County of Monterey
Valerie Ralph
CLERK OF THE BOARD
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Housing Advisory Committee Application

Eric Palmer

District: 5
Initialed Application: Yes

Applicant

First Name: **Eric**
Middle Initial:
Last Name: **Palmer**

Employment

Occupation: **Communications**
Job Title: **Senior Communications Coordinator**
Employer: **ReGen Monterey (Monterey Regional Waste Management District)**

Interests and Experiences

Able to attend meetings regularly and devote the time necessary to fulfill duties as a member?

Yes

Currently serving on a County of Monterey Board, Commission, Committee or other Community Advisory Group?

No

Has served on an advisory group before?

No

Please tell us about yourself and why you want serve:

I have lived in Monterey for 23 years, a graduate of CSU Monterey Bay. I live with two young children in Monterey. I have worked as a communications official at ReGen Monterey (Monterey Regional Waste Management District) for the past three years. Prior to that, I worked for the Communications and City Manager's Offices at the City of Monterey for 15 years, mainly in communications roles. My long experience and skill in the public communications field got me elected to the Board of Directors of the California Association of Public Information Officers, the top association for government communicators in the state. After leaving the City of Monterey, I wanted to continue serving my community. I got appointed to the Architectural Review Committee in 2023 and ran for the District 3 seat on the Monterey City Council in 2024, losing by a margin of 13 votes and 49.75% of the vote. I am a few courses away from graduating from the University of Colorado, Denver, with a Masters Degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Local Government.

Please state the reason you would like to be a member of this board committee/commission/district:

I ran for Monterey City Council on a platform of building more housing, especially for our workforce and low-income residents. I an very interested in housing and land use policy. I worked for the Housing Office at the City of Monterey helping promote housing services and managing the Emergency Rental Relief program during the COVID pandemic. As a government communicator, it was my job to stay educated on housing issues and programs in the City of Monterey and promote opportunities to participate in developing housing policy and sign up for support programs, like affordable housing, rehabilitation programs and rent and utility assistance. I think the advisory committee would benefit from a committee member with long experience in local government and community engagement, and I've also have experience being a renter and homeowner in the various phases of my life in Monterey.

How did you hear about the position?:

I was encouraged to express my interest to the District 5 office due to my interest and advocacy for housing during my political campaign