



# CITIZENS' BOARD/COMMISSION APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT CITY OF LA HABRA

Please complete and submit to the City Clerk Department located in the Administration Building at 110 E. La Habra Boulevard, La Habra, CA 90631. Please select the position applying for:

POSITION: Other OTHER POSITION: City Council Position - Tim Shaw (vacated)

APPLICANT'S NAME: Thomas A. (Tom) Ludwinski

RESIDENCE/BUSINESS ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

PHONE: [REDACTED] FAX: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF LA HABRA? 32 Years OCCUPATION: Retired

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: BS, Eng. Mechanics - Michigan State University, MS - Aerospace Eng. - USC

MEMBERSHIP OR LICENSE IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:  
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

MEMBERSHIP IN CIVIC AND OR SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:  
American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), 26+ years. ~ 1000 youth participants. Positions held - Coach, Referee Administrator, Referee instructor, Referee mentor and assessor, National referee, Assistant Commissioner. Former Cubmaster of Pack 817 in La Habra which included 100+ boys. Former Scoutmaster of Pack 707 which included 40+ boys from La Habra, Brea, Fullerton.

CIVIC INTERESTS:  
Any/All. Reasonable city growth, responsible budgets, fairness for all. Excited to be involved in helping La Habra improve business and recreation for all residents. Want to keep conversations civil to achieve the best possible results for everyone. La Habra.

DO YOU POSSESS ANY SPECIAL SKILLS?:  
Good organizational/management skills. Former Director at The Boeing Company.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:  
32 year resident of La Habra. Retired from Boeing/Rockwell 36+ years. My wife Rosy retired from her 25+ year career at Boeing/McDonnell Douglas. Rosy has been a La Habra resident since 1963 and is currently on the board for the Children's Museum in La Habra. Raised three kids (Celia, Graham, Hope), all of whom went through local public schools.

*It is the policy of the City Council to make appointments to citizens' committees, boards and commissions on the basis of interests and qualifications of the applicant. Applicants must be residents of the City of La Habra.*

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED]

----- Please do not write below this line - for office use only -----

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Received By: \_\_\_\_\_

LH Resident Verified: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Verified: \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Applicant Notified by Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Applicant Notified by Letter: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Follow-up Letters Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
JAN 18 2021  
City Clerk Department  
City of La Habra

I am applying for the La Habra City Council position recently vacated by Tim Shaw.

I along with my wife of 35 years - Rosy - have been La Habra residents since 1990. We raised three children, all going through local public schools including Ladera Palma, Sierra Vista, and Washington Middle School.

I am a graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Mechanics. I am also a graduate of the University of Southern California with a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering. I recently retired from Boeing/Rockwell after 36+ years, holding multiple positions as Engineer, Senior Engineer, IT Engineer, Supervisor, Manager, Senior Manager in Engineering, IT, Logistics IT Director, and Boeing IT Commercial Planes Support Director. Most positions included managing multimillion-dollar budgets.

My educational and work experiences have given me a broad perspective and understanding of how to work with both small and large groups of people - compromising when/where necessary while continually focusing on achieving results. In addition to understanding everyone's emotions and where they're coming from, it is also necessary to consider all relevant issues.

My career experience highlights my professional qualifications for city council. Additionally, I also have demonstrated continuing commitment to La Habra community involvement via my years of volunteering as a Cub Scout leader (Cubmaster), Boy Scout leader (Scoutmaster), and AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) leader in multiple positions for over 26 years ... and counting. You can still find me on the fields at Imperial Middle School almost every Saturday either refereeing, mentoring new referees including youth referees, helping in the snack shack, cooking burgers, painting fields, removing trash, and whatever else needs to be done.

My wife also has a strong commitment to La Habra, has been a resident of La Habra since 1963, graduated from Sonora High School and UCLA with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. She was a La Habra Girl Scout leader for 20 years, retired from a career at Boeing/McDonnell Douglas after 25+ years as a Sr. Engineer, and is currently a member of the La Habra Children's Museum Board of Directors.

As a recent retiree, I now have the time and opportunity to help my local city in whatever way possible. Being on the La Habra City Council is one of those important positions that fits my skills/experience well. With my background, I can work cooperatively with other board members who have diverse opinions, strengths, and experiences.

I am a supporter of local businesses, law enforcement, youth activities, and the average citizen. Each has their needs, requirements, and desires. Each needs to be listened to. It is important to try to balance all of them for the best result for La Habra.

Having a background both in my education and in my 36+ year career in Engineering, Logistics, and IT will bring valuable technical experience to issues as required. Also working in multiple-level management positions at Boeing, has given me the opportunity to improve and hone my people and negotiation skills which has been necessary at every step of the way. I believe it will bring value to the city council. I understand there is a good amount of work to be done. In any city, it may be never ending. I have no problem putting in the hours required to do whatever is necessary. I hope to be able to work cooperatively with all La Habra City Council members, all staff, and everyone else necessary to achieve the best results for La Habra. There are certainly big shoes to fill, and I hope to be able to learn from the other council members and staff so that I am able to do the best job possible for the people of La Habra.

Thank you for your consideration,

[REDACTED]

Tom Ludwinski

[REDACTED]

La Habra, CA 90631-3258

[REDACTED]



# APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO TO THE LA HABRA CITY COUNCIL

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Please complete this application AND attach an essay not to exceed 1½ pages long describing your background and experience, why you want to be appointed to the La Habra City Council, and why you think you are the best qualified candidate for this position. Print and submit this application, with the essay, to the City Clerk's Department by either emailing the documents to [cc@lahabraca.gov](mailto:cc@lahabraca.gov), by delivering them in-person, or by mail to 110 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631. All applications and essays must be received no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

APPLICANT'S NAME: DAREN NIGSARIAN

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: dnigsarian@lahabraca.gov

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF LA HABRA? 30 Years

ARE YOU CURRENTLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN LA HABRA?  YES  NO

OCCUPATION: Retired Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff and La Habra City Planning Commissioner

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Attended Pasadena City College, Rio Hondo Junior College and California State University Fullerton

MEMBERSHIPS OR LICENSES IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

Former California Peace Officer Standards and Training Advanced Certificate and member of the American Planning Association.

MEMBERSHIPS IN CIVIC AND/OR SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

Multiple current and former involvements, including the La Habra Host Lion's Club, the Boys & Girl's Clubs of La Habra, the City of La Habra, the La Habra City School District and the La Habra Crest Homeowner's Association.

CIVIC INTERESTS:

Service and leadership roles that contribute to public welfare, safety and quality-of-life.

DO YOU POSSESS ANY ADDITIONAL AND/OR TECHNICAL SKILLS?

Knowledge and experience in local government, law enforcement, general public policy and community development.

*It is the policy of the City Council to appoint to the City Council on the basis of interests and qualifications registered voters of the City of La Habra.*

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED] DATE: 1/12/2022

----- *Please do not write below this line - for office use only* -----

Date Application Received: _____	Application Received By: _____
LH Resident Verified: _____	Date Verified: _____
Interview Date: _____	Interview Time: _____
Date Applicant Notified by Phone: _____	Date Applicant Notified by Letter: _____
Date Follow-up Letters Mailed: _____	Date Completed: _____

**RECEIVED**  
**JAN 18 2022**  
City Clerk Department  
City of La Habra

## ***DAREN NIGSARIAN***

### **Applicant for City of La Habra Council Appointee**

#### EXPERIENCE and MOTIVATION

Public service begins at your home, on your street, and in your neighborhood.

In 1998, it occurred to me that our neighborhood needed a monument sign to foster pride and identity. I was not an HOA board member, but with the permission of the board, I succeeded in managing the project. Our sign still stands today.

So began a long history of my efforts to make things better, first at home and then within my community. I became president of the La Habra Crest HOA in 2002. Following, I was appointed to the 2004 Fiscal Review Committee, and was selected to serve as Vice-Chair. I presented the committee's final report to City Council and proposed what later became "Measure G," intending to lower and extend the City's utility tax. I was then asked by Councilmember Steve Anderson to chair the "Measure G" campaign committee. Despite my best efforts, the measure did not pass. Hard lessons learned, although my involvement in "Measure T" did lead to success. Subsequently, I was appointed to the La Habra Reward Fund Committee, worked enthusiastically as a La Habra Host Lion, authored a newspaper column in the Orange County Register, "Star Progress" ("La Habra Now"), and was appointed to La Habra's Planning Commission in 2006.

In 2008, La Habra was devastated by the loss of Councilmember Anderson. I applied for an appointment to the vacancy, and neither candidate prevailed, leading to a challenging campaign. Although I did not gain the seat, I continued to serve on the Planning Commission. In 2010, I campaigned again for an open council seat, and emerged just behind former Councilmember Mike Blazey. My commission term expired shortly thereafter, but I remained committed to public service and retained an unabashed passion for the best interests of our caring community. In 2012, the La Habra City School District Board of Trustees appointed me to the Personnel Commission, where I served as chair. As of today, I have served for 20 years as the La Habra Crest HOA president. I am also very proud to have served as a board member of the Boys and Girl's Clubs of La Habra for over 10 years. During my two-year term as president, I led our club to make massive capital improvements in security for our kids.

I retired as a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff in 2014 after 30 years of service and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. I was re-appointed to the La Habra Planning Commission in 2016, and to-date, have served as chairperson for three of a total 11 years on the Planning Commission (along with chairing the Westridge "Rancho" hearings). Looking back at almost 25 years of community service in La Habra, I see successes and setbacks, all of which have informed and molded the skills I have gained.

Every citizen should find what they can contribute to the goal of community— a goal that is greater than ourselves. If we have an ability or specific talent that can possibly improve lives beyond our own, I believe we should commit to the effort. It can begin with acts of simple kindness and compassion, and it may lead to community service and elected office. No matter the scale, the motivation must stem from a love of the result. Central should be a belief in each other, the idea of progress and the limitless possibilities of good faith.

Through several decades of service, I've learned that leadership depends upon consensus and collegiality. Deliberative bodies function best as a team. There should be no ulterior motive or independent agenda. To paraphrase former President Reagan: "there's no limit to what you can accomplish, if you don't care who gets the credit."

I am a happily-retired family man who has been enormously blessed by my service to La Habra. The dear friends I've gained have made every sacrifice and disappointment as valuable as any success. I believe my knowledge of local government, extensive leadership experience and embrace of La Habra's caring community have positioned me as an ideal appointee for this vacant seat. Going forward, with gratitude to the La Habra City Council for consideration, I will always strive to do the right thing, for the right reasons.

Daren Nigsarian



# APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO TO THE LA HABRA CITY COUNCIL

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Please complete this application **AND** attach an essay not to exceed 1½ pages long describing your background and experience, why you want to be appointed to the La Habra City Council, and why you think you are the best qualified candidate for this position. Print and submit this application, with the essay, to the City Clerk's Department by either emailing the documents to [cc@lahabraca.gov](mailto:cc@lahabraca.gov), by delivering them in-person, or by mail to 110 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631. All applications and essays must be received no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

APPLICANT'S NAME: Carrie Surich

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] la Habra Ca 90631

HOME PHONE: none CELL PHONE: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF LA HABRA? 31+years

ARE YOU CURRENTLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN LA HABRA?  YES  NO

OCCUPATION: Realtor

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Graduated from James A. Garfield HS, ELA College took a few business courses, Real

MEMBERSHIPS OR LICENSES IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

CAR California Association of Realtor, NAR National Association of Realtor, PWA Pacific West Associal of Realtors, DRE Department of Real Estate, CRS Certified Relocation Specialist

MEMBERSHIPS IN CIVIC AND/OR SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

LH Community Service Commissioner, La Habra Area Chamber of Commerce member, president of La Habra Meals on Wheels, Board member on CRCC Community Resource Care Center, member of Collaborative, Active chair for LH Veterans Committee, member of LH Womens Club, Advisor to LH Youth Committee

CIVIC INTERESTS:

Enjoy working with our seniors, Veterans, Youths, Non profits, Blood Drives, and participating in I love La Habra, being part of and participating in many of the city events

DO YOU POSSESS ANY ADDITIONAL AND/OR TECHNICAL SKILLS?

Computers, zoom meetings

*It is the policy of the City Council to make appointments to the City Council on the basis of interests and qualifications of the applicant. Applicants must be residents and registered voters of the City of La Habra.*

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED] DATE: January 20, 2022

----- Please do not write below this line - for office use only -----

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Received By: \_\_\_\_\_  
LH Resident Verified: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Verified: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Applicant Notified by Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Applicant Notified by Letter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Follow-up Letters Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
JAN 20 2022  
City Clerk Department  
City of La Habra

## Essay for Vacant Seat on La Habra City Council 2022

Honorable Mayor Jose Medrano, Mayor Pro Tem James Gomez esteemed council members Rose Espinoza and Steve Simonian.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself and share a little history and background with you.

I grew up in ELA with mom dad 4 siblings and our grandmother in a home my mother was born in.

I attended and graduated from James A. Garfield HS in 1971. I took a few courses in business at ELA College.

I have been working since I was 13 yrs old. I had a great experience working with the Neighborhood Youth Corp LA during the summer months with many of the under-privilege kids my same age.

After HS graduation I was hired at Security Pacific Bank which is now Bank of America. I was employed there for 19 years. Started out as a bank teller and went up through the ranks to customer service, Merchant teller, loan processor and finally the Operations Manager. I took away great experience in the financial sector.

Moved on to Parsons Federal Credit Union in Pasadena as a loan processor for one year before being hired at Southern California Bank in La Habra which is now US Bank as the Operations manager for three years.

Wanting to start a new chapter in my life I committed to pursue a full-time real estate career. I became a realtor in 1990 and have been working with buyers and sellers to help make their dream come true as a homeowner and begin their new futures for over 30+ years now. I've lived in LH for over 31 years, married with 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. I've been serving the community in many different capacities and feel satisfied that I'm truly making a difference at the end of each day.

Understanding the needs of our seniors, veterans and the food insecure it prompted me to volunteer with Meals on Wheels delivering 1-2 times a week and was asked to join the Board of Directors, also helping CRCC Community Resource Care Center and joining the Board to help grow the organization.

After working on the Viet Nam Traveling Wall project where I asked to chair the opening, closing and candlelight ceremonies it created a passion to continue to work with the American

Legion Post 267 and has been the most humbling experience I've ever had and so honored to work alongside with many great volunteers in our community.

Chairing LH Veterans Committee for the cities Veterans Day event for several years now and work with a full team of volunteers that come together and bring a great event each year, even though the Pandemic we still found a way to honor our Veterans.

Having served on the Community Service Commission these past 8 years has definitely given me the opportunity to learn the aspects of LH city government I hadn't known prior to coming on board. This has taught me how to make good decision, ask great questions and making strong recommendations to the City Council for review.

Having the great opportunity and experiences I've culminated in the 23 years in the financial sector, over 30 years in the Real Estate Industry, over 10 years of continuous volunteering in the city of LH and 8 years as a Community Services Commissioner has definitely made me a strong candidate you can depend on for the open seat on the City Council.

I feel extremely grateful for every opportunity I get to serve with the City of LH and if I'm lucky enough to be appointed to the open seat it would be such an honor to join a great team and I know without a doubt that I'll make a great addition to the council and can bring my wisdom, experience, and eager desire to help our "Caring Community" thrive.

Carrie Surich



# APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO TO THE LA HABRA CITY COUNCIL

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Please complete this application **AND** attach an essay not to exceed 1½ pages long describing your background and experience, why you want to be appointed to the La Habra City Council, and why you think you are the best qualified candidate for this position. Print and submit this application, with the essay, to the City Clerk's Department by either emailing the documents to [cc@lahabracalifornia.gov](mailto:cc@lahabracalifornia.gov), by delivering them in-person, or by mail to 110 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631. All applications and essays must be received no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

APPLICANT'S NAME: Christine Michelle Bernier

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] La Habra, Ca. 90631

HOME PHONE: none CELL PHONE: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF LA HABRA? 48 years

ARE YOU CURRENTLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN LA HABRA?  YES  NO

OCCUPATION: Community Advocate

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Community College

MEMBERSHIPS OR LICENSES IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:

N/A

MEMBERSHIPS IN CIVIC AND/OR SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of the Tri-parish collaborative that works on homelessness and housing planning commissioner since 2017 and has served as Chair and vice chair Gpack member for the city of La Habra co-creator and former member of the LOVE La Habra and the La Habra Tamale festival boards.

CIVIC INTERESTS:

I have been working since 2010 on homelessness in OC as well as La Habra, food insecurity in our community working with our local food pantries, food sustainability groups such as Living Justly and Meals on wheels. Helping to tackle childhood obesity through Move More Eat Healthy and programs such as the LH Collaborative. (SEE ATTACHED)

DO YOU POSSESS ANY ADDITIONAL AND/OR TECHNICAL SKILLS?

I am an Artist and Sewist that knows Signlanguage

*It is the policy of the City Council to make appointments to the City Council on the basis of interests and qualifications of the applicant. Applicants must be residents and registered voters of the City of La Habra.*

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED] DATE: 1/19/2022

----- Please do not write below this line - for office use only -----

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Received By: \_\_\_\_\_  
LH Resident Verified: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Verified: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Applicant Notified by Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Applicant Notified by Letter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Follow-up Letters Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED

JAN 20 2022

City Clerk Department  
City of La Habra

***Continuation page for application:***

**CIVIC INTERESTS:**

Educational advocate for kids and families with special needs in schools and with medical services as a trained advocate. Helped build a program for kids with special needs with our local Children's museum, OC. Court appointed advocate for kids in the system and in foster care, community health and wellness through vaccines, working with businesses and local business groups. Lastly working with artists and artisans through art and community engagement with an emphasis on community art for overall health and wellness of our community.

My name is Christine Michelle Juarez Bernier and I am a mother, a daughter, a spouse, a volunteer, and City Planning Commissioner, and most importantly, I would be honored to join you as the next City Councilmember in La Habra. As a lifelong citizen of La Habra, along with my husband of almost twenty-two years, we have raised our three children with community involvement in mind. Our kids have been equally as active with us in serving our community with our oldest son now serving in the military choosing to follow in our family elders' footsteps.

I have dedicated a great part of my life to serving the City of La Habra because I saw a need to improve life for my neighbors, our children, and the community as a whole. This position will allow me to continue my service work to that community. Since 2010, I have helped create and co-create several sustainable committees and programs. The Love La Habra advisory board and the La Habra Tamale Festival advisory board, both well-established programs, serve the purpose of bringing the community together. I have created many programs that focus on outreach in our community which include the La Habra Enterprise team with the La Habra Chamber of Commerce and the La Habra Art Walk. Within these two programs, I have built a sizable volunteer base, motivated my team to reach new heights and expand their reach into the community and beyond, and connected with local leaders, business partners, and artists to ensure the sustainability of those programs.

Another way I have served our community is with my six years of experience as a Commissioner. Currently serving as an advisory member to you, the City Council, on the La Habra Planning Commission. In my position, I have acquired substantial insight, knowledge, and understanding of the environmental impact that proposed projects have on housing, traffic, business, and the quality of life for our city's residents. I have gained useful skills including understanding CEQA reports and traffic analysis which helps us better understand the long-term effects one day-to-day traffic for upcoming projects. I have also gained leadership skills as chair from 2019 to 2020. It was during this time that we approved one of the most tasking projects; the ROW on Harbor Blvd project that was approved during the pandemic. This project stretched our skills of foresight in having to anticipate traffic for businesses that had not yet opened and projections up to twenty years from now with no real data to pull from this area. I also Chaired the Kaiser project on Imperial Highway which was our first project with art as a focal point. Art is very important to me and I hope to add more in upcoming projects.

In addition to my volunteer work and my work on the Planning Commission, I am also a member of our General Plan Advisory Committee for the Housing Element Update that is going over our 10-year projections for the city of La Habra. demographics, needs, and unfortunately shortfalls that should be addressed for the health of our community. For example, we learned that our community is not growing and expanding to sustain or even attract new families. When our military servicemen, and women wish to come home; they find there are no community resources for them and that La Habra is no longer an affordable option.

Our community is rapidly aging, with a higher number of disabled individuals that we are not adequately serving or creating comprehensive services for. I hope to be a part of the council to help work collaboratively on these issues with my colleagues to help make a lasting difference for our residents.

I hope to work with my colleagues on the council to help create a healthy sustainable future for our community and residents by working to revitalize the downtown area of La Habra Boulevard from Idaho Street to Harbor Boulevard and by connecting our greenway belt path to the cities of Whittier and Brea to create the Wellness Corridor. The Wellness Corridor along with the revitalization of the downtown area would attract new businesses and encourage consumer

traffic for existing businesses as well as entice new families into our city once again. But what it would do most of all is help us secure grants for park upgrades, health and wellness of our city, and disabled resources aimed at communities like ours that have a high obesity rate especially amongst our grade school children. Growth and access to community programs and sustaining families like yours and mine are imperative to the future of our community.

I view serving as a privilege and I want to continue making a positive impact on the community. In the past when our oldest son was young we had to go to neighboring cities for extracurricular activities and enrichment as these services were not offered through the city of La Habra. Therefore we weren't making connections within our local community nor were we supporting our local businesses. In the decades since then, we have seen growth, with La Habra expanding its community services now offering more classes and our own city-run Youth committee which has been amazing for our preteen and teenage students for guidance and confidence-building and serves as a great opportunity to gain volunteer experience. I believe Councilwoman Rose Espinoza and I feel that working with the kids in the community and giving them direction and guidance leads to more well-rounded adults. I am adding to her efforts by helping our youth excel in the arts and teaching them to become young entrepreneurs with their creative ideas. Also, Councilman James Gomez and I share a common goal over many years helping local businesses throughout the city through the La Habra Chamber of Commerce and we both find enjoyment by giving back to the community through local programs like Meals on Wheels. I choose to serve as a Council member in La Habra to continue the good work of previous Council Members in building a vibrant and caring community. I view serving as a privilege and I want to continue making a positive impact on the community. In conclusion, it would be my honor to work with our Councilmembers to continue the hard work they do week in and week out to better our community.

# Michelle Bernier

A 48 year resident of the City of La Habra and small business owner for 10 years.

## EXPERIENCE

### **La Habra Planning Commission — Senior Commissioner**

(Present - April 2016)

In conjunction with four other commissioners, we approve city plans for new businesses, new housing, and development. During my time as a planning commissioner, we approved In-N-Out, several new housing developments, and the Starbucks/Car Wash development on Whittier Blvd. Learned about neighborhood impacts, how cooperation between government, city, and the community can help make things work for the common good.

### **La Habra Art Walk — Curator and Director**

(Present - July 2015)

Founded of the La Habra Art Walk to showcase student artwork from La Habra City School District, Olita School District, Sonora High School, and La Habra High School. Raised over \$50K including grants, sponsorships, in-kind donations, and revenue via fundraisers and vendor fees from the Tamale Festival and various art walk events.

### **La Habra Tamale Fest — Former Advisory Board Member**

(Present - 2015)

Raised over \$20,000 to support student artists and art programs in La Habra City Schools. Connected with the community, local schools and artists, and organizations to build common ground around ideas and projects. Connecting with the community through the Tamale Fest event with the Art Walk organization.

### **Love La Habra — Former Advisory Board Member**

(2015 - 2018)

Identified key projects and programs for Love La Habra - Murals for Washington Middle School, Walnut Park, and blankets for the homeless. Disseminated information to businesses, organizations and leaders, and residents.

### **Children's Museum "Sensory Sensitive Sunday" — Chief fundraiser**

(2015 - 2017)

Now, in its fourth year, it has raised \$10,000 plus for this event. Families with children with special needs are able to enjoy the museum in a sensory-sensitive environment due to our work, something that had not occurred in the community previously. Also helped to secure \$10,000 Art Grant.

### **Store House / Living Justly and Fundraising Chair — Member**

(2014 - 2016)

Publicized and brought awareness of the organization's programs to the community. Secured a grant of \$10,000 from U.S. Bank and other entities.

### **Enterprise Team, La Habra Chamber of Commerce — Curator, Director**

(2012 - 2015)

As Director developed and delivered a number of workshops and forums for members of the La Habra's business and entrepreneurial community. Held several networking mixers for members to develop relationships, particularly by bringing together people from various business sectors. Increased membership to the Chamber by 40%.

### **La Habra Business Connection — President**

(2012 - 2017)

A six year member of the La Habra Business Connection. As President (for 2 years), worked steadily to improve the profile of the group by fundraising, spearheading a successful public relations campaign in the community via events. Grew membership by 33% percent. Established Flag Raising for 2 years during my Presidency, and helped present and show the Vietnam wall.

La Habra Ca. 90631

## EDUCATION

**Fullerton Community College -**  
*Completing Associate's in Science*

Double Major - Sociology and Psychology, with a minor in American History and American Sign Language.

## SKILLS

- Fundraising
- Connecting people and organizations.
- Program development
- Communications

## AWARDS

**Certificate of Recognition 2015 - 2017**  
*Children's Museum*  
*City of La Habra Volunteer - 5 years*

**Certificate of Appreciation 2013 - 2015**  
*La Habra Business Connection*  
*Leadership - 3 years*  
*Flag Raising - 3 years*  
*Vietnam Wall - 2013*

**Certificate of Recognition - 2014**  
*Scott Lawrence Award*

**Certificate of Recognition - 2014**  
*County of Orange*

## VOLUNTEER ROLES

- local Toy Drive 12 years running
- Health and wellness with local Supervisor (Doug Chaffee)
- Meals on Wheels O.C. Packing a delivery
- Food Pantry Volunteer
- CASA with O.C. Court Authority



# APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO TO THE LA HABRA CITY COUNCIL

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Please complete this application **AND** attach an essay not to exceed 1½ pages long describing your background and experience, why you want to be appointed to the La Habra City Council, and why you think you are the best qualified candidate for this position. Print and submit this application, with the essay, to the City Clerk's Department by either emailing the documents to [cc@lahabraca.gov](mailto:cc@lahabraca.gov), by delivering them in-person, or by mail to 110 E. La Habra Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631. All applications and essays must be received no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

APPLICANT'S NAME: Wesley Perez

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] La Habra CA 90631

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A RESIDENT OF LA HABRA? 5 years

ARE YOU CURRENTLY REGISTERED TO VOTE IN LA HABRA?  YES  NO

OCCUPATION: Teacher

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: BA Degree in History, Minor in Political Science and Teaching Credential

MEMBERSHIPS OR LICENSES IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:  
California Teacher Association

MEMBERSHIPS IN CIVIC AND/OR SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS:  
US Army Veteran

CIVIC INTERESTS:  
Veteran Affairs, Education, community out reach

DO YOU POSSESS ANY ADDITIONAL AND/OR TECHNICAL SKILLS?  
Bilingual  
Teacher of Political Science

*It is the policy of the City of La Habra that the basis of interests and qualifications for appointment to the City of La Habra.*

SIGNATURE: [REDACTED] 1/20/2022

Date Application Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Application Received By: \_\_\_\_\_  
LH Resident Verified: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Verified: \_\_\_\_\_  
Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Applicant Notified by Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Applicant Notified by Letter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Follow-up Letters Mailed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
JAN 20 2022  
City Clerk Department  
City of La Habra

## Wesley Perez for City Council

My name is Wesley Perez. I have been a resident of La Habra Ca since December of 2016. I love my community and have a huge desire to work to do my part in service to my city that I love.

My huge desire for service to my community was nurtured in me from my service in the US Army. I joined the US Army right out of high school the summer of 2001. Few months later my life would change forever with the events of 9/11. As a result I will be deployed to Iraq in operation Iraqi freedom. I will continue to serve in the US Army until 2009.

As a result of my experience and a desire to give back since I felt extremely lucky to be alive. That's where my desire to go into education started. I will graduate from California State University Dominguez Hills with a BA in History and Minor Degree in Political Science. Then receive my Post Graduate work at Biola University where I received my teaching credential.

Then my passion for service came through as I started teaching in 2010. I taught 4 years a Hawthorne High School teaching Advance Placement United States History, Advance Placement Government and Politics, Criminal Justice and Economics. Finding a teaching position closer to home I moved to La Puente High School were I currently still teach. I currently teach Advance Placement United States History, Advance Placement Government and Politics and train students to run the Los Angeles Marathon.

I am married to my beautiful wife Jae Perez a teacher at Pioneer High School in Whitter CA, my daughter Kennedy Hope Perez is in Kindergarten at Los Positas Elementary school and my son Lincoln Jude Perez is 3 years old and attends preschool at La Habra Methodist Pre School.

Lastly why should I be considered as a possible candidate for the vacancy position of city council? While am sure you will have numerous qualified candidates submit applications not one would best represent this community than me. I am a son an immigrant mother that pull himself from his boot straps, serve our nation honorable and risked my life to preserve our American ideals. I work daily in to help model the leaders of the future, but more importantly I harder daily to be a better husband and father. That mentally and work ethic is what I offer to the City of La Habra