



The city is conducting this public meeting using a hybrid model. The public is welcome to attend tonight's meeting in-person at City Hall (Council Chambers), or virtually by using the meeting access link below.

<https://sumnerwa-gov.zoom.us/j/82527384980>

Or One tap mobile :

+12532158782,,82527384980# US (Tacoma)

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Webinar ID: 825 2738 4980

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation - David Barnes

Roll Call: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

PROCLAMATION

Recognizing Native American Heritage Month

The following items are distributed to Councilmembers in advance for study and review, and the recommended actions will be accepted in a single motion. Any item may be removed for further discussion if requested by a Councilmember.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of checks and electronic payments in the amount of \$5,031,579.87.
2. Approval of the meeting minutes from September 30, 2024 special study session, the October 16, 2024 special study session, the October 21, 2024 regular council meeting, the October 21, 2024 special study session, the October 23, 2024 special study session and the October 28, 2024, study session.

PUBLIC HEARING

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Unfinished Business

- a. Resolution No. 1700 - Tax Year 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax

2. Public Comment (Limit 3 minutes)

Members of the community who wish to give public comment are strongly encouraged to join the meeting via the ZOOM link or by telephone. If you are unable to join the meeting, please submit your public comment in writing via email to the City Clerk at Michellec@sumnerwa.gov no later than 4:00pm on the day of the meeting. Any written comments received will be provided to the City Council and attached to the meeting minutes. Please contact the City Clerk at 253-299-5590 with any questions.

3. New Business

- a. Council Vacancy
- 4. **Reports**
 - a. Council
 - b. City Administrator
 - c. Mayor
- 5. **Executive Session**
- 6. **Adjournment**

This meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. For individuals who may require special accommodations, please contact the City Clerk at (253) 299-5590, 24 hours in advance.



PROCLAMATION

Recognizing Native American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional homelands of the Native American Coast Salish people, including the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate throughout the year the diverse cultures who make Sumner vibrant, we also want to specially recognize that the first people on this land were these Indigenous Peoples, with everyone coming later, often through violent painful conflict and displacement of the Indigenous people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sumner acknowledges that Native American Tribes are not just part of our past but an integral part of our present and future; and

WHEREAS, we seek continued partnership among our governments for projects like the White River Restoration, restoring over 170 acres of land along the White River, creating side-channels and wetlands as large storage area for floodwaters to enhance habitat for endangered salmon; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the indigenous people of the Puyallup, Muckleshoot and other Tribes continue to live, work, raise their children, care for communities, uphold traditional practices and speak their native languages – just as their ancestors did; and

WHEREAS, the City offers its greatest respect to the Puyallup Indian Tribe and Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and their Elders and reaffirms our commitment to support the preservation of traditions and culture of the Tribes and to honor the unique heritage of our first inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, the City joins Washington State and other states across the nation in celebrating Native American Heritage Month, honoring the unique heritage and reaffirming the commitment to respect each tribe's sovereignty and cultural identity.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Sumner joins Washington State and other states in proclaiming November 2024 as Native American Heritage Month as we commit to uplifting the voices, experiences, and histories of the Indigenous people of this land and beyond.

Dated this 4th day of November 2024.

Kathy Hayden, Mayor



SUBJECT: Approval of checks and electronic payments in the amount of \$5,031,579.87.

CATEGORY: Consent

BUDGET IMPACT:

Expenditure Required: None

Within Budget Allocation: N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Signature Page

STAFF CONTACT: Jeff Steffens, Administrative Services Director

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

Previous expense.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE/STUDY SESSION: MEETING/STUDY SESSION DATE: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
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STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS/MOTION:

Approve as presented.



CLAIMS VOUCHER APPROVAL
City of Sumner
Finance Department

The following check/electronic payments are approved for payment:

Accounts Payable Check #:	From: 34591	To: 34703	\$3,416,379.92
Use Tax (paid to WA State Department of Revenue)	8/30/2024	To: 9/12/2024	\$1,729.13
Voided Check(s)	-	and -	\$0.00
Voided EFT(s)	-	-	-
Voided Wire(s)	-	-	-
AP Electronic (EFTs) Payments:	From: 823	To: 829	\$173,741.70
AP Wire(s):	From: 15382	To: 15386	\$568,611.56
Payroll & Benefits Electronic Payments	From: 8/23/2024	To: 9/5/2024	\$859,572.56
Payroll & Benefits Checks	From: 10046	To: 10047	11,545.00
		TOTAL	\$5,031,579.87

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the service rendered, or the labor performed as described herein, and that the claim is a just, due, and unpaid obligation against the City of Sumner and I am authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim.

Kassandra Raymond
Chief Financial Officer

9/30/2024 | 8:32 AM PDT
Date

We, the undersigned Finance and Personnel Committee of the City of Sumner City Council, do hereby certify that the check numbers and electronic payments listed above are approved for payment in the amount of:

\$5,031,579.87

Signed by:

Patricia Cole
City Council Member

9/23/2024 | 7:31 AM PDT
Date

Signed by:

Barbara Bitetto
City Council Member

9/23/2024 | 7:04 AM PDT
Date

Signed by:

Carla Bowman
City Council Member

9/23/2024 | 8:04 AM PDT
Date

SUBJECT: Approval of the meeting minutes from September 30, 2024 special study session, the October 16, 2024 special study session, the October 21, 2024 regular council meeting, the October 21, 2024 special study session, the October 23, 2024 special study session and the October 28, 2024, study session.

CATEGORY: Consent

BUDGET IMPACT:

Expenditure Required: None

Within Budget Allocation: N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Minutes - September 30, 2024
2. Minutes - October 16, 2024
3. Minutes - October 21, 2024
4. Minutes - October 21, 2024 (SSS)
5. Minutes - October 23, 2024
6. Minutes - October 28, 2024

STAFF CONTACT:

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

COUNCIL COMMITTEE/STUDY SESSION: MEETING/STUDY SESSION DATE: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Do-Pass
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STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS/MOTION:



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Kosa, Steffens, Raymond, Cunningham, Marquez, Moericke, Palmer and Barry

Councilmembers present: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

MAYOR HAYDEN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:01pm.

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION BUSINESS

1. 2025/2026 Budget Review

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, Mayor Hayden adjourned the meeting at 7:04pm.

Attest:

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Michelle Converse, City Clerk



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Kosa, Leach, Beagle, Siegenthaler, Windish and Steffens

Councilmembers present: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

MAYOR HAYDEN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 2:00PM.

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION BUSINESS

1. Stewart Road Bridge Construction Contract Award
Associate City Engineer Andrew Leach (left at 2:05pm)
2. Comprehensive Plan Elements 1-10
Senior Planner Ann Siegenthaler

Mayor Hayden left at 5pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm by Deputy Mayor Cole.

Attest:

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Michelle Converse, City Clerk



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Moericke, Steffens, Raymond, Beagle, Kosa, Harter, Franich and Converse

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hayden called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Steve Starr

Roll Call: Bitetto, Bowman, Brown, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY COLE, SECONDED BY REINKE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA
CONSISTING OF:

1. Stewart Road Bridge - Puget Sound Energy (PSE) Property Rights Acquisition
2. Stewart Road Bridge - Construction Management Consultant Agreement
3. Washington Street Preservation - Design Consultant Contract Award
4. Approval of Consultant Contract for Climate Resiliency Grant Project - Parametrix, Inc.
5. Resolution No. 1702 - Interlocal Agreement with the City of Auburn for Partial Funding of the Stewart Road Bridge Replacement Project
6. Approval of the minutes from September 23, 2024 study session, the October 7, 2024 regular council meeting and the October 14, 2024 study session.
7. Approval of the checks and electronic payments in the amount of [\\$3,649,732.22.](#)

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Resolution No. 1700 – Tax Year 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax

Mayor Hayden opened the Public Hearing at 6:06pm. Chief Financial Officer Kassandra Raymond spoke to the item. With no questions/comments from the public or the council, Mayor Hayden closed the hearing at 6:11pm.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. **Unfinished Business**
2. **Public Comment**

Randall Adams, 63rd Street Court East. Mr. Adams spoke about the proposed utility rate increase and the Ryan House.

3. **New Business**

a. **Ordinance No. 2903 – 2025 Compensation Schedule**

MOVED BY BITETTO SECONDED BY COLE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2903 APPROVING THE 2025 EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION SCHEDULE.

Administrative Services Director Jeff Steffens addressed the Council.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

b. **Ordinance No. 2904 – Amending Sumner Municipal Code 2.100 Personnel Policies**

MOVED BY BOWMAN SECONDED BY CLERGET TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2904 - AMENDING SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE 2.100 PERSONNEL POLICIES.

Chief Financial Officer Kassandra Raymond addressed the Council.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

c. **Stewart Road Bridge – Construction Contract Award**

MOVED BY CLERGET SECONDED BY BOWMAN TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2904 - AMENDING SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE 2.100 PERSONNEL POLICIES.

Associate City Engineer Andrew Leach addressed the Council.

Discussion ensued.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

4. **Reports**

a. **Council**

Councilmember Bitetto reminded the public to vote and it's a two-sided ballot this year.

Councilmember Bowman had nothing to report tonight.

Councilmember Clerget reminded everyone to vote and it's Sumner Homecoming this Friday (October 25, 2024).

Deputy Mayor Cole attended the State of the District last week, and had a wonderful time. At the end of the event, the district reminded attendees that Prop. 1 (School District Levy) is on the back of the ballot and towards the bottom.

Councilmember Elfers updated the council on the Pierce County Regional Council. Echoed everyone else about voting.

Councilmember Reinke had a couple of items. Homecoming on Friday. Halloween, Street of Treats is on the 31st. He hopes that everyone gets out and votes.

b. Mayor
Mayor Hayden had no comments tonight.

c. City Administrator

City Administrator Jason Wilson reported on the following:

Upcoming Policy Issues:

- October 23rd – Special Study Session
 - Council Vacancy Interviews
- October 28th – Study Session
 - 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update
- October 30th – Special Study Session
 - Budget Review (Council Priorities for unfunded items)
 - General Fund financial forecast and revenue discussion
- November 4th – Regular Council Meeting
 - Proclamation for Native American Heritage Month
 - Resolution adopting the 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax Rate
 - Ordinance related to 2025 Utility Rates
 - Ordinance amending the Utility Billing Code
 - Council vacancy nominations and appointment

Miscellaneous:

- **Open House:** Tuesday, October 22nd from 5-7pm

5. Executive Session

There was none tonight.

6. Adjournment

With no additional business before the Council, Mayor Hayden adjourned the regular meeting at 6:31pm. Councilmembers concurred.

ATTEST:

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Michelle Converse, CMC City Clerk



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Kosa, Steffens, Raymond, Harter and Franich

Councilmembers present: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

MAYOR HAYDEN CALLED THE SPECIAL STUDY SESSION TO ORDER AT 6:34pm.

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION BUSINESS

1. Utility Rate Discussion
2. Utility Rate Alternatives

Both topics discussion was led by City Administrator Jason Wilson and Chris Gonzalez, Principal, FCS Group. Staff joined at different times throughout the discussions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, Mayor Hayden adjourned the meeting at 7:41pm.

Attest:

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Michelle Converse, City Clerk



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Kosa, Steffens, Raymond and Converse

Councilmembers present: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

MAYOR HAYDEN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:03pm.

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION BUSINESS

1. Council Vacancy

The order of interview was drawn prior to the meeting. Each candidate was given five minutes to address three questions given to them prior to the meeting. Council had an opportunity to ask clarifying questions.

The order of appearance was as follows:

Mahmoud Hammad
Michael Hochstatter
Mark Malcolm
Melissa Messmer
Nick Biermann
Matthew Kenna
Amy Huo

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:44pm, Mayor Hayden adjourned the special meeting into Executive Session for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of a candidate of appointment to elected office (per RCW 42.30.110(h)). For a period of 15 minutes. This was extended once for an additional 10 minutes.

The Mayor reconvened the Special Study Session at 7:10pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business, Mayor Hayden adjourned the meeting at 7:10pm.

Attest:

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Michelle Converse, City Clerk



Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Kosa, Steffens, Raymond, Harter and Franich

Councilmembers present: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, and Reinke

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE CALLED THE SPECIAL STUDY SESSION TO ORDER AT 6:00pm.

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION BUSINESS

COUNCILMEMBER ELFERS WAS ABSENT. MOTION TO EXCUSE FROM THE MEETING WAS MADE BY BITETTO AND SECONDED BY BOWMAN. PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

Mayor Hayden was also absent.

1. 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update – Elements 11 through 15
Senior Planner Ann Siegenthaler

ADJOURNMENT

With no additional business before the Council, Deputy Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting at 8:56pm.

Attest:

Pat Cole, Deputy Mayor

Michelle Converse, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution No. 1700 - Tax Year 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax

CATEGORY: Resolution

BUDGET IMPACT:

Expenditure Required: None

Within Budget Allocation: N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 1700 - Tax Year 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax Levy & Levy Request

STAFF CONTACT: Kassandra Raymond, Chief Financial Officer

SUMMARY BACKGROUND: Annually, the City Council must consider the property tax levy for the subsequent year. RCW 84.55.120 mandates a public hearing on revenue sources for the upcoming year's budget, including consideration of any potential increases in property tax revenues. The hearing process provides Sumner residents with the opportunity to voice their opinions prior to the adoption of the property tax levy. This hearing was held October 21, 2024 with no comments.

In accordance with RCW 84.55.120, the Mayor of the City of Sumner must certify to the Pierce County Assessor-Treasurer and the Pierce County Council that the City of Sumner requests the following property tax amounts to be collected in 2025:

A total levy of \$5,006,222, which includes a 1.0% increase over the prior year's collections as authorized by RCW, plus revenues resulting from new construction and improvements (\$32,793), annexations (\$4,445), and administrative refunds (\$2,088). The combined amount to be levied, inclusive of new revenues, is \$5,045,547.

In authorizing this action, it is the Council's intent that:

1. Of the effective levy rate, approximately \$0.058741 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation shall be committed to leveraging funding opportunities (e.g. grants) for street/transportation projects, in an amount equal to \$330,000.
2. Of the effective levy rate, approximately \$0.062301 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, in an amount equal to \$350,000, shall be reserved for Council appropriation in a future biennial budget cycle.

The 2024 levy rate of \$0.92 (rounded) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation was based on an overall City assessed valuation of \$5,380,225,788. Based on the 2024 preliminary certification from Pierce County for tax year 2025, the 2024 assessed valuation for 2025 taxes is estimated at \$5,617,917,467, resulting in a preliminary levy rate for tax year 2025 of \$0.8981 (rounded) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE/STUDY SESSION: Finance & Personnel Committee October 10, 2024

City Council Study Session October 14, 2024

Public Hearing October 21, 2024

MEETING/STUDY SESSION DATE: 10/21/2024

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: Forward to City Council Study Session

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS/MOTION:

Approve Resolution No. 1700 setting the tax year 2025 Ad Valorem Property Tax Levy.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1700
CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES; ESTABLISHING THE AMOUNT TO BE COLLECTED IN 2025 BY TAXATION ON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE CITY; AND SETTING THE LEVY FOR THE YEAR 2025.

WHEREAS, the Sumner City Council attests that the City of Sumner population is 10,800; and

WHEREAS, the Sumner City Council has properly given notice of the public hearing held October 21, 2024, to consider the City of Sumner's ad valorem property tax for the 2025 budget, pursuant to RCW 84.55.120; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sumner's highest lawful levy is \$5,046,173.09 with the actual levy amount from the previous year being \$4,956,654.98; and

WHEREAS, the City Council, after conducting the required public hearing and after duly considering all relevant evidence and testimony presented, determined that the City of Sumner requires a regular levy of \$5,045,547, which includes an increase in property tax revenue from the previous year, amounts resulting from the addition of new construction and improvements to property, administrative refunds, an increase in the value of state-assessed property, and amounts authorized by law as a result of any annexations that have occurred and refunds made; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is hereby establishing a policy that approximately \$0.058741/\$1,000 of this property tax levy, for a dollar amount equal to \$330,000, shall be used only for street improvements and further directs staff to establish a committed reserve account in the appropriate fund to segregate these funds from any other general fund dollars and that these funds are restricted from any other purpose without city council approval; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby establishing a policy that approximately \$0.062301/\$1,000 of this property tax levy, for a dollar amount equal to \$350,000, shall be reserved for Council appropriation in a future biennial budget cycle, and further directs staff to establish a committed reserve account in the appropriate fund to segregate these funds from any other general fund dollars and that these funds are restricted from any other purpose without city council approval; and

WHEREAS, the Sumner City Council finds that to best protect the public health, safety, and welfare, to best protect the City's future property tax levy capacity, to best serve the citizens of Sumner by maintaining an appropriate level of service throughout the City, to appropriately discharge the City's expected expenditures and obligations, and to best serve the citizens of Sumner through a continued commitment throughout the city, substantial needs exists to increase its tax levy authority over last year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMNER, WASHINGTON, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Property Tax Levy. The City Council adopts the substantial need findings above, and further finds that in light of substantial increases in costs to maintain and operate basic infrastructure, including streets, realized and anticipated loss of state shared revenues, as well as inflationary impacts

on the cost to provide essential public safety services, parks and recreation programs, information technology, planning, building services, and administration services, the City Council finds that there is in fact a substantial need for additional revenue, great enough to justify an increase in property taxes.

The legally maximum authorized levy is \$5,046,173.09. The required regular property tax levy needed by the City of Sumner of \$5,006,222 is hereby authorized for the levy to be collected in the 2025 tax year. The dollar amount of the increase of the actual levy amount from the previous year is \$49,567. This is a 1.0% increase from the previous year. This increase is exclusive of additional revenue resulting from new construction, improvements to property, newly constructed wind turbines, any increase in the value of state assessed property, any annexations that have occurred and refunds made.

Section 2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation.

Section 3. Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the city attorney, the city clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this resolution, including but not limited to the correction of clerical errors; or references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations.

Section 4. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Passed by the City Council and approved by the Mayor of the City of Sumner, Washington, at a regular meeting thereof this 4th day of November, 2024.

Mayor Kathy Hayden

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Clerk Michelle Converse, CMC

City Attorney Andrea Marquez

Form 64 0100

Levy Certification

Submit this document, or something similar, to the **county legislative authority on or before November 30** of the year preceding the year in which the levy amounts are to be collected.

Courtesy copy may be provided to the county assessor.

This form is not designed for the certification of levies under RCW 84.52.070.

In accordance with RCW 84.52.020, I _____ (Name),
_____, (Title), for _____ (District name),
do hereby certify to the _____ (Name of county) County legislative authority
that the _____ (Commissioners, Council, Board, etc.) of said district requests
that the following levy amounts be collected in _____ (Year of collection) as provided in the district's
budget, which was adopted following a public hearing held on _____ (Date of public hearing).

Regular levies

Levy	General levy	Other levy*
Total certified levy request amount , which includes the amounts below.		
Administrative refund amount		
Non-voted bond debt amount		
Other*		

Excess levies

Levy	General (n/a for school districts)	Bond	Enrichment (school districts only)	Cap. project	Other levy*
Total certified levy request amount , which includes the amounts below.					
Administrative refund amount					
Other*					

*Examples of other levy types may include EMS, school district transportation, or construction levies. Examples of other amounts may include levy error correction or adjudicated refund amount. Please include a description when using the "other" options.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

To request this document in an alternate format, please complete the form dor.wa.gov/AccessibilityRequest or call 360-705-6705. Teletype (TTY) users please dial 711.

SUBJECT: Council Vacancy

CATEGORY: Motion

BUDGET IMPACT:

Expenditure Required: None

Within Budget Allocation: N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Hammad Application
2. Hochstatter Application
3. Malcolm Application
4. Messmer Application
5. Biermann Application
6. Kenna Application
7. Huo Application

STAFF CONTACT: Jason Wilson, City Administrator

SUMMARY BACKGROUND:

Under State Law, the City Council must fill vacant council seats within 90 days of them becoming vacant. Curt Brown vacated his seat effective August 31, 2024. The Council Rules outline the appointment process which includes, application, interview, nominations and appointment.

The City opened up the application process, and nine (9) individuals submitted applications; two applicants withdrew prior to the interviews, which were held on October 23, 2024.

At tonight's meeting, council will be asked to nominate their choice for Councilmember. Each Councilmember may nominate one (1) person. No second is needed. Nominations are closed by motion, second and a majority vote of the Council.

At the close of nominations, the Mayor may accept public comment related to the final nominees. Pursuant to the council rules, public comment shall be limited to two (2) minutes.

After public comment, voting will occur by a roll-call vote. Upon hearing their name, each Councilmember shall vote by saying the name of the nominee they wish to appoint. Any applicant receiving a majority vote of the sitting Councilmembers shall be declared the winner. Nominees receiving the least amount of votes shall be dismissed from future rounds of voting. The Council may vote as many times as necessary to obtain a majority vote. In the case of a tie between final two nominees, the Mayor will cast the deciding vote.

Council may adjourn into executive session for the limited purpose of discussing the qualifications of the candidates in accordance with state law. This may be requested by any Councilmember. No voting or straw polls may be taken in the executive session.

If there is a tie, the Mayor will break it. The Council may move to postpone the election to a date certain if a majority vote is not received.

The newly appointed Councilmember will be sworn in at the next regular council meeting.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE/STUDY SESSION:

MEETING/STUDY SESSION DATE:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS/MOTION:

Conduct nominations and voting to appoint a new Councilmember.

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name

Hammad

Last

Mahmoud

First

M

MI

Are you a registered voter living at least one year within the City limits of Sumner? ☒ Yes

☐ No

The information provided is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

Mahmoud Hammad

Signature

10/3/2024

Date

Resume

Please attach a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Sumner on separate pages using **no more than two pages total**:

1. What is your vision for our City and community?
2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?
3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

Applications and supporting documents must be received by October 8th at 5pm. Applications and supplemental materials received after 5pm will not be accepted. **Applications that include supporting materials that exceed the maximum page limit will not be accepted.**

The application and supporting documents should be e-mailed to: andream@sumnerwa.gov or mailed to

Andrea Marquez, City Attorney
City of Sumner
Councilmember Recruitment
1104 Maple Street, Sumner, WA 98390

Mahmoud Hammad
Applicant for Council Member, City of Sumner

1. What is your vision for our City and community?

As someone who has lived in Sumner almost his entire life, I envision this town as a lively and safe place where everyone can thrive. Our goal should be to create a community where every citizen feels secure in our neighborhood, local businesses are booming, and people feel that their voices matter. By collaborating together (local government, businesses, and residents) we can make our streets safer, improve business prospects, and deepen the social trust in our community. I want Sumner to be a shining example, where fresh ideas meet and mutual respect bring what our community really need.

2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address?
How would you propose the City address these?

Public Safety: First off, I really appreciate all the work that's been done to keep our community safe! To build on that, I think we should boost funding for community policing efforts that help build trust between officers and residents. Improving the local non-emergency line so residents can quickly report suspicious activity and individuals. And if those programs already exist, improve outreach to ensure citizens are aware and understand how to use them.

Economic Development: Seeing our local businesses thrive makes me proud to be part of this beautiful city! To keep that momentum going, we need to attract new businesses while also supporting the ones we already have. I suggest putting together a solid economic development plan that focuses on growth areas and offers perks for businesses that hire locally and embrace sustainability. Plus, teaming up with local schools could help residents gain the skills they need for the jobs of tomorrow. As a student at Sumner High School, I worked with a local business and continued to use their services almost 15 years later.

Disaster Preparedness: I'd like to build on the existing efforts by reviewing and updating our disaster preparedness (natural and man-made). This would give residents the skills to handle emergencies like earthquakes and floods through workshops and hands-on training. By partnering with emergency services, neighboring cities, and businesses, we can create a community of prepared neighbors ready to support each other in times of crisis. Let's strengthen our city's resilience together!

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

I bring strong communication skills and a collaborative spirit to the Council. My background in recruiting and international relations equips me with the ability to listen actively and advocate for diverse perspectives. My ability to build consensus among differing viewpoints will be instrumental in fostering unity and collaboration on the Council.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

My professional, educational, and volunteer experiences have taken me outside of Sumner, where I've had the opportunity to engage with communities and tackle various challenges. This exposure has given me valuable insights into effective governance and I'm eager to bring back to Sumner.

While I've gained a broader perspective, I'm excited to focus my efforts on contributing to Sumner's future growth. I believe my background can help strengthen community engagement and foster collaboration among residents, local businesses, and city leaders. I look forward to leveraging these experiences to help guide Sumner toward a bright and sustainable future.

Mahmoud Hammad

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Jule Group

Executive Recruiter

Sumner, WA

May 2024 – Present

- Cultivated strong relationships with clients and candidates, ensuring a positive and collaborative hiring process.
- Sourced, screened, and provided detailed reporting on candidates to clients.
- Established infrastructure and integrated new technologies into consulting services.
- Drafted and published process documents for internal use.
- Wrote blog posts to enhance the brand and marketability of the organization.

Enphase Energy

Technical Recruiter

Sumner, WA

April 2022 – Jan 2024

- Managed background checks, onboarding, immigration, and offer negotiations, maintaining clear communication to support employee engagement.
- Led full-cycle recruitment for niche technical roles, emphasizing candidate experience to foster positive employee relations.
- Sourced passive talent through LinkedIn, cold calling, and advanced search techniques, building lasting candidate relationships.
- Partnered with hiring managers to ensure alignment on selection criteria, improving team cohesion and employee satisfaction.

Zymeworks Inc

Recruiting Coordinator

Seattle, WA

Dec 2019 – Feb 2022

- Contributed to employee relations initiatives, including onboarding, training, and performance management.
- Supported talent acquisition efforts under the guidance of Senior Recruiters and the Director of TA.
- Trained new TA coordinators and provided technical and conceptual guidance.
- Facilitated onboarding of new employees, including offer letter creation, background checks, and internal onboarding process.
- Managed internal and external job postings in a high-volume recruiting environment.

EDUCATION

University of Wrocław, Wrocław Poland

Master of International Relations

The Evergreen State College, Olympia WA

Bachelor of Liberal Arts

Green River Community College, Auburn WA

Associate of Arts

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Employee Relations | Full-Life Cycle Recruiting | Sourcing (Google, LI Recruiter) | Applicant tracking systems: Jobvite, Bamboo, Neogov, CATS | Negotiation and Closing | Schedule management | HR/Legal Compliance | Agency Contract Negotiation

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name **Hochstatter Jr** **Peter** **M**
Last First MI

Are you a registered voter living at least one year within the City limits of Sumner? ☒ Yes ☐ No

The information provided is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

P. Michael Hochstatter 08/03/24
Signature Date

Resume

Please attach a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

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3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

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City of Sumner
Councilmember Recruitment
1104 Maple Street, Sumner, WA 98390

P. Michael Hochstatter Jr.

Goal Statement: To become Sumner City Council Member to serve my community

Summary of Qualifications:

Experienced in community organizing, effective communicator and team leader, detail oriented, passionate about building a stronger community in Sumner WA

Work Experience:

Owner/Operator, Vinyl Coffee Roasters, Sumner WA, November 2020-Present

Developing online ordering systems, packaging and shipping freshly roasted coffee nationally and personally delivering to customers around the city of Sumner

Manager, CRAFT.19 Espresso+Creperie, 1201 Main St Sumner WA, September 2015-March 2020

Building relationships with local customers, listening and responding to customer concerns, hiring and conducting performance reviews

Head Tennis Coach, Sumner High School, 1707 Main St, Sumner WA, Feb 2016-Present

Mentor students, develop team culture, lead practices, listen to concerns from parents, give constructive feedback on playing, record scores and track progress

Creator/Operator, Colossal Soul, Sumner WA, March 2010-Present

Plan community events, organize musicians and performers for the Christmas Show at Farm 12 and Blueberry Fest

Community Involvement:

Chair, Sumner Cultural Arts Commission, 1104 Maple St, Sumner WA, Jan 2018-2021

Organizing art fairs, concerts, and coordinating public art and mural projects

Board Member, The Jordan Binion Project, Enumclaw WA, 2016-2017

Serving on the board of directors for a non-profit organization educating high school students about mental illness

Other Experience:

Toastmasters Participant, Tacoma Municipal Building, Tacoma WA, August 2014-August 2015

Awards and Recognition:

- SPSL Tennis Coach of the Year, Boys Tennis, Fall 2023
- SPSL Tennis Coach of the Year, Girls Tennis, Spring 2021
- Community Impact Unsung Hero Award, 2020 Sumner-Bonney Lake Community Summit
- SPSL Tennis Coach of the Year, Boys Tennis, Fall 2019
- Nominee, John Porter Memorial Award 2019, Puyallup Sumner Chamber of Commerce

Personal References:

Brian Anderson, Board Member, Sumner Community Food Bank: [REDACTED]

Kassie Meath, Sumner High School Principal: kassie_meath@sumnersd.org

Joleen Jones, Township 20: [REDACTED]

1. What is your vision for our City and community?

To continue to set the standard of excellence for a small city.

2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address?

Properly managing growth to preserve the character of our community. Supporting programs that foster strong communities and a sense of service. Creating the conditions for a community that is a welcoming place for all.

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

A perspective of a parent of a young family who is raising two children in Sumner with his wife who is a history teacher at Sumner High School.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community.

I served on the Cultural Arts Commission as Chair, leading the projects to bring the murals to Sumner. I also serve as head tennis coach at Sumner High School mentoring kids in our community.

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name

Malcolm

Last

Mark

First

B

MI

Are you a registered voter living at least one year within the City limits of Sumner? ☒ Yes

☐ No

The information provided is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

MB Malcolm

Signature

10/7/2024

Date

Resume

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Mark Malcolm Sumner Vision Questionnaire

1. What is your vision for our City and community?

Sumner is in a unique position to both grow and maintain its sense of history and small-town charm. I believe there needs to be focus on our Main Street to evolve it in a way that respects our history, and allows for a thoughtful evolution of the business mix, development design, and commercial growth that supports both local needs and attracting visitors/ patrons from around the region.

2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?

- Main Street development – look into what incentives and help the city (and elsewhere) can provide to encourage appropriate revitalization. Work with the design and planning committees to establish expectations for developers, and develop/refine a vision for Main Street growth east of Valley.
- Street/Sidewalk updates – focus on what we can do to continue to make Sumner more walkable/rideable.
- Encourage developing an urban reforestation plan that will provide both character for the community, and help with keeping our city cooler as our climate changes,

2. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

My experience in Operations, Marketing, and People & Organization Management, has given me a wonderful blend of hard and soft skills. The myriad responsibilities and priorities that a community needs to balance with understanding the desires of area constituents is something I can translate from my corporate experiences. How to be both practical and aspirational with a proactive transparency is what I strive for.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

I have only participated as an observer with city of Sumner council meetings and study sessions. While a resident of San Diego CA, I participated on both Community Homelessness and Mission Bay Conservation issues.

In the past I have also volunteered with San Digueto River Valley Conservation, sat on a number of Industry based committees (Association of National Advertisers), and served two years as a board member with the International Ballet Theatre.

**Profile:**

Award-winning Marketing professional with extensive management and marketing communications background. Adept in developing and implementing plans & programs for complex organizations. Strong leadership experience in management, procurement, and operations. Adept in Integrated Marketing, Virtual Events, and Social Media. Skilled as a Visual Efx Supervisor, Editor and Animator with media and computer tools. Experienced as a board member with local arts organizations.

Work Experience:**Vice President, Operations – Worktank**

Lead an organization through a period of immense change, creating Virtual Events for myriad corporate and non-profit organizations.

- Responsible for compliance and vendor status contracts and pricing
- Lead our Sales, Creative, and Technical Solutions and IT teams
- Partnered with our Finance team to create and manage annual sales and operations budgets
- Created annual organizational goals and mentored subsequent individual goal writing and measurements to ensure throughline commitment to desired outcomes,
- Lead outcome reporting and offerings planning for the organization
- Created and managed our Rhythm of the Business (RoB) metrics and calendar for organization
- Recruited and managed all vendor relations
- Acted as the face and liaison to Worktank clients, vendors, and miscellaneous partners
- Had a ton of fun with a lot smart people.

Chief of Staff, Microsoft Events and Studios

I lead communications and strategic thinking for the division responsible with delivering Microsoft Product Launches, Company Meeting, Microsoft Global Exchange (MGX) and Executive Presentations.

- Created and presented Quarterly and Midyear Business Review presentations
- Managed and developed content for Quarterly All-hands meetings
- Authored GM Mid-Year and Year-End Performance Reviews
- Created a Annual Commitment setting framework for the extended group
- Lead and managed the group Rhythm of the Business (RoB) calendar along with chairing Extended Manager Meetings, Project Status Meetings and the Bi-Monthly Director Strategy Meetings

Group Manager and Executive Producer - Microsoft Production Studios (Microsoft Corporation)

Managed an organization responsible for delivering 1800 projects and managing \$20M annual operating budget for one of the largest corporate-based media groups in the US.

- Designed selection criteria and KPIs for Video Production Vendor program resulting in the creation of a pool of 34 vendor companies (down from 661) managing projects within 14 genres.
- Managed Production Team, Asset Management Team, Editorial Team, Audio Team, Stage Production Team, Encoding & Streaming Team, Business Operations Team and Production Operations Team.
- Managed Operating budget and forecast for a staff of 35 Individual Contributors and Managers.

Senior Producer, Interactive Media – Microsoft Studios (Microsoft Corporation)

Created Microsoft Studios Interactive Media Team responsible for delivering 170 projects and managing \$4.5M per annum.

- Developed Vendor Pool for design, project management, development, test, print, and CD duplication & DVD replication services.
- Designed and developed Spec and Test management workflows
- Created and recruited FTE team to manage efforts.

Senior Producer – Pinnacle Effects (Cowles Publishing)

Managed Commercial, Broadcast Design and Feature Film productions for national award winning Visual Effects & Animation production company.

Production Manager, Editor/Animator – Digital Post & Graphics (Robinson Communications)

Managed Production scheduling, quoting, planning and pitching. Edited and animated commercials, music videos, broadcast design packages and corporate technical animations.

Freelance Musician

Performed as a drummer/percussionist specializing in Musical Theater.

Education:

Western Washington University, Bellingham WA
Kellogg Executive Education, Chicago IL

Associations:

Association of National Advertisers (ANA)
West Coast Media Committee
Social Media Committee
International Ballet Theater – Board of Directors
Past Member of SMPTE, BDA and ITVA

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name
Last First MI

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Signature

Date

Resume

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1. What is your vision for our City and community?

I purchased my home in July of 2016. I was drawn to the small town, welcoming feel. I never felt like an outsider. I am hopeful that we can keep our small town feel while simultaneously accepting growth and working to mitigate the problems that come with it. I would like Sumner to continue to be a city where everyone that lives, works and visits here feels welcomed, valued and invited to be a part of our wonderful city.

2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?

Availability of services and inclusion to support our growing population

Families need access to basic needs: affordable housing and shopping, medical care and ease of transportation to these services. Families want a place for their children to play and attend schools where they feel seen and safe. When these needs are lacking due to services lagging behind growth, a sense of desperation or even selfish concern becomes your norm: you do what you need to do to take care of yourself and your family. In addition, if you do not feel you are a welcomed member of your community, you in turn do not care about the community or how your behavior may impact the community. This in turn can result in a correlation between population growth and crime rates.

I think the city could build a strong(er) partnership with Pierce County human services, the YMCA and the school district to invest in medical and mental health services that are accessible to everyone. The downtown, older portions of Sumner are rich with parks and access to the Link Trail. The area of Sumner around the YMCA and Windmill Gardens where large housing developments are being constructed, from what I see, does not include additional parks and play spaces for families to access. Lastly, all residents of Sumner need to be purposefully invited to participate in the decision-making process for the future of our city.

Increase in property damage and theft rates

When I first moved to Sumner, my front door and a few windows would not lock. Someone could enter my house with ease, yet as a single woman, I never worried. It has been disconcerting to see a full-time security guard at Fred Meyer and to read about numerous shootings and robberies. I believe that many are quick to point fingers at certain groups and circumstances. However, I do not believe that increases in crime can be blamed on just one circumstance. Like all challenges there are many factors that play a role.

I work with the most at-risk students and families in the Auburn school district and I see firsthand the repercussions of population growth coupled with a lack of or access to basic and social services needed to support a growing population. As I stated above, I believe this is one of the most impactful causes of a community that experiences an increase in crime rates. Population growth supports the tax base which

then funds the services needed. I would like to participate in finding solutions to support our new neighbors that reduce the impact of basic services lagging behind growth.

Traffic

My concerns around traffic are multifaceted: safety concerns around walkability and bikeability, pollution concerns, shrinking availability of parking, and the seeming lack of road space to support the population growth that is following the construction of the housing developments.

Traffic impacts the people that live and work here and can be a deterrent to people visiting our city. If people are reluctant to visit due to congestion and/or unavailability of parking we are losing their revenue for our local businesses which in turn supports the financial health of our city operations.

Recognizing that funding would need to be generated, I support working with Sound Transit to create more shuttle services to transport visitors and commuters into and out of the city. Additionally, I would like to explore having a City of Sumner shuttle service to transport our own residents throughout town, whether it be for commuting, shopping, accessing other basic needs or participating in community events. I would like to be an active participant in those discussions and planning sessions.

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

I would like to answer #3 and #4 together:

I use my voting voice to support public leaders and policies that align with my priorities. My direct experience is my leadership positions within my school, my employing school district and the Auburn Education Association. These positions have provided me with skills and knowledge that I can apply as a Council Member. I understand that the gears of policy and decision making in public spaces are complex and nuanced. To contribute to the process while representing your members (constituents, your department, your association) you must be willing and able to listen to what they need and want, and balance this with the structure of the 'system'.

My greatest strengths that I will bring to the council are active listening, analytical problem solving and my willingness to ask questions of all stakeholders. I have enough self-awareness to appreciate my lack of direct community involvement and the detailed operations of running a city. I believe this can be leveraged as a positive. I do not bring preconceived opinions, bias or frustration to the current functioning of our council and city. Instead I bring an eagerness to learn, to represent the interests of the people of the City of Sumner and to contribute as a problem solver that supports sustainable growth, ensuring that Sumner continues to be a great place to live, work and play. *"Come on In!"*

MELISSA MESSMER

SKILLS

- Active listener; I listen to understand
- Analytical and critical thinker
- Organized and detail oriented
- Eager to ask questions
- Ability to say "I don't know"
- Excellent written and oral communication
- Accept responsibility for actions
- Computer skills
- Adept at managing changing landscapes of policy and procedure
- Understand that laws, policies and legislation are complex with nuance
- Attentive to confidentiality
- Honest and ethical

BOARDS, COMMITTEES and WORK GROUPS

- Auburn Education Association Lead building representative, former executive board service
- Bargaining team for contract modifications for West Auburn High School
- Program Manager and Department chair
- Graduation Coordinator
- Auburn Equity Leadership Academy Participant/Building Equity Team
- Hiring Committee
- Mentor Teacher for Early Career Educators
- School Improvement Plan Team Member
- Curriculum Adoption Committees

EDUCATION

AUGUST 2008

MASTER OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY, LESLEY COLLEGE

JUNE 2000

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION, WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Biology and General Science endorsement

WORK HISTORY

AUGUST 2024 - present

PROGRAM MANAGER and TEACHER: WEST AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL: OFF CAMPUS

- Coordinate and collaborate with stakeholders at the state, district and building level in developing a school experience to re-engage the most at-risk students in Auburn School District.
- Attend and oversee meetings to develop best practices to best serve the needs of students and families while meeting State and District requirements
- Prepare and deliver trainings for best practices and the State of Washington Alternative Learning Experience (ALE) compliance requirements
- Maintain State mandated ALE compliance records
- Monitor student progress in online courses
- Develop relationships with students and families to re-engage them in school
- Auburn Equity Leadership Academy Member/Building Equity Team
- Auburn Education Association Lead Building Representative
- Graduation coordinator

SEPTEMBER 2016 - AUGUST 2024 (also previously SEPTEMBER 2002 - JUNE 2006)

SCIENCE TEACHER, WEST AUBURN HIGH SCHOOL

- Taught Biology, Physical Science and Environment Biology/Science
- Science Department Chair
- Actively involved in the district science curriculum adoption including piloting materials
- Hiring committee member
- Mentor teacher
- Auburn Equity Leadership Academy Participant/Building Equity Team
- Auburn Education Association Lead Building Representative
- Collaborated with administration to create a re-engagement program for at-risk students
- School Improvement Plan Team Member

NOVEMBER 2014 – SEPTEMBER 2016

SCIENCE TEACHER, CASCADE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Taught Biology and Eighth Grade Science
- Participated in the district-wide Biology professional learning community and contributed to the district guidelines for course enrollment and development at the middle school level
- Auburn Education Association Middle School Executive Board Member
- Auburn Teacher Leadership Academy Participant

SEPTEMBER 2007 – NOVEMBER 2014

VIRTUAL SCIENCE TEACHER, INSIGHT SCHOOL OF WASHINGTON

- Taught Biology, Physical Science, Environmental Science, Forensic Science
- Worked collaboratively with department members to build a cohesive, consistent biology program
- Presented best practices for virtual teachers at Washington Association for Learning Alternatives Conference

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name
Last First MI

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Signature

Date

Resume

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Answers to Supplemental Questions

Submitted by Nicholas S. Biermann, 10/8/2024

1. What is your vision for our City and community?

Answer: *My vision is for Sumner to keep building a community that treasures, preserves, and promotes our shared history both now and in the future. Sumner is unique among the Seattle/Tacoma area suburbs: Residents and visitors alike often remark that Sumner still retains its small-town charm. Let's keep it that way. With proper planning and foresight, Sumner can manage future growth and the pressures of development so that the historic charm is not lost but instead serves as an anchor of a vibrant and thriving community.*

I also envision Sumner as a City where all members of the community are respected and feel heard. This means promoting an environment in which citizen input is received and taken into account when the City and Council make decisions that affect the future for all of us. Respect is more than simply listening. It also means engaging with citizens and acting on their behalf when concerns are raised.

2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?

Answer:

- Managing growth while preserving the historic charm and the "small-town feel" of Sumner: Historic preservation is of utmost importance as the City continues to feel outside pressure from urban sprawl and growth. It is imperative to work now to preserve our past and prevent the history of Sumner from being lost forever.

- The pressures of growth also bring, among other issues, public safety concerns, added traffic, and new struggles to care for those unable to care for themselves. Facing new problems will require thinking "outside the box" to forge public-private partnerships that offer creative and inventive solutions for the entire community.

- Improving communication between the City and residents is an essential part of fostering a reciprocal relationship with the community. This means providing better notice of important meetings and doing a better job overall at promoting opportunities for civic engagement. Community building takes on many forms, and better communication is one way the City can seek greater citizen involvement.

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

Answer: *I would bring a fresh perspective to City Council. I do not have experience in city government, but I do have a history of civic engagement and community involvement wherever I have lived. I also bring a willingness to ask questions when needed and seek clarity where appropriate. I will act to gather all available information and make the most-informed decision possible. I would seek input from the citizens of our community, meet with residents, and use their insight to set focused priorities that steer the direction of our City on a course for success.*

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

Answer: *As you very well know, I am an actively engaged and vocal participant in the community. My passion to make our community of a better place drives my enthusiasm. Civic participation is an extremely important part of this involvement, and my participation is evident in various ways—from voting to serving on a jury to attending council meetings and committees/commissions. Participation also means making use of public comment periods to voice concerns about the direction of our community. I am continually working to put these words into action. As such, I have applied for positions on city committees/commissions and will continue to do so as we work together to shape the future of Sumner.*

I have been leading the charge to protect the history of Sumner and preserve it for future generations. As part of this effort, I am serving on the board of a newly formed non-profit being organized here in Sumner to not only Save the Ryan House from demolition but also to make the history of the community accessible to the public once again. We are seeking a new vision for the Ryan House Museum that tells more of the story of Sumner and celebrates the heritage of all residents. Serving on the board is providing me an opportunity to gain leadership experience and also hone the skills needed to manage the financial flow of an organization.

Being a leader in this mission has meant reaching out to the community, building relationships, hearing the concerns of residents, and then advocating on their behalf. These duties also describe the duties of a council member, and for that reason, I believe I am the right person to fill the current vacant council seat.

Nicholas S. Biermann

Education:

Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Science, Univ. of Wisconsin, May 2003

Master of Science in Meteorology, Univ. of Oklahoma, May 2010

Work History:

- Meteorology Expert Team, The Tomorrow Companies, Boston/Tel Aviv (Work-from-home, June 2020 – Present)
- Road Weather Forecaster, Narwhal/Weathernet, Salt Lake City, then Bellevue, WA (November 2015 – May 2020)
- Hydrometeorologist, Vieux, Inc., Norman, OK (July 2009 – March 2015)
- Weather forecaster, Weather or Not, Shawnee, KS (Aug 2008 - July'09)

Other Positions Held:

Adjunct Faculty/Instructor for 4-year colleges and 2-year community colleges:

University of Oklahoma (December 2007)

Rose State College, Midwest City, OK (August - December 2015)

Utah Valley University, Orem UT (August 2016 – May 2017)

Salt Lake Community College (August 2016 – December 2017)

Community Involvement:

- Chairperson of the *Save the Ryan House* effort locally here in Sumner
- Involved with starting a *new* non-profit community foundation
- Joined Sumner Main Street Association as a volunteer member
- Active participant in FairVote Washington, a voter rights advocacy group
- Weather education/teacher training; public outreach programs/workshops
- Graduate School Representative, School of Meteorology/Univ of Oklahoma
- Volunteer for the Women's Resource Center, Norman, OK

Civic Engagement:

- Attending city council meetings in person and virtually
- Participating in the legislative process at local, regional, and national levels
- Applied for appointment to City Forestry & Parks and Design Commissions
- Jury Duty and Voting!

Other skills:

Computer and information technology – conducting online/in-person meetings

Written and verbal communication skills – a daily part of my work

Weather, nature, news, and history photography, among others

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name

Kenna

Last

Matthew

First

M

MI

Are you a registered voter living at least one year within the City limits of Sumner? ☒ Yes

☐ No

The information provided is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.

Matthew Kenna

Signature

10/4/2024

Date

Resume

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Sumner City Council Vacancy

Matthew Kenna, 10/4/24

1. What is your vision for Sumner?

My vision for Sumner includes building upon a lot of the great work that the Council, staff, and residents have already completed, started, or envisioned. My family and I moved to the City a little over 6 years ago, without any real connections to the South Sound area. When we were looking to find a community for our growing family, we came across Sumner on the recommendation of our real estate agent and we fell in love. Driving down tree-lined Ryan Street, walking past Loyalty Park and hearing kids laughing and playing, seeing thriving businesses on Main Street; these things, and many others, told us this was a real community with identity. With that came an interest in the schools, the trails, the parks, and the local farms and businesses. Seeing the local high school band and drill team walking through our neighborhood practicing - where else do you see that?

But I also realize that my view of Sumner is only mine, it is not necessarily shared by everyone. Some may experience things very differently - I want to be a Councilmember that actively listens to those residents' voices, whether it be related to traffic, safety, housing, or any other issues the City and region faces. I would intend to see Sumner continue to thrive and embrace our challenges.

2. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?

Public safety - as I write this, there have been a few shootings. Relatedly, I know that traffic safety continues to be both a local and national issue - we have people driving significantly above speed limits, through stop signs, disobeying school zone speed limits, impaired, all on quiet residential streets. I would advocate for continued, and if needed further, investigation and effort towards making progress toward a safer Sumner. That may mean devoting new resources, doing additional community engagement, or learning from what other communities are doing or trying.

Growth/development - our region is going through rapid and intense growth. There are lots of tools at the state and local level to assist, but it will continue to be a challenge. I would continue to work with the rest of the Council, staff, and residents to strike a balance of accommodating growth, in the right context, while also trying to keep the small-town charm we all love. I bring some experience in land use and growth management planning, identifying locations that may offer opportunities to develop for commercial, residential or other purposes, but offer access to resources like parks, retail, schools, and many of the great amenities we have in town.

Mobility - I care deeply about how people get around. That looks different for everyone - some may not have a car, walking or rolling to get to their destination. Others may have to rely on their car due to lack of sidewalks, bike infrastructure, or just because it's the easiest for them. When we zoom out and look at congestion in the region, road quality and connections, it can get even more complex. I would be an advocate to increase our local biking and walking infrastructure residents can easily get around. I would also continue to explore innovative ways for residents to access public transportation, whether that is micromobility options like BusUp, expanding Sounder rail service, or other options we haven't explored or need to revisit.

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

I bring a depth of experience in a variety of topics that Sumner regularly faces - transportation and mobility, parks and open spaces, land use and growth management, grant compliance and management, with 15 years in a mix of those fields. I was at either a project lead or contributor to the Washington Statewide Human Services Transportation Plan (2022), a number of legislative provisos and reports for the state, and work with local cities and their comprehensive planning.

But I'm also curious - knowing that I don't have the depth or breadth of knowledge on every issue, but I want to engage residents, knowing my lived experience is different than theirs, and the challenges they face may not be ones I'm aware of. That curiosity is important as an elected official, and I would rely on it to learn from staff, residents, and partners as we move forward.

Professionally I would bring the ability to collaborate and coordinate. I may have a different perspective, but I will always keep an open mind. With experience in government relations and policy work, and sitting on various regional boards and committees, I recognize the importance of being open. Disagreement is temporary, and we can continue to work together despite it.

Academically I have a graduate degree in Public Administration from Eastern Washington University, a professional certificate from the University of Washington in Sustainable Transportation and in 2023 I earned my American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) credential. I'm hoping this demonstrates my interest in serving the public and local policymaking.

You'll also regularly find me and my family attending the parades and events along Main Street, taking in classes at the YMCA, or hopping on our bikes and checking out new development and businesses sprouting up. I try to consistently contribute to open houses, surveys, and feedback requested by the City because I want to help share my voice. I believe this is a strength - to be active in the community and supporting businesses and events in the process.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, and public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

Upon moving to Sumner in 2018 I initially joined the Parks and Forestry Commission where I served for 3 years. I assisted staff in shaping changes to Loyalty Park, Rainier View Park, Siebenthaler, and advocated for park expansion and improvements.

I regularly contribute my voice to Sumner Connects projects and open houses.

This spring/summer I coached my kids' youth soccer teams through the local Y.

Outside of Sumner, I contribute to a number of regional boards and committees:

- [King County subarea Transportation boards \(3\)](#): Eastside, North Seattle, South King County
- Puget Sound Regional Council committees: Regional Staff Comm. (primary), Regional Project Evaluation Committee (primary), Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Comm. (alternate)
- Puget Sound Regional Council Boards (staff analyst): Executive, Transportation Policy, and Growth Management Policy
- Washington State Transportation Comm. and Joint Transportation Comm. (staff analyst)

MATTHEW KENNA

OBJECTIVE ·

I have served in government roles for nearly 15 years, 8 of those for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) focusing on large statewide policy issues and locally impactful policy.

EXPERIENCE ·

Senior Planning and Policy Analyst

WSDOT | Seattle, WA

JUL 2022 – PRESENT

Prepare regular policy briefings for executives, including analysis of impacts to the agency and transportation network. Build relationships with partners at local, regional, and state levels. From the ground floor build new legislative readiness program for division, tracking impactful legislation and coordination response. Stand up new process to provide state level expertise and engagement on local comprehensive planning, including resourcing, coordination across agencies, and analysis of planning impacts. High level coordination on mega project grant applications to regional competitions.

Senior Public Transportation Planner ·

WSDOT | Seattle, WA

JUL 2019 – JUN 2022

Led statewide planning for the Human Services Transportation Plan and the Public Transportation Plan, including community engagement, consultant management, writing, editing, research, and data analysis. Supported local and regional planning as subject matter expert on projects with transit development plan guidance, local human services transportation plans, and active transportation coordination. Facilitated national workgroup with panel of transportation executives. Project managed \$500K consultant contract, aimed at assessment of statewide transportation insecurity for legislative provisos and studies. Collaborated with internal and external partners, all with competing priorities.

Other experience includes Data Analyst (WSDOT) and Reporting & Data Compliance Program Mgr. (Bellevue College).

EDUCATION ·

Master of Public Administration (MPA)

Eastern Washington University | Spokane, WA

2009

Bachelor of Arts in Communication (BA)

Washington State University | Pullman, WA

2006

SKILLS ·

I regularly deliver presentations to boards/commissions comprised of elected officials and executive leadership to inform and gain trust, turn relationships into partnerships, building systems to track policy, and synthesizing key policy impacts.

LEADERSHIP ·

Recently completed American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification in November 2023. Earned several certifications and awards, included Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification, and State Appreciation Awards at the Public Transportation Conference in 2018 and again in 2022.

Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name

Huo

Last

Amy

First

A

MI

Are you a registered voter living at least one year within the City limits of Sumner? ☒ Yes

☐ No

The information provided is true and I affirm that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and Laws of the State of Washington.


Signature

10/8/2024

Date

Resume

Please attach a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Sumner on separate pages using no more than two pages total:

1. What is your vision for our City and community?
2. What are three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?
3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

Applications and supporting documents must be received by October 8th at 5pm. Applications and supplemental materials received after 5pm will not be accepted. Applications that include supporting materials that exceed the maximum page limit will not be accepted.

The application and supporting documents should be e-mailed to: andream@sumnerwa.gov or mailed to

Andrea Marquez, City Attorney
City of Sumner
Councilmember Recruitment
1104 Maple Street, Sumner, WA 98390

Sumner City Council Application Addendum

1. What is your vision for our City and community?

My vision for Sumner and our community is a space with leadership that includes, involves, and embraces all voices and works to address the issues those voices raise in an impartial manner. I also envision a community that is aesthetically beautiful with clean spaces provided for building connection and ample opportunity to discuss the best way to solve problems together. I envision a community of strong individuals who are actively participating in, and starting, local Sumner businesses.

2. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose the City address these?

First, homelessness and vandalism appear to be plaguing our community. Although they may not always be related, I believe that there are possible solutions that can address both issues. The measure of a community is how well it takes care of its most vulnerable members; and, I would suggest that many of the most vulnerable reside within the city limits unhoused. Although the City is building more housing, there must be further action taken to (1) make that housing accessible to specifically low-income residents; and, (2) to ensure the safety of those residents. Coordination on the level of the City Council with organizations such as the Pierce County Housing Authority for more geographic outreach to bring local services to the attention of those who need it most would be a priority measure. Other ideas to address these issues would be to adopt a housing-first initiative that focuses on removing financial barriers for applicants with past issues to find housing; developing a short-term housing system that addresses issues with substance abuse and mental health; and, potentially exploring ordinances that could be adopted to prevent homelessness like those enacted in Tacoma and Seattle.

Second, I am increasingly concerned about the aesthetic qualities of Sumner deteriorating due to negligent property management and abundant amounts of refuse strewn about roadways and in common areas. I would solve this issue by working with local groups to adopt areas picking up trash and refuse and develop community clean up days that will instill pride in our community. I would suggest more availability of waste receptacles placed around the city and potentially adopt methods for greater enforcement for littering. Another possibility is to look at strengthening ordinances regarding the management of abandoned lots and mismanaged properties. Well-maintained property can potentially reduce issues with vandalism and problems stemming from the unhoused population as mentioned above.

Three, ecological restoration and native habitat management are essential building blocks of any successful community. As Sumner abuts the banks of the Puyallup River, I would suggest that one of the main priorities of the City should be to maintain safe levels of runoff and properly manage the buildup of undesirable invasive plant species. We could potentially collaborate with local agencies to implement incentives for residents for plant native species; remove invasive species, and educate residents on how to create water-

filtering lawns to protect our local water source. Additionally, we could explore opportunities for community members to adopt native trees to be planted in common areas.

Finally, I would suggest that the City consider creating a community garden space. Not only would such a space allow for support to anyone who may be experiencing food insecurity, as well as possibly providing fresh food to the local food bank, it would foster a greater appreciation for our local community and provide space to bring community members together to support the initiatives explained above.

3. What strengths would you bring to the Council?

I am currently a newly licensed attorney working for the Housing Justice Project at Tacomaprobono Community Lawyers, but I have also lived in a foreign country, owned my own business, and I have depth and breadth of lived experience that allows me to view many opinions in an objective, but compassionate, point of view. I work with clients every day facing the imminent possibility of losing their housing and craft creative ways to both preserve their housing but not preventing landlords from maintaining their income. I am able to see both points of view and without negatively affecting either in most cases, I can protect my client's rights and protect the opposing clients' business interests. Navigating difficult interpersonal terrain is perhaps the greatest strength I would bring to the Council.

4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on City, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions, and how this has contributed to the Sumner community. How is this relevant to the position of Sumner City Councilmember?

Until I graduated from law school and passed the bar exam, I have had little time outside of work and school to put roots down in the community. I look forward to participating now that I have the availability, starting first with this application.

In the past, have used my business acumen to give back to my community in multiple ways. I organized fundraisers for local nonprofits such as Big Brothers Big Sisters. I also collaborated with leaders in our community to bring attention to food insecurity, homelessness, and other pressing community issues. I organized with other businesses and farm leaders to provide support local farmers through advocacy and awareness. Many times, I also had to work with local public officials to find solutions or workarounds because regulatory hurdles prevented our business from moving forward. It is these experiences deeply involving the community where we lived at the time

Additionally, my law school class was made up of residents from every state in the United States. We were tasked with working together on group projects and consistently worked together to achieve a desired outcome. As a Councilmember, it is extraordinarily important to take in all opinions, advice, and information and evaluate what is the best decision for the people of Sumner and for the future of the City. In all of my community building activities, the single most important issue is to work toward the common goal: secure the best outcome possible for all parties involved.

AMY HUO

Click to find out more about me
and see my published work:



WORK EXPERIENCE

Tacomaprobono Community Lawyers

Staff Attorney, Housing Justice Project, August 2024—Present

- Defending appointed counsel tenants against evictions
- Negotiating repayment plans, moveout agreements and other settlements

Washington State Office of the Attorney General

Law Clerk, Antitrust Division, August 2023—May 2024

- Analyzed current proposed state antitrust legislation
- Review and code merger notification documents in Everlaw
- Research memorandums on complex legal issues

Law Clerk, Government Compliance and Enforcement Division, June 2023—August 2023

- Drafted Motions to Dismiss, Declarations, Exhibits, Motions Practice
- Researched complicated legal topics and drafted advice and informational legal memorandums

Economic Inclusion Clinic

Certified Student Attorney, Spring 2023 Semester

- Created and executed a full legal business entity curriculum including videos, a teaching manual, presentation, forms and materials for the purposes of teaching formerly-incarcerated individuals how to start their own businesses in the state of Minnesota

Wrongful Convictions and Sentencing Clinic, Fall 2023—Spring 2024

Student Attorney, Fall 2023—Spring 2024

- Reviewing case materials to craft recommendation on whether to pursue exoneration of incarcerated individuals

Open Markets Institute, Washington, D.C.

Agricultural Policy Intern, May 2022—April 2023

- Published articles on proposed antitrust rulemaking and other antitrust law available at my [*Linktree*](#)

EDUCATION

Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, MN

Juris Doctor, May 2024

Activities: Student Bar Association Representative; Mitchell Hamline Mock Trial Team Witness Volunteer; Food Law Advisory Board Student Liaison; Antitrust Society Vice President

University of Delaware, Newark, DE – M.A., English Literature, 2012

University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI – B.A., English, 2008

Certificates

Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts – Certificate in Culinary Arts, 2016

Mastodon Valley Farm – Certificate in Permaculture Design, 2015

Villanova University – Certificate in Principles of Fundraising, 2013

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Whole Foods Market, Maple Grove, MN

Culinary Team Member, October 2019—March 2020

- Prepared ingredients and executed recipes for the Prepared Foods division

Locavore Mobile Kitchen, Eau Claire, WI

Chef and Owner, March 2018—October 2019

- Generated menus incorporating 80% locally-sourced and 100% scratch-made items from over 30 local

- farms and producers
- Voted 2019 & 2020 #1 Food Truck and 2019 #1 Chef of the Chippewa Valley

Farm Fresh Atlas of Western Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI

Sales and Publishing Representative, October 2018–October 2019

- Organized, published, edited, and distributed yearly directory of farm information over 18 counties in Western Wisconsin

The Informalist, Eau Claire, WI

Executive Chef, January 2017–March 2018 *Sous Chef*, April 2016–January 2017

- Local farm outreach and research including vegetable and animal breeding and selection
- Scheduling, training, development of kitchen and front-of-house staff

Blue Hill at Stone Barns, Pocantico Hills, NY

Line Cook Extern, January 2016–March 2016

Together Farms, Mondovi, WI

Sustainable Food Production Representative, April 2013–October 2013

- Created and executed a marketing, plan social media outreach, and education on Community Supported Agriculture programs and sustainable food production

Tangletown's Wise Acre Eatery, Minneapolis, MN

Line Cook, May 2015–November 2015

Whitehall Public Golf Course, Whitehall, WI

Line Cook, October 2013–April 2015

West Chester University Foundation, West Chester, PA

Annual Fund Assistant, June 2012–April 2013

- Created annual fund mailings, fundraising events, and alumni social media outreach

Full-time Washington Lawyer Bar Exam Preparation, May 2024–July 2024

Full-time Parenting, March 2020–May 2022

SELECTED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

[Know Your Farmer Dinner Series](#), Summer 2019

- Raised \$2,233 during a series of dinners held at local farms to highlight locally produced goods and support four Eau Claire, WI-area non-profit organizations.

[Women in Culinary Scholarship](#), Fundraiser, March 1, 2019

- Raised \$2,650 for women enrolled in the culinary program at Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire, WI with the goal of reducing the gender gap in the local culinary industry.

[Farm-to-table fundraiser for The Community Table](#), January 11, 2019

- Raised \$14,000 at a fundraiser for The Community Table of Eau Claire, WI: an organization that provides a free hot meal every day of the year to anyone who walks in the door.