

Laurel Humphrey

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**From:** Peggy McCarthy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 22, 2023 9:39 AM  
**To:** CityCouncil  
**Cc:** Peggy McCarthy; Peggy McCarthy  
**Subject:** Tukwila City Council - cover letter and application  
**Attachments:** Tukwila City Council - cover letter and application.pdf

Dear Councilmembers,

Please find attached my cover letter and application for Tukwila City Council Position No. 3.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peggy McCarthy  
[REDACTED]

**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.

December 22, 2023

Tukwila City Council  
6200 Southcenter Blvd  
Tukwila, WA 98188

Subject: Application for Tukwila City Council Position No. 3

Dear Tukwila Councilmembers,

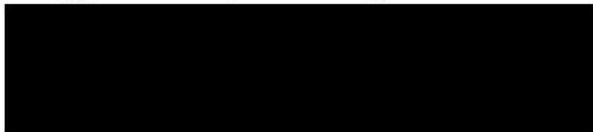
I am submitting my application for the open position on the Tukwila City Council. I am eager to serve the community as a member of the Tukwila City Council and would be honored to work with you helping the City realize its vision and carry out its mission.

My qualifications are a good fit and I feel I would be a valuable member of the Council. I have resided in Tukwila most of my life and am familiar with the City. I served as Tukwila's Finance Director for several years, which gave me in-depth knowledge of City operations, finances, and challenges. From my years working for the King County Housing Authority, I gained experience in housing issues and solutions. I've worked directly with the Tukwila community through volunteering and have led teams and organizations. I believe the best decisions are made when multiple points of view are voiced by well-informed, caring stakeholders working together collaboratively.

Please consider my application for Tukwila City Council Position No. 3 and select me for the position. I am well qualified and will work hard and serve faithfully and respectfully. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Peggy McCarthy





**Application for Vacancy by Appointment  
Tukwila City Council Position #3**

**Applicant Information**

Full Name **Peggy McCarthy**  
 Street Address **[REDACTED]**  
 City, State, Zip **Tukwila WA 98168**  
 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 *Peggy McCarthy*  
 Date *12.22.23*

**Additional Information**

Are you a registered voter in King County, WA? YES  NO

Are you a resident of the City of Tukwila? YES  NO

How long have you been a resident of the City of Tukwila? **65 years**

How long have you lived at your current address? **33 years**

*If you have lived at your current address for less than 12 months, please list your previous address.*

Previous address and length of time at address.

**n/a**

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  NO

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. 10

### 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'm eager to serve the community and the City of Tukwila as a member of the Tukwila City Council. I'm confident I can add value.

Passion. I care about the well-being of the community and the future of the city. Tukwila is my roots, my heritage. I've lived here essentially all my life, as has my family for several generations. I embrace and value Tukwila's cultural richness and the vibrancy of being the City at the crossroads. My wish for Tukwila is one of health – socially, financially and economically - where the community feels life is good.

Experience. My tenure as the city's Finance Director for seven years and Deputy Finance Director for three gave me in-depth institutional knowledge of the City, its finances and operations. I had the opportunity to attend and participate in many Council meetings and to observe the Tukwila City Council in action.

Character. I believe in being opened minded, in listening for understanding, in robust fact-based vetting of important issues with an eye on the impact to individuals and the community, in treating others with respect and unconditional positive regard.

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

Most of my volunteer work has been with the students and youth of Tukwila, summarized as follows:

- Foster High School (FHS) Annual All Class Reunion and Picnic – lead organizer, 2022 to present
- Tukwila Childrens Foundation - board member and co-treasurer, 2022/2023, 6 months
- City of Tukwila Fire Advisory Committee – member 2021-2022, 6 months
- FHS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) - assistant to club advisor and judge at several regional FBLA competitions. 2015-2020
- FHS Career and Technical Education (CTE) Advisory group - member, 2015-2020
- FHS Career Fair – presenter, various years
- Stillwater Snack Pack Program – delivered snack packs to Tukwila Elementary school, 2016-2019
- City of Tukwila – doorbelling volunteer for the Public Safety Bond measure, 2016
- Tukwila School District – doorbelling volunteer for levies and bond measures, multiple years; co-chair of the 1998 bond measure committee
- Tukwila Historical Society – member
- Tukwila Elementary School PTA – board member and president
- Riverton Co-op Preschool – Board member and treasurer

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

A City emergency has been declared. Making progress on this issue is paramount. Other important issues include:

- Housing/homelessness - in general and relative to the emergency declaration/asylee situation
- Crime reduction and improved City image - important to both the business and residential community.
- Financial stewardship - ensuring the City's resources are used wisely and equitably in pursuit of the City's vision and mission
- City facilities - optimal utilization and functionality.
- Service delivery ramp up - especially with the development of Tukwila South
- Communication, community engagement and unity.
- Comprehensive Plan development and adoption

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

Regional collaboration is necessary for issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries or require resources beyond the budgets of local jurisdictions. A coordinated approach often creates a better and more comprehensive solution. We are in this together,

Because Tukwila is integral to the region and most regional policies and decisions directly affect the City, it's imperative to have City representation on the regional boards and commissions so our perspectives can be shared and our interests advocated.

Examples of issues that cross jurisdictional boundaries include housing/unsheltered population, transportation, environmental issues. Examples of Tukwila's partnership with other jurisdictions to address expensive and complex issues include the creation and operation of the SCORE jail and the Valley Communications 911 dispatch center.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

Each of us brings with us a unique background yet we have much in common. I believe the key to successful collaboration is to find that commonality and build on it.

I've worked collaboratively with others from different backgrounds in the Tukwila School District, at the King County Housing Authority and the City of Tukwila. As a manager at the KCHA, my first hire was a woman born and raised in China who had lived in the United States for only a few years. Her personal story is compelling. As a teenager, she was subject to the Chinese Cultural Revolution and, under the Down to the Countryside movement, was removed from her family in Beijing and dispatched to Mongolia where she performed manual labor under harsh conditions for several years. When she returned home her parents barely recognized her. After competing for and earning entrance, she completed her education, then became a reporter for a Shanghai based media organization and in 1999 traveled to Seattle to cover the WTO riots. Soon thereafter, she relocated to the USA arriving with just \$50. She went on to achieve much and enjoy many successes.

As the City's Finance Director, I hired three Foster High School students to serve as interns in the finance department. Each had varied backgrounds and unique and inspiring personal stories.

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

As a life-long resident and former City of Tukwila Finance Director and employee, I'm familiar with the City. I've lived much of its history, benefited from its services, and witnessed its challenges and successes. I am well informed on the City's operations - its departments and services - and its finances - revenue sources, major expenditures and capital investments, budget, Financial Planning Model and financial reports.

Having worked for the King County Housing Authority for 10 years, I have experience with housing issues and solutions. Additionally, I served as a CPA in an international public accounting firm and as Director of Internal Control for a Fortune 500 company.

I have led teams both professionally and through volunteer work. I value others and pursue the best decisions through informed collaboration with others.

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

I am eager to serve the Tukwila community as a member of the Tukwila City Council. I would be honored to do so. I believe I can make a positive difference and I am hopeful I will be given this opportunity.

Thank you.

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