

Boards & Commissions Application



I am interested in serving on the following boards/commissions. (Please indicate the order of preference).

1. Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission 2. _____

As an applicant/member of a Council-appointed Board or Commission, your name, address, and phone number will be available to the press and public. Information will be kept on file for three years. Public discussion of information contained herein may occur in the meeting at which appointments are considered by the City Council.

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss. Dr. (Please type or print clearly)

Name: Scherpereel John A. Date: December 9, 2020
(Last) (First) (M.I)

Home Address: 230 Campbell St., Harrisonburg, VA, 22801 Own/Rent? Own

Phone Number: 540-208-3631 Alternate Phone: _____

Occupation: Professor Employer/Organization: James Madison University

E-mail: jscherpereel@gmail.com Harrisonburg resident for 15 years.

Were you referred by anyone: Yes No Name of Referring Party: Leonard Van Wyk, Jakob zumFelde

How did you hear about volunteering on a board or commission? Cable Website Council Meeting
 Other: Citizens' Academy

Why do you wish to serve on a board or commission?

I am interested in serving on the Transportation Safety and Advisory Commission because I have daily experience as a pedestrian, bicyclist, and motorist in the City of Harrisonburg. I commute to work via bicycle and/or on foot, and I walk, bike, and drive to many city destinations each day.

In October 2019, I was struck by a motorist while biking to work. Thankfully, I was not seriously injured. I'm keen to do what I can to minimize the likelihood of such events and to to maximize the safety, efficiency, and pleasure of getting around Harrisonburg.

What relevant experience or education do you have to this board or commission?

I have not served on the TSAC or any other city board or commission in the past. In addition to the practical/daily experiences discussed above, I would bring a distinctive (and, I hope, valuable) set of experiences/viewpoints to the commission. I have lived in the city for 15 years and know the city and its streets/areas/transportation rhythms pretty well. I have also lived in other cities (some big, some small); those experiences and my reflections on them would also affect my approach to the issues that the commission considers.

What other interests or concerns do you have regarding the community?

I am a proud resident of the city, which is a diverse, vibrant, and generally quite safe place to live. I'd like to play a small part in making the city even safer, more enjoyable, more civic-minded, and more humanly fulfilling.

Meeting this goal will require will require me to consider the needs of all city residents, to listen to and engage productively with fellow commission members/city staff/office holders, and to communicate with the big and diverse set of people who use city streets and access public spaces.

Please list any past or present community involvement e.g. City Council, Board and Commissions, Citizen Academy, etc. in Harrisonburg or elsewhere:

I participated in and graduated from the Harrisonburg Citizens' Academy in 2017.

-Please return completed application to the City Manager's Office-

Applicants are encouraged to attach a resume or other supporting information that may be helpful to Council in considering their application.

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