

Laurel Humphrey

From: ilhan dere [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 1:12 AM
To: CityCouncil
Subject: ilhan D. City council position 3 applicant
Attachments: City council application.pdf; council- coverletter.docx

Hi,

I've attached a completed application form and my cover letter. I'm eager to hear back from you.

Best regards,
Ilhan Dere (Illy)

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Ilhan Dere



December 22, 2023

Tukwila City Council
6200 Southcenter Blvd
Tukwila, WA 98188

Dear Members of the City Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing to express my deep commitment and enthusiasm to serve our community as a member of the City Council. With a genuine passion for our city's progress and a dedication to fostering positive change, I am eager to contribute my skills and dedication to this esteemed role.

Over 6 years, I have actively engaged in our community, serving in various capacities that have given me a profound understanding of our city's needs and challenges. Through roles such as Resource Manager and Job Developer, I've honed my problem-solving skills, prioritized a strong commitment to community well-being, and cultivated a collaborative approach essential for effective governance.

My vision for our city revolves around creating job opportunities, ensuring affordable and sustainable housing, as well as empowering small businesses, aiming to create an inclusive environment where every resident's voice matters. I'm committed to transparency, accountability, and dedicated effort in serving the best interests of our community.

I am excited about the opportunity to discuss how my skills and dedication align with the needs and goals of our city. Thank you for considering my application, and I look forward to the possibility of contributing to our city's positive development as a councilmember.

Warm regards,

Ilhan Dere



City of Tukwila
City Council

Application for Vacancy by Appointment
Tukwila City Council Position #3

Applicant Information

Full Name

Ithan Dere

Street Address

[REDACTED]

City, State, Zip

TUKWILA, WA, 98168

Phone

[REDACTED]

E-Mail Address

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

Ithan Dere

Date

12/12/2023

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?

How long have you lived at your current address?

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 am passionate about serving as a Councilmember because I genuinely care about our community's welfare. I want to be part of making things better, introducing fresh ideas, and ensuring everyone's voice is heard. My goal is to create positive change, promote transparency. Ultimately I want to work towards a city that flourishes through teamwork and smart leadership.

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

I've been deeply involved in serving our community for several years now. My journey began at Abu-Bakr Islamic center, Somali community coalition service and volunteering to feeding the needy. overtime, I've taken on leadership roles at the Urban League as a career coach and a resource manager at Freedom Project, which served all of King County.

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

- Public Safety: creating a safe community/environment where everyone feels secure, respected, and empowered to contribute to the well-being of the community.
- Housing: Ensuring affordable and adequate housing for all members of our community is essential. Preventing homelessness and sustainable housing development.
- Creating job opportunities is fundamental for our city's economic growth. Provides individuals with means for livelihood, reduces unemployment rates and enhances overall well-being.
- Empowering small businesses is vital as they form the backbone of our local economy.

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

Working together across regions in government is really important. It helps solve big problems that affect more than just one city. It is like combining forces to have a bigger impact.

Summarize your experiences working collaboratively with others from different backgrounds.

In my experience with Re-entry work, collaboration has been key. We've come together from all sorts of backgrounds, to ~~help~~ support individuals transitioning back into society after incarceration. By combining our different skills and viewpoints, we've built programs that really cover all the different needs of folks coming back into society. Our goal has been to create a strong support system, so that our community members can transition smoothly and positively.

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

My background as a Resource Manager at the Freedom Project and a Job Developer at the Urban League has equipped me with crucial skills; also demonstrate my ability to connect people with essential resources, foster inclusive community relationships, and create employment opportunities for demographics facing challenges like homelessness. I believe my skills in data management, collaboration, and networking prepare me well for serving as a city councilmember.

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

As a proud member of Tukwila, and having been connected for since 2007, I'm deeply invested in its prosperity. My experience in connecting with people, employment facilitation and community engagement has been driven by a genuine desire to support our community. If given the opportunity to serve on the city council, I'm committed to using my skills to address our residents' needs. I strongly believe in open communication, inclusivity, and fostering initiatives that benefit everyone in our diverse community.

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