

Ward 7 City Councilor Nomination Form

Eligibility for Ward 7 City Councilor

The Salem City Council will appoint a new councilor to fill the vacant position to fulfill the remainder of the term from a list of a recommendations made by the Board and Commissions Committee. The term expires December 31, 2020. If you meet the requirements below, please complete this form and submit it by 11:59 p.m., October 8, 2019.

To be eligible to serve as Ward 7 City Councilor, you must:

Be a registered voter

Not be a current City of Salem employee

Have lived within Ward 7 continuously during the last 12 months

The Salem City Council is composed of one representative from each of Salem's 8 wards and the Mayor. All members of the City Council, including the Mayor, are unpaid volunteer positions. In addition to twice monthly City Council meetings, members of the Council may participate in many community activities and meetings, including workshops, neighborhood association meetings, committee meetings, and other events.

Any information submitted may be subject to disclosure under Oregon Public Records Law ORS 192.314.

Your contact information

1. Your contact information

First Name

Kim

Last Name

Ogren

Email Address

[REDACTED]

Home Address

[REDACTED]

Apt/Suite/Office

n/a

City

Salem

State

OR

Zip

97302

Primary Phone

[REDACTED]

Day Phone (Optional)

Evening Phone (Optional)

2. Do you live in Ward 7? If unsure, you can use [this map](#) to find out. (Link opens in new window.)

Yes

About you

3. Which neighborhood associations represent your ward?

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association

(untitled)

4. Are you registered to vote?

Yes

About you

5. Please describe your background and experience as it relates to city affairs. Please be specific if your experience relates to any volunteer or paid positions which interface with a city government.

For the past four years I have managed the Water Resources Development Program in the Oregon Water Resources Department. My team and I work with cities, counties, businesses, non-profits, individuals, legislators, other state and federal agencies, the Water Resources Commission, and various individuals to meet their instream and out-of-stream water needs. We partner with communities on long-term collaborative water planning as well as provide grants and loans to various water supply studies and projects. Cities are one of the many partners I work with day-to-day.

Specifically with the City of Salem, I worked through the City's Conditional Use Permit process as the Chair of my church's leadership team.

I am happy to provide a copy of my resume with a more robust description of my experience in various levels of government over the past 15 years.

6. City Councilors have many responsibilities and serve in a volunteer capacity. Please discuss your availability and commitment to meet the needs of the community in this role. How much time do you have to give?

I have the time necessary to be an active City Councilor. In addition to City Council meetings, work sessions, and neighborhood association meetings, I think it is also important for City Councilors to engage in other community events. My primary commitments at this time are my husband (an instructional assistant at Schirle), my full-time job, and my church leadership team. If nominated and affirmed as a City Councilor I would step down from my church leadership role to ensure I had enough time to meet the necessary commitments and obligations as a City Councilor. I estimate that I could give 8-10 hours a week to the position.

7. Describe your interest in the role. What would you look forward to?

If nominated and confirmed as a city councilor I would look forward to working with my colleagues, city staff, and the residents and businesses of Salem to work through the complex challenges Salem faces as a city. I firmly believe that all of those voices and views are necessary for a thriving Salem. I look forward to listening to all those voices, asking questions, and weighing the pros and cons of the various decisions presented to the City Council.

I enjoy and have made a career out of pursuing collaborative solutions to water governance challenges and would love to apply that skillset to the myriad of challenges the City of Salem faces. I am experienced in working on contentious issues, with stakeholders who have differing, often conflicting views with one another. I am a trained and skilled mediator and facilitator look forward to bringing those skills to the difficult conversations and decisions the City Council must have and make. Many of those decisions are difficult and require careful thought and consideration of city residents, businesses, and visitors. I look forward to the work of understanding the various views and working with all invested in the outcomes.

8. What do you think are some of the most important issues facing the city today? What are your views on those issues?

The City of Salem is facing many pressing issues. A couple that emerge as the most important are: 1) the city budget shortfall and 2) affordable housing. I am pleased to see that the City Council has made progress in considering the various options presented by the task force and explored by City staff. I think it is important for the City to address the shortfall to continue providing necessary City services. As a City Councilor I would work with others to find an option that fills the budget hole in a way that is equitable and transparent. I was one of the few Salem residents that attended a summer work session on the shortfall. When I asked my coworkers and friends if they were aware of the issue, none were. I was very impressed with the City Council's discussion but found the lack of public engagement disappointing. I personally believe that it is important for city residents to be informed of and invested in the solution pursued by the City. I think further engagement of City residents and businesses is necessary, particularly if the City refers the payroll tax option to the voters in May 2020 as intended. I would like to work with the other Councilors and City staff to help the citizens of Salem understand the budget shortfall and options the City has so they can make informed decisions.

Housing issues, such as affordable housing and homelessness, are extremely complex. My view on this issue is that it is important for the City to partner with its citizens, the county, the state, the federal government, non-profits, and businesses to pool resources and ideas. The City must be a leader, doing what it can to ensure affordable housing exists and reduce homelessness, but cannot solve the problems on its own.

References

9. Reference #1

First Name

██████

Last Name

██████████

Email Address

██

Phone Number

██████████

Relationship to you

Supervisor

Reference #2

First Name

██████

Last Name

██████████

Email Address

████████████████████████████████████

Phone Number

██████████

Relationship to you

Fellow church leadership team member; friend

Reference #3

First Name

██████

Last Name

██████

Email Address

████████████████████

Phone Number

██████████

Relationship to you

Former church leadership team member; friend

This is the last page of the application. By selecting “Submit” or the “Next” arrow, you agree that your application is complete and are formally submitting your application.

Thank you!

The Boards and Commissions Committee will review applications and provide recommendations to City Council in early October. The City Council will consider the Committee’s recommendation and may conduct interviews on October 21, 2019. Council is expected to fill the vacancy at the October 28, 2019, City Council meeting.