
Profile

Mitchell

First Name

Vanagten

Middle Initial

Last Name

UC Merced

Employer

Executive Chef

Job Title

Email AddressPrimary PhoneAlternate Phone

Are you 18 years of age or older? (Required)☒ Yes ☐ No

Question applies to multiple boards

Do you live within the City Limits of Merced? (Required)☐ Yes ☒ NoStreet AddressCitySuite or Apt
StatePostal Code

Question applies to multiple boards

Are you a registered voter in the City of Merced? (Required)☒ Yes ☐ No

Which Council district do you live in?☒ Unknown

No

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

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Bicycle Advisory Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

Highest Level of Education Completed: *☒ Professional Degree

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 grew up in the Bay Area, but have called the Central Valley my home for 20 years. For 13 of those years have been in Merced., Most of the focus of my volunteer work has been with hunger relief, food waste initiatives, and teaching cooking classes at UC Merced and in the community, which allows me to share my experience and knowledge as chef with over 25 years of experience. As an avid cyclist, and someone who commutes to work 2-5 times a week via bike, I am extremely familiar with the bike trails in Merced, and would love the opportunity to join the Bicycle Commission to hopefully work on projects that will benefit the citizens of Merced and encourage more people to cycle and make use of the wonderful trail system that is already in place, which would reduce carbon emissions and get people out of the house and exercising. I live in a county pocket, and am applying for an ex-officio position.

Please list your current employer and relevant volunteer experience.

Current Employer: UC Merced-Executive Chef 14 years in April 2019 Volunteer Experience: 1. Various Chamber of Commerce Events, including FEAST, Burgers and Brew, Vino and Tapas 2. Merced College Nutrition Department Advisory Board 3. Various Events and Fundraisers at UC Merced-Pop-Up Produce, Sausages and Suds, Oktoberfest, Pints with a Purpose, Tacos and Micheladas, Bobcat Pantry, Tapas and Sangria, Salvage Social Hour, and taught various cooking classes for Campus Community Garden and Eco-Reps 4. Advisory Board for Food Commons Fresno 5. Tulare County of Education and UC Merced joint fundraiser-sponsored, prepared, and served appetizers for event 6, Prepared and donated soup for Empty Bowl Fundraiser to benefit D Street Shelter 7. Have solicited, organized and facilitated delivery of "imperfect produce" donations from Daylight Foods to benefit Bobcat Pantry and Merced County Food Bank, in excess of 15,000 pounds in past 6 months. 8. Have written two successful grant proposals to the Wal Mart Foundation and Smart and Final totaling \$1,250 to buy fresh produce for the Pop-Up Produce project at UC Merced.

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

My understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the the advisory board is that it includes acting as advisers to the city council in all matters pertaining to bicycling in Merced, including promoting bicycling as a means of transportation, and improving cycling conditions for cyclists.

Do you have experience or special knowledge pertaining to this Board or Commission?

I have a passion for cycling, and am always advocating to anyone who will listen, the benefits of commuting to work by bike, especially my colleagues at UC Merced. As far as experience in being on a commission for bicycling I have none, but I do have experience in getting sponsorship for various food and beverage for fundraising purposes, and have a network of colleagues from various professions that I have connected with in my 14 years as chef that might be a resource in some manner in the future.

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

Thank you for considering my application to to join the bicycle commission. In my first two classes with Leadership Merced, I've had the opportunity to meet and listen to some of you in some of our sessions, and it has given me a better understanding of your roles you play on City Council and has given much more appreciation of the work you all do to improve the lives of Merced citizens. Thank You!



Upload a Resume

Requirements

Question applies to multiple boards

AB 1234 Ethics Training

☒ I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Attendance Policy

☒ I Agree *

Statement of Economic Interests - FPPC Form 700

☒ I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Oath of Office

☒ I Agree *

Question applies to multiple boards

Public Scrutiny

☒ I Agree *

How did you hear about this vacancy? *

☒ A Friend

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

Demographics

Ethnicity

☒ Other

Gender

☒ Male

[Redacted]

Date of Birth

Submission

mv

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