

Application Form

Profile

_____ Rob _____ Alexander _____
Prefix First Name Middle Initial Last Name Suffix

alexanrw@jmu.edu
Email Address

977 S Dogwood Drive _____
Home Address Suite or Apt

Harrisonburg _____ VA _____ 22801
City State Postal Code

How many years have you been a resident of Harrisonburg?

12
Primary Phone Alternate Phone

JMU _____ Associate Professor
Employer Job Title

Demographics - *(Submission of this information if voluntary and will not subject you to any adverse treatment should you chose to not complete)*

Ethnicity

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

Male

What is your age?

50+ years old

Are you reapplying for a current position you hold? *

No

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Environmental Performance Standards Committee (EPSAC): On Agenda

Interests & Experiences

Rob Alexander

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I have served for nine years on the Storm Water Advisory Commission (SWAC), focusing on efforts the City must make to reduce our storm water pollution load for Blacks Run and am interesting in applying what I learned in this service to the broader Focus Areas of the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) approved by City Council. I am interested in helping the City move forward with a balanced approach towards a more comprehensive array of environment and sustainability goals than those specifically focused on water quality.

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

I feel that we can do better at understanding how the environmental concerns described in the EAP link to other complex challenges facing our community, such as housing accessibility and affordability, transportation, and employment/living wage. I think we can be more efficient and effective with our resources to address multiple of these challenges simultaneously, particularly to increase equitable access to a higher quality of life.

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

In addition to my service on SWAC, I have served on the Commonwealth of Virginia's Plastic Waste Prevention Advisory Council, giving me experience and knowledge regarding solid waste systems in Virginia. I am also a past member of the International City/County Management Association's Sustainable Communities Advisory Committee, working with city and town managers from across the United States to discuss and address municipal sustainability challenges. I teach undergraduate and graduate courses at JMU in public management and environmental policy.

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

I have served 9 years on SWAC, as mentioned above. I also am a principal with the Institute for Constructive Advocacy and Dialogue (ICAD). ICAD has served as facilitators for both the City of Harrisonburg's most recent Comprehensive Plan revision as well as the City of Harrisonburg's ARPA public input process. Both experiences have provided me with a broader understanding of the needs and perspectives of diverse community groups, organizations, and populations as they may relate to the EAP Focus Areas.

[AlexanderResume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

EPSAC Applicants only

Question applies to Environmental Performance Standards Committee (EPSAC)

City Council is seeking EPSAC members to represent broad stakeholder interests within the city. If you will be participating on the EPSAC as a representative of a business, group, or organization, please provide the name of the business, group, or organization and indicate what stakeholder category the group represents. If more than one, please list all. A. Residents, civic leagues, homeowners associations. B. Institutional and tax exempt entities including colleges and churches. C. Business community including residential, commercial and industrial property owners, malls, and business groups. D. Professional engineers, real estate developers, and construction contractors. E. Special interest groups that represent economic development, environmental or outdoor recreation. F. Others, education professionals from the local schools and city staff: PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FROM THE DROP DOWN BOX *

- A: Resident, civic leagues, homeowners associations
- B: Institutional and tax exempt entities including colleges and churches\,

Question applies to Environmental Performance Standards Committee (EPSAC)

Name of business, group or organization you would represent?

While not an official representative, I can consider the JMU perspective

Bike/Pedestrian Subcommittee Applicants only

Dr. Rob Alexander

Office: 91 E. Grace St. MSC 7705
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
phone: 540-568-3771

EDUCATION

The Maxwell School, Syracuse University Syracuse, NY	Ph.D., Public Administration	2004 – 2011
School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University – Bloomington Bloomington, IN	M.P.A., Policy Analysis M.S., Environmental Science	1995 – 1998
Duke University Durham, NC	B.S., Geology	1989 – 1993

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses upon how individual, organizational, and cultural factors shape complex problem solving as it occurs in collaboration across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. I integrate systems thinking with a policy tools approach to identify successful pathways for positive environmental and sustainability performance.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT AND POSITIONS

Associate Professor Department of Political Science Masters of Public Administration Program James Madison University Harrisonburg, VA	2011 – Present
Co-Director Institute for Constructive Advocacy and Dialogue (ICAD) James Madison University <i>The mission of ICAD is to inspire dialogue and deliberation that shapes engaged and inclusive communities and informs sound policies through skilled facilitation service, research, and training.</i>	2014 – Present
Coordinator Environmental Studies Minor James Madison University	2017 – Present
Visiting Assistant Professor Department of Science, Technology, Society and Public Policy	2009 – 2011

Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester, NY

SELECTED ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Wilderness Education Institute Boulder, CO Executive Director, Co-Founder	1997-2004
Full Circle Institute , Minneapolis, MN Program Director	1998-2000

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (AESS), Membership Committee
Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)
International City/County Management Association (ICMA)

SELECTED PUBLIC SERVICE

Member, Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC), City of Harrisonburg (2014-present)
Election Official, City of Harrisonburg (2016-2021)
Member, Commonwealth of Virginia Plastic Waste Prevention Advisory Council (2020-present)