



Application Form for Position No. 2 Kirkland City Council

Please return your letter of interest and completed application form to the City Clerk's Office no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2013. You may submit your application materials in the following ways: Email to kanderson@kirklandwa.gov or hand deliver to Kirkland City Clerk's Office, 123 5th Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033. Applicants selected for interview must be available on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 between 4:30 and 7:00 p.m.. If you need an accommodation in the application process or if you have questions about this application process, please call City Clerk Kathi Anderson at (425) 587-3197. Persons with a disability who need assistance in the application process or who need this application in an alternative format may call (425) 587-3190 or TTY Relay 711.

NOTE: Please provide answers for all of the questions listed below. A one page resume may be submitted in lieu of question 2. All other responses should be limited to 250 words. Responses may be provided as an attachment to this application.

All information on this form, including any attachments, except Personal Information, will become public information when submitted.

Name: Santiago Ramos

1. Applicant's Statement of Qualifications:

In order to be considered for this appointment, you must have been a resident of the City of Kirkland for at least one year at the time of the election and you must be a registered voter.

- a) Will you have been a Kirkland resident for at least one year as of August 6, 2013? Yes No
b) Are you a registered voter? Yes No

2. Describe your education, occupational background and/or community activities that qualify you to serve as a Kirkland City Council member. You may provide this information in a resume not to exceed one page:

See attached Resume.

3. Describe why you are interested in serving on the Kirkland City Council:

I grew up in Kirkland, attended its public schools, and have watched Kirkland grow into the family-friendly community that its residents value. I am an active member of the community and believe in give back. The opportunity to be considered for the opening on the City Council comes at a good time in my career. I have the time and interest to commit to the requirements that the position entails. My background as a local businessman, and a bi-lingual, Hispanic, first-generation college graduate, allows me to bring a unique perspective to the current council membership. I want to be part of the process that helps shape what Kirkland will look like in the future, and to help ensure that the city continues to provide the residents of Kirkland the quality of life they deserve.

4. What do you see as the top three issues currently facing the Kirkland City Council? For each issue, describe the nature of the issue or problem to be addressed, what policy guidance you would provide as a Council member to address the issue and your preferred solution(s). You may provide up to 250 words for each issue.

4a. Issue #1:

Due to the increasing richness of diversity that Kirkland is experiencing, it is important to create ways to become more inclusive and responsive to the population's changing needs. Many segments of the city's population are unaware of the responsibilities of their government. I believe that we need to increase outreach, and accept input from as many residents as possible in order to create meaningful communication. As a City Council Member, I would plan to actively seek to reach out to diverse communities to listen to their concerns and to connect them with the city. Local government touches peoples' lives every day and they may not even be aware of how.

4b. Issue #2:

The implementation of a balanced Comprehensive Plan is the second issue I see. I am a good listener and a consensus builder. I plan to listen, and would try to incorporate all points of view in order to help build common ground. I think my point of view will enhance the development of the plan. As a long- time resident, and with plans to continue being a long- term resident of this city, I want to be part of the process of shaping the community. I plan to raise my family here. My background is a great example of how the quality of life of a community, affects the outcome of our children. I believe it will help me give a unique perspective on shaping the outcome of the Comprehensive Plan. The plan will help shape: education; economic development; land use; quality of life; and housing for our residents. My father moved to Kirkland so that our family could have great opportunities. I want to help shape the plan so that other families have the same or better opportunities, than I had.

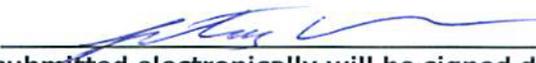
4c. Issue #3:

My years on the City's Human Services Advisory Committee, as well as my experience as a property manager and real estate broker, have increased my awareness of the lack of affordable housing, not just in Kirkland, but in the region as a whole. The Comprehensive Plan can address the issue of affordable housing when considering land use and housing issues. With my business experience in dealing with apartment owners, I understand the perspective of apartment owners and it will help when working to mitigate problems and concerns, in order to increase the number of affordable housing units.

Many Kirkland residents would not be able to purchase their homes today, if they had not bought them many years ago. My parents are an example, with their current income; they would be priced out of enjoying the quality of life they have, living in Kirkland today. Affordable housing is a large City issue that will continue to need to be addressed. The City's Human Services Committee has discussed the possibility of pursuing a dedicated funding source. This conversation needs to continue. We can continue to work, and collaborate, with our neighboring cities to create a workable regional plan that will increase the much needed number of affordable units available.

5. If appointed, would you seek election to the City Council in 2013? Yes No Undecided

6. How long have you lived in the City of Kirkland or in the newly-annexed area? 21 years

Your Signature*:  Date: 4/8/13
*Applications submitted electronically will be signed during the interview process.

Personal Contact Information

Name: Santiago Ramos

Address: 

Phone:  Email: 

SANTIAGO RAMOS

Kirkland, WA 98033

PUBLIC PROFILE

Office of United States Senator Maria Cantwell; Internship
Human Services Advisory Board, City of Kirkland; Chair
Washington State GAAP Committee; Member
Eastside Salvation Army Advisory Board; Member
University of Washington UWAA Multicultural Alumni Partnership Board; Member
Washington State House of Representative 48th LD; Candidate
48th Democratic Legislative District; Chair
King County Young Democrats; Board Member

EDUCATION

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA; Masters of Business Administration (MBA)
Graduate School; Council Member
University of Washington, Seattle, WA; Bachelor of Arts (BA); Business Administration (Accounting Concentration)
Institute for a Democratic Future IDF, Seattle WA; Graduate

WORK EXPERIENCE

Summerfield Commercial; Director of Property Management/ Commercial Real Estate Broker

- Responsible for more than 30 different property budgets
- Oversight for 75million dollars in commercial properties
- Supervision of 30 employees
- Responsible for new employee training
- Sold over 10 million in assets during first year as broker

Farmers Insurance Group Companies; Agency Manager/ Small Business Owner

- Established new agency and grew to over 1000 accounts in five years; Personal and Commercial Accounts
- Managed a P&L, and lead a Business Development Team for over seven years
- Received multiple sales and production awards; consistently exceeded sales goals by up to 50%
- Managed sales, marketing, customer relations, operations, finance, for agency
- Hired, trained, and supervised agency staff
- Developed and implemented financial and risk controls
- Produced annual Accounting reports and prepared all quarterly and annual taxes
- Developed strategic sales and marketing plans

PCI Property Management, Inc.; Accounts Receivable Manager

- Handled all monthly reports, bank deposits, collections, journals
- Promoted to manager after one year as an intern
- Developed process improvements that resulted in a 200% increase in efficiency
- Reduced past due account collection times by implementing upfront collections methods
- Developed and implemented marketing plan

El Paso Mexican Restaurant; Assistant Manager

- Supervised and trained 5 employees; maintained high employee retention and customer satisfaction
- Tracked inventory, re-orders, and bank deposits
- Managed vendor relationships; processed food and liquor orders
- Processed daily transaction and month end reports
- Implemented marketing plans
- Increased sales and customer satisfaction