



CITY OF MERCED

Meeting Agenda

City Council Chamber
Merced Civic Center
2nd Floor
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

City Council/Public Finance and Economic Development Authority/Parking Authority

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

6:30 PM

City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor, Merced Civic
Center, 678 W. 18th Street, Merced, CA 95340

A. STUDY SESSION ROLL CALL

B. STUDY SESSION

B.1. [17-125](#) SUBJECT: Study Session - Planning Commission Interviews

C. BUSINESS

C.1. [17-126](#) SUBJECT: Appointment - Planning Commission

REPORT IN BRIEF

Consider accepting nominations and appointing one member to the Planning Commission as a replacement appointment.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion accepting nominations and appointing one individual to the Planning Commission with a term ending date of July 1, 2020.

D. ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Agenda Item B.1.

Meeting Date: 3/14/2017

SUBJECT: Study Session - Planning Commission Interviews

ATTACHMENTS

1. Application - Sonia Alshami
2. Application - Mary Camper
3. Application - Daniel Caris
4. Application - Gloria Conlin
5. Application - Jeremy Martinez
6. Application - Karla Seijas

Profile

SONIA

First Name

ALSHAMI

Middle Initial

Last Name

LINO'S AND SONS TRUCKING

Employer

LOGISTICS EXPERT

Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

25

Number of Years Living in Merced:

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

☒ Bachelor's Degree

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I have deep roots within the community, this is where my family has lived for many years and the place I call home. I would like to be a part of this board because they deal with issues and help assist the council in making decisions that affect all who live here.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

I understand that the planning commission holds public hearings to update the City’s General Plan reviews applications for discretionary development within the City, including recommendations for projects requiring final City Council action.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

☒ City Website

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Ethnicity

Female

Gender


Date of Birth

Submission

sa

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Profile

Mary

First Name

K

Middle Initial

Camper


Last Name

Merced College

Employer

Adjunct Professor

Job Title



Email Address


Primary Phone


Alternate Phone

45

Number of Years Living in Merced:


Street Address


City


Suite or Apt


State


Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Professional Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree

no

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I was born and raised in Merced. My husband Scott and I have raised our two children here. In addition to working as an adjunct professor, I am a Realtor for Coldwell Banker Gonella Realty. I previously served on Redevelopment and Economic Development. Both committees disbanded and I am interested in continuing volunteering in some capacity.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

To advise the city council on planning and zoning matters as well as act as the Design Review Commission and Historic Preservation Commission.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

I am confident that my previous membership on the redevelopment committee coupled with my real estate experience would make me a valued contributor to the planning commission.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I have a genuine concern about the growth and welfare of Merced, and I'd like to help our city grow into a thriving community with orderly development, and increased jobs and entertainment options.

Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ City Website
- ☐ A Friend
- ☐ Other

email from city employee

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

Female

Gender



Date of Birth

Submission

mkc

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Profile

Daniel

First Name

Caris

Last Name

Self Employed

Employer

Owner

Job Title

Email Address

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

10

Number of Years Living in Merced:

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Professional Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree

MCAG

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I feel it is my civic duty to be involved with the workings of the community and the expansion of the community

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

to review and advise

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

A strong background in engineering and development

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

Have been on other city commission boards as well as a current board member of the County MCAG

Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ City Website
- ☐ A Friend
- ☐ Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Other

Ethnicity

Male

Gender

Date of Birth

Submission

DC

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination
that all statements in this application are true and
complete to the best of my knowledge.

Profile

Gloria

First Name

J

Middle Initial

Conlin


Last Name

Retired


Employer

Licensing Professional

Job Title



Email Address


Primary Phone



Alternate Phone

30+

Number of Years Living in Merced:


Street Address


City


Suite or Apt


State


Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

☒ Bachelor's Degree

No

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

Living in downtown Merced for decades, I have a special affinity for historic old neighborhoods, interesting architecture, and tree-lined streets. I enjoy gardening, working with clay, and painting, but need to be actively involved in my community. A long-standing member of the Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA), I am currently focused on an historic neighborhood designation project. Applying for this Commission seems an unusual opportunity to learn more about my Merced, and to positively contribute to its future.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

The Planning Commission acts as an interpretive and advisory body to the City Council, while the Council actually sets policy. The Commission reviews applications for development within the City, studies land-subdivisions, planning and zoning matters, and makes recommendations to the Council regarding potential impacts on the City's General Plan. It also serves as the Design Review / Historic Preservation Commission, a special interest of mine.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

Construction and land use law were areas of focus while employed as a senior paralegal at a large San Francisco law firm (Walnut Creed Office). I served on the Merced Redevelopment Agency for several years until Governor Brown closed these commissions state-wide.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

Good planning principles and clear priorities seem crucial at this exciting time of significant investment and development in downtown Merced. UC Merced has made very significant investments in the downtown, and several other private investors are currently involved in large redevelopment investments. Now is the opportunity to breathe new life into the lovely old neighborhoods that surround the downtown and help prevent further deterioration and decay. Merced is on the cusp of becoming a jewel of the Central Valley.

Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ City Website
- ☐ A Friend
- ☐ Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Ethnicity

Female

Gender

Date of Birth

Submission

GJC

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Profile

Jeremy

First Name

J

Middle Initial

Martinez


Last Name

United Way of Merced County


Employer

Chief Operating Officer

Job Title



Email Address


Primary Phone


Alternate Phone

7

Number of Years Living in Merced:


Street Address


City


Suite or Apt


State


Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Professional Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree

Communities Health Initiative Planning Committee

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

For seven (7) years I have spent supervising projects with distinctive job duties performed, while in a management capacity. Throughout this time, I have successfully initiated and completed privately funded as well as a public/state funded projects/programs, formed project management & training committees, authored and implemented internal organizational policies, performed state and federal policy analysis, solved senior management inquiries, utilized system analysis methods for auditing and program implementation purposes and work flow processes, created and implemented company policies relevant to SHRM functions, and in the process, exceeded expectations regarding management, compliance and coordination. Additionally, I enjoy working within and giving back to my community; serving on multiple committees both within local government and the nonprofit sector. Time spent within my community ranges from leadership capacities and/or duties to collaborative membership roles. Currently, I serve as Chief Operations Officer of United Way of Merced County where I serve an active, strategic role in leading the organization while working closely with the CEO both strategically, and financially. If deemed appropriate to serve on this commission, it is my intent to provide strategic, analytical, and critical thinking orientated insight attributed from my intersectoral work experience within the private, public, and nonprofit sector. Inherently, I believe in community participation and I consistently work to identify public roles and commissions in which I feel I can help further positive progression in achieving the intended goals. The planning of our city is an important element driving the successes and mitigating the social ills currently present within our community, i.e. spatial mismatch, equity in business opportunities, urban sprawl, etc. The way in which we plan the development of our region has a direct impact on all of our lives pertaining to the available resources and opportunity residents are presented with.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

It is my understanding that the commission is to provide a consultative body of members providing our city council with recommendations concerning the City's General Plan of which result from public hearings while also performing functions associated with reviewing applications for development within the city. In doing so, each member should be apt in understanding the city's planning, zoning, and other land subdivision ordinances in order to appropriately recommend action to the city council.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

I've served on an ad-hoc committee created by District 3 Board Supervisor Daron McDaniel concerning the economic development of Castle Commerce Center. Additionally, my participation within the MCAG "One Voice" committee has allowed me the opportunity to work collaboratively with other committee members/community leaders in advocating for Merced County needs of which have included planning. The committee meets to determine the county's needs ranging from social needs to economic, transportation, and natural resource advocacy. For instance, while serving on the committee in 2015, I advocated for the redistricting of HUB Zone (Highly Underutilized Business Zones) boundaries in Atwater (industrial park and Castle Commerce region) and Merced city. The committee supported the efforts and advocated at the federal level for redistricting which resulted in the SBA and RDA federal agencies interest in exploring more appropriate ways to capture HUB Zone's more accurately.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I have enhanced the reputation and progress of the organizations I've represented and have worked across industrial and social sectors allowing me to obtain a well-rounded understanding of community needs and their relation to local government inclusive of economic development and regional planning. I would appreciate the chance to assist the commission in achieving their desired goals. Thank you for taking the time to review my application and consider me for an applicable position. Your time is greatly appreciated.

Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ City Website
- ☐ A Friend
- ☐ Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Hispanic

Ethnicity

Male

Gender


Date of Birth

Submission

JM

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination
that all statements in this application are true and
complete to the best of my knowledge.

Profile

Karla

First Name

A

Middle Initial

Seijas

Last Name

University of California, Merced

Employer

Program Coordinator

Job Title



Email Address



Primary Phone



Alternate Phone

21

Number of Years Living in Merced:



Street Address



Suite or Apt



City



State



Postal Code

Highest Level of Education Completed: *

- ☐ Less than High School
- ☐ High School Graduate
- ☐ Some College, No Degree
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Professional Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree

No

Are you currently serving on a Board or Commission? If so, please list:

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission

Communication

The City of Merced uses email as a preferred method of communication regarding your application. Is this acceptable to you?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected no, please identify how you would like to be contacted:

Interests & Experiences

Tell us about yourself, and why you are applying for this particular Board or Commission:

I was born and raised in Merced and have a love for my community. Merced has a great amount of potential. Through the planning of future infrastructure, our city has great potential and a bright future. I represent the millennial generation and I want to be a part of helping plan Merced future for all generations in our community.

What is your understanding of the roles and responsibilities of this Board or Commission?

The Planning Commission holds meeting twice per month and reviews/approves/disapproves plans related to potential developments with the city. In some cases, projects may be forwarded to the City Council for further review and action. The commission views plans/reports for all types of development, such as: land use, zoning, housing developments, business infrastructure and planning. Merced has some historical sites around the city, those are also referred to by the commission.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to the areas of interest?

I have a Master's degree in Public Policy. A portion of my studies were on urban planning, project management and public administration. All of these components are important when approving or discussing future growth and development in a community.

Any other comments you would like to add that may assist the City Council in their decision?

I am familiar with how Merced City boards/commissions work, I am a former member of the Merced City Personnel Board (2002). I am definitely interested in being involved in my community and contributing my experiences as I've lived in other major cities across the country, prior to moving back to Merced,



Upload a Resume

Requirements

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

- ☐ Newspaper
- ☐ City Website
- ☐ A Friend
- ☐ Other

If you selected other, please indicate how you learned about the vacancy:

Demographics

Hispanic

Ethnicity

Female

Gender

Date of Birth

Submission

KAS

I declare under penalty of disqualification or termination that all statements in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Agenda Item C.1.

Meeting Date: 3/14/2017

Report Prepared by: *Jennifer Levesque, Deputy City Clerk, City Clerk's Office*

SUBJECT: Appointment - Planning Commission

REPORT IN BRIEF

Consider accepting nominations and appointing one member to the Planning Commission as a replacement appointment.

RECOMMENDATION

City Council - Adopt a motion accepting nominations and appointing one individual to the Planning Commission with a term ending date of July 1, 2020.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Accept nominations and appoint one individual to the Planning Commission or,
2. Refer to staff with direction to resume the recruitment of applicants.

AUTHORITY

Article VII, Sections 700, 702, 702.1, 707 and 708 of the Merced City Charter.

DISCUSSION

There is currently one vacancy on the Planning Commission. Planning Commission Chair Jill McLeod resigned from her seat when she was elected to the City Council during the November 2016 election. Ms. McLeod had recently been re-appointed to the Commission to a term that expires on July 1, 2020. Tonight's appointment will be a replacement appointment with the appointed individual being eligible for re-appointment at the end of the current term.

The City Clerk's Office was directed by Council at the January 17, 2017 meeting to notice the vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. McLeod.

The City Clerk's Office has received six applications for the Planning Commission vacancy.

The applicants are:

Sonia Alshami
Mary Camper
Daniel Caris
Gloria Conlin

Jeremy Martinez
Karla Seijas

The current roster for the Commission is attached. The matter of appointment to this Commission is now before the Council.

History and Past Actions:

The Planning Commission, created by City Charter, studies land subdivision, planning, and zoning matters. The Commission recommends to the City Council the adoption, amendment, or repeal of the City's Master Plan for the physical development of the City. The Commission consists of seven members who are qualified electors of the City of Merced. Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Planning Commission Roster



City of Merced, CA

PLANNING COMMISSION

BOARD ROSTER



WILLIAM BAKER

1st Term Jun 15, 2015 - Jul 01, 2019

Position Vice-Chair
Appointed by City Council



TRAVIS COLBY

2nd Term Aug 04, 2014 - Jul 01, 2018

Position Commissioner
Appointed by City Council



ROBERT DYLINE

1st Term Jun 15, 2015 - Jul 01, 2017

Position Chair
Appointed by City Council



PETER PADILLA

2nd Term Jul 06, 2015 - Jul 01, 2019

Position Commissioner
Appointed by City Council



KEVIN SMITH

1st Term Aug 05, 2013 - Jul 01, 2017

Position Commissioner
Appointed by City Council



KURT SMOOT

1st Term Aug 05, 2013 - Jul 01, 2017

Position Commissioner
Appointed by City Council



VACANCY