

Laurel Humphrey

From: Don Tomaso <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 4:37 PM
To: CityCouncil
Subject: Council Position #3 Application
Attachments: DT_Application_2023.pdf

Please find my attached application form for the open council position.

Don Tomaso

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 #3**

Applicant Information

Full Name	Donald Tomaso
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	<i>Donald L Tomaso</i>
Date	12/22/23

Additional Information

Are you a registered voter in King County, 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?	50 +	
How long have you lived at your current address?	1982	
<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. 2

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?

Having grown up and worked in Tukwila I have a lot of historical knowledge of the city, and with the current council having several new members this knowledge could be beneficial for the new council members.

To help the residents and businesses conduct business with the City in a quick and efficient manner with a clear and concise City policy for staff to follow.

To help the City navigate the current budget issues with shrinking revenue and increasing budget obligations will take out of the box solutions to solve. The budget issue will not leave all residents and businesses happy but requires a City Council that has exhausted all avenues to resolve the budget crisis

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

I have volunteered for many years, Little League, Tukwila Parks and Recreation basketball, and Highline Soccer Club. I have also organized and participated in multiple projects building ramps to make Tukwila Residents homes accessible or repairing minor fire damage when the owner did not have insurance.

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

Working with other Cities and the State Legislature to give the Police the tools back to investigate and fight crime.

Working with our regional partners to find sustainable options for the current homelessness and immigration problem in the city and region.

The city revenue streams are not keeping pace to meet the projected City budget needs.

Transportation in and through the city.

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

The City needs to be an active participant with other governmental agencies as most of the issues facing Tukwila are also being faced by our neighboring cities, King County, and the state. Most of the issues the City is facing crosses city and county boundaries so we all must work together to solve these issues.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

I was a Fire Marshal for over 20 years, and in that position, you work with a variety of city departments, residents, private sector developers and various professional disciplines, you work to ensure that the developer is heard and ensure that the project meets the necessary City, State requirements. This process requires you to have excellent listening skills and to be open to alternate ideas and methods to ensure the project can be developed.

When working with others to reach a common goal, one must be open to all ideas and work through them all until the solution is reached.

During my time as the Fire Marshal, I belonged to a group of fire investigators that worked together to improve the quality of training for fire investigators, through that group and with the fire department and local business leader support we trained and certified over 500 fire investigators at the Tukwila Testing site. That experience carried over on a Trip to Thailand for the Washington State National Guard to conduct a vulnerability threat assessment for a Light Rail train extension to Suvarnabhumi Airport in Bangkok with a team of professionals of different disciplines, I was the Fire Expert. While in Bangkok during a meeting with the State Department representative he keyed in on my fire investigation training and testing experience. He was looking for someone to come and teach the Royal Thai Police Forensic Group fire investigation skills. I received approval from Mayor Haggerton to put the team together and all City costs were reimbursed by the US State Department. The program entailed 7 trips to Bangkok.

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

Have served in an elected capacity for the community previously, Fire Commissioner for KCFD #18 (Foster), Fire Marshal for over 20 years familiar with municipal codes and how they are structured and written, working closely with both residents and businesses as Fire Marshal was both educational and rewarding, seeing projects from the conceptual meetings to completed projects from small startups to billion-dollar projects. I have served for several non-profit organizations in various board positions.

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

As a resident I have always tried to improve the City of Tukwila to be a better place to live, work and for people to visit as a truly inclusive community. From picking up trash in the neighborhood to helping neighbors with projects, and volunteering as a youth coach. I have been told that I have common sense and provide solutions to difficult problems by both residents and businesses. With the upcoming challenges facing the City Council it may be that an out of the box solution and common sense might help the council navigate these challenges. I feel that with my skill set and common sense I would be an asset and contributing member of the Council.

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

From: [Don Tomaso](#)
To: [Laurel Humphrey](#)
Subject: Re: Council Position #3 Application
Date: Saturday, December 23, 2023 10:23:40 PM
Attachments: [DT_Application_2023.pdf](#)

Laurel,

Thank you.

I reviewed my application tonight, I do not think the cover attached to the application in the email on Friday. I'm not sure what happened. I'm resending the application and cover letter again. I want to be sure that you received both. Can you please confirm that you have both in the attached PDF.

Thank you,

Don Tomaso

On Fri, Dec 22, 2023 at 4:56 PM Laurel Humphrey <Laurel.Humphrey@tukwilawa.gov> wrote:

Hello Don, received.

Thanks,
Laurel

From: Don Tomaso [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 4:37 PM
To: CityCouncil <CityCouncil@TukwilaWA.gov>
Subject: Council Position #3 Application

Please find my attached application form for the open council position.

Don Tomaso

December 22, 2023

The Honorable City Council of Tukwila,

I am interested in and would like to be considered for the open council position number 3. As a lifelong resident and recently retired, I feel I would be an asset to the Council and the challenges facing the city.

During my career, I developed excellent working relationships with both residents and businesses in Tukwila and understand its diverse population.

I look forward to continuing to serve the residents and businesses in Tukwila.

Thank you for your consideration,

Donald L Tomaso

Donald Tomaso