**Youth & Community Engagement:** Expanding programs that provide mentorship, education, and career opportunities for young people.

**Public Safety & Social Services:** Strengthening community-based public safety initiatives and increasing resources for mental health and social services.

**Environmental Sustainability:** Advocating for sustainable city policies, increasing green spaces, and supporting environmental justice initiatives.

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

Successful city governance requires collaboration with regional stakeholders, including other municipalities, county and state agencies, nonprofits, and businesses. I have experience working across sectors to develop and implement impactful programs. For example, as a Community Reviewer for the Port of Seattle Environmental Grants Program, I worked with regional partners to allocate \$687,000 in funding for environmental initiatives. My work with the WA State Family Relief Fund Steering Committee also demonstrated how cross-sector collaboration can lead to effective policy solutions. As a councilmember, I would leverage partnerships to bring more resources and opportunities to Tukwila.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

I have extensive experience collaborating with individuals from diverse cultural, racial, and economic backgrounds. My work in community programs has allowed me to engage with youth, educators, local leaders, and government agencies. At Voices of Tomorrow, I supported immigrant and refugee families navigating early learning systems. Additionally, my racial equity training with the People's Institute has given me the tools to approach community work with an equity lens, ensuring that all voices are heard and included in decision-making.

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

- Leadership & Supervision: Managed teams of staff and volunteers, ensuring effective program delivery.
- Policy & Budget Experience: Worked on grant writing, program funding, and budget management for various initiatives.
- Community Engagement: Built partnerships with organizations and community stakeholders to drive change.
- Advocacy & Public Service: Served on multiple committees focused on racial equity, environmental justice, and youth development.

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

I am committed to serving the people of Tukwila and ensuring that their voices are represented in city government. My experience in community outreach, youth development, and policy work has prepared me to take on this role with dedication and integrity. I look forward to the opportunity to bring my skills and passion to the Tukwila City Council.

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