City of Beverly Hills Boards & Commissions

Profile

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CHIP		BRONSON		
First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name		Suffix
Email Address				
Street Address			Suite or Apt	
				90211
City			State	Postal Code
Mailing Address (optional)				

Mobile:

Primary Phone

Work Phone

Cell Phone

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning Commission: Submitted

Question applies to multiple boards

How long have you resided in Beverly Hills? ______ (Applicant must be a resident of the City for a minimum of two years prior to filing an application, and if selected, remain a resident to serve.)

28 YEARS

Question applies to Planning Commission **Occupation:**

ATTORNEY

Question applies to Planning Commission **Do you work in Beverly Hills?**

⊙ Yes ⊙ No

Question applies to Planning Commission Have you ever applied to the Team Beverly Hills Program?

○ Yes ⊙ No

Question applies to Planning Commission
Are you a member or alumnus of the Team Beverly Hills Program?

∩ Yes ⊙ No

Question applies to Planning Commission Have you applied previously for a Commission appointment? If so, which Commission(s)?

NO

Question applies to Planning Commission

1. Please list community activities in which you are presently involved, and relevant activities in which you have participated in the past (including years of service):

CHARITABLE WORK FOR RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

Question applies to Planning Commission

2. Please describe any technical expertise (building, architectural, construction management, development, planning, or landscape design), or other background information (education, business, or personal) that might be useful to you as a Planning Commissioner:

HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF LLC'S THAT HAVE OWNED & DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL INCOME AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY; HAVE ADVISED CLIENTS WHO ARE OWNERS OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY.

Question applies to Planning Commission

3. Have you observed one or more full Planning Commission meetings within the last 12 months? Please comment on your reactions.

NO

Question applies to Planning Commission

4. Please rate your ability to read and interpret architectural plans: *

✓ Intermediate

Question applies to Planning Commission

5. The Planning Commission regularly meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, in the afternoon. How much time do you envision giving to the Planning Commission? How often are you out of town? What other commitments might cause conflicts in your attendance at Commission meetings or activities?

I HAVE REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF TIME COMMITTED TO MY PRACTICE. I AM OUT OF TOWN TWICE A YEAR, IN THE SPRING, FOR TWO WEEKS, AND IN THE FALL, FOR THREE WEEKS.

Question applies to Planning Commission

6. Are you familiar with the City's General Plan? What do you see as significant planning issues currently facing Beverly Hills?

YES. I AM CONCERNED BY THE INCREASING POPULATION DENSITY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CITY, INCLUDING, NOTABLY, ITS IMPACT ON TRAFFIC. I HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED BY THE DISREGARD OF THE CIVIC ARCHITECTURE OF THE CITY AND THE MEDIOCRE QUALITY OF THE DESIGN OF MANY CIVIC PROJECTS OR FACILITIES. LANDSCAPING OF CITY FACILITIES IS, SIMILARLY, CLUELESS.

Question applies to Planning Commission

7. How do you view the balance between the rights of property owners (business and residential) to develop their properties versus the rights of neighbors who may be impacted by such development? You may wish to reference a recent issue as an example.

IT IS A QUESTION OF THE RIGHTS OF OWNERS VS NEIGHBORS, BUT, ALSO, OF THE LARGER PUBLIC INTEREST. PRIVATE PROPERTY IS A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF OUR POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM. PROPERTY OWNERS HAVE A LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO REALIZE GAINS ON THEIR INVESTMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE FROM DEVELOPMENT. BUT, NEIGHBORS HAVE RIGHTS & INTERERSTS, INCLUDING INTERESTS IN THE PRESERVATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER. THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE HAS AN INTEREST IN REGULATING DEVELOPMENT, EVEN THOUGH THAT CAN CONFLICT WITH A LAISSEZ-FAIRE CONCEPTION OF PROPERTY RIGHTS.

Question applies to Planning Commission

8. How would you describe an appropriate relationship between the Commissioners and applicants? Would you find it difficult to vote against a friend? Would you find it difficult to vote differently than fellow Commissioners?

I WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VOTE AGAINST A FRIEND. IF THE ISSUE WERE IMPORTANT ENOUGH AND I WERE HIGHLY CONVICTED ABOUT IT, I WOULD RELUCTANTLY DO SO. ALTERNATIVELY, IN A LESS IMPORTANT MATTER, I MIGHT RECUSE MYSELF. I PREFER COLLEGIALITY AND CONSENSUS AND, WHERE REASONABLE COMPROMISE WOULD BE POSSIBLE, I WOULD SUPPORT IT. BUT I WOULD NOT SACRIFICE STRONGLY HELD CONVICTIONS FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF TRANSITORY COMITY ON THE COMMISSION.

Question applies to Planning Commission

9. Why do you wish to be a member of the Planning Commission? Specifically, why have you chosen this form of community service over the many other avenues of community service available in our community?

1. I THINK THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN BETTER SERVE THE PUBLIC IT SHOULD BE MADE MORE RESPONSIVE & EFFICIENT. 2. THE CITY HAS SEEN AN UNACCEPTABLE DECLINE IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE. I WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN REDRESS. 3. THE CITY HAS WITNESSED, I HAVE, MYSELF, HAVE SEEN THAT ONCE WAS SPECIAL, UNIQUE ABOUT THE CITY, HAS BECOME NOT SO SPECIAL OR UNIQUE. STORES, E.G., SAKS FIFTH AVENUE, WHICH ONCE HAD ONLY A HANDFUL OF STORES NATIONWIDE, NOW HAS STORES ALL OVER, PEOPLE WHO USED TO MAKE SPECIAL SHOPPING TRIPS TO BEVERLY HILLS NOW SHOP IN A MYRIAD OF OTHER PLACES. 4. I WANT TO PUSH THE CITY TO REQUIRE HIGHER SOUND TRANSMISSION STANDARDS IN MULTI-FAMILY CONSTRUCTION. THE EXISTING STANDARDS MIGHT BE FINE FOR PACOIMA; THEY ARE NOT FINE FOR BEVERYLY HILLS; THEY GUARANTEE AVOIDABLE CONFLICT AND DISTRESS. 5. THE PARKS ARE UNREMARKABLE, BETTER FACILITIES CAN BE FOUND IN BAKERSFIELD, ETC. 6. WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS, SIDEWALKS ARE REQUIRED TO BE MADE OF CONVENTIONAL CEMENT. 7. THE CITY WIFI FIASCO IS A SCANDAL. 8. THE CITY'S DECISION TO INSTALL ELECTRICAL OUTLETS, HELD IN PLACE BY ELASTIC BANDS, ON PROMINENT THOROUGHFARES, IS, ALSO, A SCANDAL. 9. THE CITY IS BEING RUN BY PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T GROW UP HERE, KNOW NOTHING AND CARE NOTHING ABOUT THE CITY. THEY CARE ABOUT THEIR JOBS & BENEFITS BUT THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CITY. ANOTHER EXAMPLE? ON OLYMPIC BLVD, BETWEEN ROBERTSON ON THE EAST AND DOHENY ON THE WEST, FICUS TREES WERE, HERE AND THERE, WITHOUT ANY LOGIC, REMOVED OR LEFT IN PLACE. THE TREES THAT WERE REMOVED WERE REPLACED WITH MAGNOLIA TREES, A NICE CHOICE BUT NOT ONE THAT ELIMINATES ROOT INTRUSION PROBLEMS. ANOTHER EXAMPLE WOULD BE A STREET SIGN ON WILSHIRE BOULEVARD THAT WAS HANGING, LOPSIDED FROM LAMP POST, FOR WEEKS. HOW MANY EMPLOYEES PASSED BY THAT SIGN AND NEVER GAVE IT A SECOND THOUGHT? 10. AFTER MANY YEARS, SEVERAL IMPORTANT ENTRANCES TO THE CITY WERE APPROPRIATELY MARKED. ALL ENTRANCES TO THE CITY SHOULD BE MARKED IN A BEAUTIFUL, DISTINCTIVE WAY. 11. LA CIENEGA, BETWEEN GREGORY AND OLYMPIC HAS A MEDIAN FENCE THAT HAS BEEN IN DISREPAIR FOR YEARS, NO PLANTINGS AFTER THE ORIGINAL PLANTINGS WERE ALLOWED TO DIE, THE LIGHTING HAS NOT WORKED FOR YEARS. 12. IN LA CIENEGA PARK, GENERIC TRASH RECEPTACLES, BENCHES, ETC. WERE INSTALLED. NOTHING DISTINCTIVE OR SPECIAL. NOT MARKED WITH THE CITY'S NAME, THOUGH THE MANUFACTURER LEFT A SPACE FOR THAT ... PROBABLY, IN TORRANCE, THEY'VE DONE A BETTER JOB.

Question applies to Planning Commission

Completed applications may be returned to the City Clerk's Office, Room 290, 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk at 310.285.2400.