

Application Form

Profile

Robert
First Name

H
Middle Initial

Bierma
Last Name

Email Address

Home Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

What Ward do you live in? *

Ward 8

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Currently Searching for
Brokerage to affiliate with
Employer

Commercial Real Estate Broker
Job Title

Commercial Real Estate
Broker / Aspiring Real Estate
Developer
Occupation

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Salem Planning Commission: Submitted

Which of the following City of Salem Board or Commission meetings have you attended? *

- Downtown Advisory Board
- Historic Landmarks Commission
- Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Salem Planning Commission
- West Salem Redevelopment Advisory Board

Interests & Experiences

What do you feel you can contribute as a board or commission member?

I believe with my experience and knowledge I can contribute thoughtfully and deliberately to the decisions the Planning Commission are tasked with deciding. While I will have my own perspectives on things I will strive to represent the broad perspectives and interests of the Salem community in my decision making and when possible seek collaboration and compromise. One of my main interest is infill development and I have been following closely things like the missing middle housing bill and related bills. I believe I can help contribute to a more successful implementation of infill development in the city, given the many challenges involved in such development. I personally think infill development can contribute to a very large portion of the city's growth, but that it needs to be as easy or easier than greenfield development for this to become a reality. Finally I would like to just say My wife and I have chosen to move to Salem with the intent of setting down roots and staying here for the long haul. We both think Salem has so much going for it and has been moving in a positive direction. We love to take long walks downtown and through the many amazing neighborhoods around the core of the city. Suffice to say we are both passionate about seeing Salem continue to move in a positive direction and leverage its many existing assets to create a more prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable community into the future.

Upload a Resume

What prompted your interest in applying to serve as a board or commission member?

From a broad perspective I believe in the importance of civic engagement from community members as an important component of a prosperous and resilient community and want to do my part in contributing to that civic engagement. More specifically with regards to the planning commission. I am very passionate about the built environment and want to help the city continually enhancing the quality of our built environment over time.

Please explain how your education, professional, personal, or volunteer experience and knowledge qualify you to serve on the board(s) or commission(s) for which you are applying.

A little over a year ago I graduated from OSU with a degree in Economics. I am a big proponent of using a triple bottom line economic framework for evaluating the value proposition of decisions and believe this would be a useful framework for evaluating many of the decisions put before the Commission. I also have other educational experience (some formal and some not) related to architecture, real estate development, construction and urban planning all of which I think will positively contribute to my ability to evaluate the decisions put before the Commission. Professionally I have worked in various construction jobs and have just recently passed the Oregon Real Estate license exam. I have volunteered on both the Medford Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission and the Medford Urban Renewal Advisory Commission. I have also volunteered as a board member of the Downtown Medford Association as well as being on two of its subcommittees and being one of the group of founding citizens of the organization.

List any experience you have with volunteering for the City of Salem or other organizations.

Having just moved recently to Salem I have no volunteer experience with the city or local organizations. As stated above I do have experience volunteering with the City of Medford and organization in Medford.

Briefly explain any experience you have working with your neighborhood association or other public bodies or committees.

I wont repeat what organizations I have worked with in Medford. With regard to my experience working with them it was generally a positive and rewarding experience. It could at times feel frustratingly slow in getting to see the results of the work being done but that is the nature of much of this work. I haven't had a chance to engage with any on Salem's Neighborhood associations at this time but plan to engage with some of them in the near future. While not working with them I have watched all of the Salem Planning public meeting posted on YouTube since May. So I am familiar with what have recently been going on.

Can you commit to attending a minimum of 75 percent of scheduled meetings? (Please refer to the City's website for the meeting schedule. Failure to meet the attendance requirement may result in removal from office.)

Yes No

Please list up to three (3) references whom we could contact to learn more about your qualifications (name/email address or phone number/relationship).

References for Robert Bierma Harry Weiss Medford Urban Renewal Agency Director City of Medford 411 W 8th St Medford, OR 97501 [REDACTED] Alex Knecht Vice President and Founder Pacific Wall Systems 5077 Table Rock Rd Central Point, OR 97502 [REDACTED] Richard Barney Commercial RE Broker and DMA Board member Coldwell Banker Commercial NW and Downtown Medford Association 300 E Main St Medford, OR 97501 [REDACTED]

Question applies to Salem Planning Commission

The Commission strives to make decisions that implement the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code. Please describe your affiliations within the community that could affect your ability to participate in land use decisions if your are appointed to the Planning Commission (i.e., familial or financial relationship with developers, builders, land use attorneys, land use consultants, etc.).

Currently I have no affiliations that would affect my ability to participate in land use decisions. However I am in the process of finding a commercial real estate brokerage to affiliate with and have the aspiration to participate in real estate development activity in the city. In both of these situations I will disclose conflicts of interest and recuse myself from any decisions were even the perception of a conflict of interest is present. When in doubt I will disclose and will defer to the city attorney on what is appropriate as I have seen other commission members do.

Question applies to Salem Planning Commission

Please state your profession

Commercial Real Estate Broker

Demographics

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity



Gender

