

Laurel Humphrey

From: Gabriela Quintana <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 4:59 PM
To: CityCouncil
Subject: Application for appointment to Tukwila City Council seat #3
Attachments: Gabriela Quintana cover letter.pdf; Gabriela Quintana 2022 new version 2.1.docx; Application2023.pdf; ID docs.pdf

Hello, please find attached my application for the seat appointment for council seat #3. I'm also including my resume and cover letter.

Sincerely,
Gabriela Quintana
206-240-8250

I had a hard time signing into the document, so I have included a scanned version with my signature. Thank you.

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.

Gabriela Quintana

[REDACTED]
Tukwila, WA 98168
[REDACTED]

12/22/2023

Dear Tukwila City Council members:

Please find enclosed my application for the appointment for the current vacant seat on the Council.

I'm excited to submit my application because I believe I am highly qualified to serve and represent the residents of Tukwila.

I hold a strong community organizing background, have strong knowledge of the legislative process, and am deeply committed to making my community a better place to live, work and play.

~Gabriela Quintana



City of Tukwila

City Council

Application for Vacancy by Appointment Tukwila City Council Position #3

Applicant Information

Full Name **Gabriela Quintana**
 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 *Gabriela J. Quintana*
 Date **12/22/2023**

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? **15 years**

How long have you lived at your current address? **5 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.

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.

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 have been a resident of Tukwila for 15 years, and I am excited by the opportunity to serve on the Tukwila City Council and advocate for all residents. I think it is a great way to continue my community-focused work. I bring a unique and valuable perspective to the council, including being an immigrant, a woman of color, a small business owner, a strong knowledge of the nonprofit sector, and being active in the community. I want to ensure Tukwila remains welcoming to all races and cultures and continues developing a family friendly city.

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

Most of my professional life has been about community service. I began volunteering in the 90s for a small nonprofit teaching English to non-English speakers. I soon became heavily engaged with the organization. I served on its board for eight years and was Board Chair for 4 of those years. Since then, I served on various other nonprofit boards; more recently, I served on the Children's Alliance board (also eight years) and led the hiring of the executive director--a long and arduous process. I serve on the Equity and Social Justice Commission for two terms here in Tukwila. I advocated for a bicycle rack outside the Tukwila pool, participated in various marches during the Black Lives Matter crisis, and volunteered at the food bank. I work hard to instill these values in my son so that when he can, he can also give back to his community.

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

Housing and community growth must be addressed in 2-4 years. Tukwila needs to continue building community, and we can do this by making the city more walkable. We need to help the neighborhoods feel connected, and we need to encourage more small businesses to areas where there are none and help current small businesses stay anchored so they succeed. We need to leverage the fantastic resources of the South Center Mall and those not utilized by residents, such as the trails and the Tukwila Pond. The economy will always be important to Tukwila because it depends on the sales tax economy of the mall. We also need to support our police and fire departments as we face high crime and safety issues and the opioid crisis. Finally, we need to focus on people experiencing homelessness. I think the city should be a strong partner with those organizations helping those most vulnerable in our community. We can do many of these things through strong regional relationships, so we don't feel we have to tackle significant issues ourselves.

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

Regional collaboration is incredibly important because Tukwila's challenges don't start or end in Tukwila. Only by working with institutions like the Sound Cities Association, Association of Washington Cities, Sound Transit, King County, and other cities and county governments can we make progress on solving significant issues.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

My professional career is built around working with people of different backgrounds. As a private consultant, I worked with organizations representing immigrant families, the unhoused, and those living in rural areas. I worked with these communities by training them on how to use their voice to create change. I also am comfortable being in situations where white men hold the decision-making power. In my current work, I bring people together to work in a coalition to solve problems. Here, I led efforts to bring an equity lens to our work. As a non-profit leader, I helped build our board and recruit a new executive director that reflected social justice and inclusive values. This idea of working collaboratively with people of different backgrounds is precisely why I want to serve on the city council. We need to continue towards striving to improve representation and outreach. Our city government needs to be reflective of the community we live in.

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

I am highly qualified to be on Tukwila's City Council. I hold a masters degree in social work, I have worked for the last 30 years doing public policy advocacy and fully understand the legislative process. While I don't know all of the issues, I know how invstigage and learn. I currently work for a nonprofit dedicated to creating economic security for Washington families. We work with our state's legislature to ensure good policies as passed and developed. I am also qualified because I am a Tukwila resident and deeply care about its wellbeing.

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

Thank you for your time and for reviewing my application. Please know that I bring energy and passion to this position. I look forward to meeting you soon.
Gabriela

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

Gabriela Quintana

Tukwila, WA

Agent of change ~ Innovative ~ People Navigator ~ Multitasker ~ Collaborator

Dynamic, people-focused individual with 25 years of experience engaging communities in social issue campaigns. Brings strong communications skills, relationships BIPOC communities, statewide leaders and the ability to navigate multiple environments.

Education

Master's in Social Work, Boston University School of Social Work 1998
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, University of Washington 1992

Relevant Professional Experience

Economic Opportunity Institute January 2011-Present
Senior Policy Associate

- Managed all aspects of Seattle's Paid Sick and Safe Days Campaign including: managing communications strategies, mobilized grassroots and grass tops communities, and coordination of lobbying efforts.
- Recruited over 30 organizations to join coalition
- Testified on legislative priorities, including baby bonds, child care, and paid leave
- Conducted over 10-series of trainings and focus groups on various topic
- Wrote blogs, action alerts, fact sheets, and web issue description
- Facilitated race and equity discussions and developed strategies to ensure equity in policy development
- Tracked and Lobbied for Paid Family and Medical Leave Law

Gabriela Quintana Consulting
Gabriela Quintana, Principal

December 2006-2019

Gabriela Quintana Consulting is a minority-owned, woman-run community-based consulting service that works on social and racial justice issues. Areas of focus are immigrant and refugee issues, economic development, anti-poverty efforts, voting rights, and racial justice. Projects managed include:

- Nonprofit organization culture and change
- Board Development Training
- Training in advocacy and communications
- Community Mobilization/Coalition Building
- Focus Groups
- Political Campaign management

Clients and Campaigns Include King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Seattle Parks Foundation, Economic Opportunity Institute (Family and Medical Leave (2017) and Paid Sick and Safe Days (2011) campaigns), ACLU of Washington (Voter Restoration Rights), City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, Children's Alliance (Children's Action Network), OneAmerica, Washington Bus, Duwamish River Clean Up Coalition, Washington CAN, the Nonprofit Assistance Center, and Seattle City Council Member Nick Licata.

Washington State Trial Lawyers Association (WSTLA)
Field Organizer

September 2003-2006

- Expanded nonprofit organizational support for anti-consumer legislation
- Obtained 20+ major organizational endorsements for anti-consumer legislation

- Staffed WSTLA's Diversity Committee, New Member Committee, and Awards Committee
- Coordinated signature gathering effort for I-336
- Mobilized WSTLA's membership around signature gathering efforts resulting in 200,000+ signatures
- Coordinated WSTLA's Speakers' Bureau by matching members to public speaking engagements
- Prepared lobby days, press conferences, and special events, including all aspects of WSTLA's Law Day

Children's Alliance
Field Organizer

August 1999-December 2003

- Expanded and developed a 4,000+ member advocacy network through direct recruitment strategies and public speaking engagements for a statewide legislative advocacy organization
- Conducted advocacy trainings in English and Spanish, emphasizing lobbying and grassroots mobilization
- Organized 200+ participants for Have a Heart for Kids Day lobby day in Olympia
- Developed marketing tools for recruitment, including brochures and letters
- Organized local communities across Washington State to take advocacy action on behalf of children
- Member of the public policy staff team working on political development
- Analyzed and worked on state legislative public policy issues, including initiatives affecting communities of color

House of Representatives Democratic Caucus
Public Information Officer

January 2002-November 2002

- Staffed House Democratic Caucus Unity Working Group, a group of legislators working on legislation impacting underrepresented communities
- Analyzed and prepared legislative briefings for state legislators on proposed state legislation
- Served as Public Information Officer for six elected officials; wrote press releases, op-eds, talking points, and newsletter articles
- Acted as liaison between communities of color and other underrepresented communities and the House Democratic Caucus by building relationships at community meetings, working groups, and coalitions to explore legislation impacting these communities

Special Skills

Bilingual: Able to read, write and translate Spanish fluently

Leadership Roles

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| • Co-Chair, the City of Tukwila, Commission of Equity and Social Justice | 2018-2022 |
| • Children's Alliance, Board President, | 2013-2022 |
| • Family Values @ Work, Board Member | 2016-2019 |