

Application Form

Profile

Reuel _____ D _____ Cooke _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

_____ Suite or Apt _____
 Home Address
 KENSINGTON CA 94707
 City State Postal Code

_____ Primary Phone

_____ Email Address

[District Locator Tool](#)

Resident of Supervisorial District:

District 1

Brookfield Properties _____ Community Engagement
 Employer Job Title
 Manager

Length of Employment

2.5 years

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

Yes No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

less than 1 year

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

Yes No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Kensington Municipal Advisory Council: Submitted

Seat Name

Alt 2.

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

Yes No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Union College

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

BA/Anthropology

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Columbia University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

MS/Urban Planning

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

Yes No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

Yes No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I have always been interested in getting more involved in community planning where I reside. My husband and I purchased our first home in Kensington in March of 2021 and we want to put down roots in this community that we have fallen in love with. I have been involved in economic development and urban planning since college and have over 17 years of experience navigating the complexities of community-based planning. I've worked embedded in communities for most of my career and understand the tensions that exist with land use and property owners. I've spent my career navigating how to approach sensitive relationships with regard to all aspects of local development. I'd love to apply my knowledge and experience to my new community of Kensington.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I have a masters degree in urban planning and have held numerous positions working directly with residents and acting as the liaison between developers, property owners and city government. I've had experience in urban areas such as Jamaica, Queens NY, San Francisco: Fisherman's Wharf CBD, Yerba Buena CBD and in the Sunset district with my most current position. I have worked in construction project management, local economic development, community engagement and for both non-profit and for-profit developers. I have a depth of understanding of planning issues and challenges and have the ability to use empathy to help navigate the highly sensitive and deeply personal impacts of property ownership.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

Yes No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

Yes No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Vision Zero Task Force (SF)

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

Yes No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and understand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.

EXPERIENCE

Brookfield Properties, Community Engagement Manager, San Francisco, CA 2019-Present

- Lead community outreach for a \$30M dollar mixed-use redevelopment project of the Stonestown Galleria parking lots and act as liaison between community stakeholders, the design team and the project.

Craig Communications, Senior Project Manager, Oakland, CA 2018-2019

- Managed the planning, development and execution of client communications plans and public engagement strategies for real estate development and environmental remediation projects including the creation of collateral materials (fact sheets, public notices, websites, support letters and presentations).
- Facilitated the implementation of strategic communication tools to increase public participation and raise project awareness through information hotlines, project specific websites, social media campaigns and in-person briefings.

Townsquared, Community Manager, San Francisco, CA 2017

- Utilized engagement techniques including events, relationship building, support and education to empower and connect over 3,000 small businesses in San Francisco.
- Identified and formed partnerships with local business organizations, local government agencies, and non-profits supporting small businesses.

Yerba Buena Community Benefit District, Dir. of Neighborhood Partnerships, San Francisco, CA 2016-2017

- Managed streetscape improvement projects, cleaning, safety and security initiatives, and assisted in the implementation of the Yerba Buena Street Life Plan, Annie Street Plaza and Sites Unseen projects.
- Established relationships with residents, property owners, community groups, the Board of Directors, local governmental agencies (SFMTA, Public Works, City Planning, Mayor's Office) to achieve neighborhood goals around transit, development and public art projects.
- Designed and implemented collaborative, community-driven planning processes, performed stakeholder outreach, and facilitated group discussions to provide feedback and guidance, and build consensus on projects and policy development efforts.

Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District, Program Manager, San Francisco, CA 2012-2016

- Conducted research and facilitated relationships on streetscape improvement/planning initiatives and technologies to help measure the economic impact of Fisherman's Wharf.
- Managed and assisted with seven community committees (SOBO, Marketing, PIERsafe, Transportation, Police, Public Realm/Planning and Sustainability) as well as Board of Directors and Executive Committees.
- Executed quality-of-life programming (Crab Fest, Fleet week, 4th of July, Sunday Streets, NERT Trainings) including event management, permits, ISCOOT coordination, fundraising & sponsorships.

Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, Project Manager, Jamaica, NY 2009-2011

- Facilitated strategic partnerships to collaboratively address issues of negative community perception, advocate for economic vitality, and promote quality of life in Jamaica. Assisted senior staff on large-scale real estate and infrastructure initiatives including: building and analyzing financial models, responding to RFP's, creating presentation materials, grant writing, management and reporting, and relevant market research.
- Managed downtown Jamaica's quality of life and cultural programming initiative "Culture Builds Jamaica" which included an outdoor summer concert series and open gallery nights in a formerly vacant storefront, and the implementation of free wifi in a public park.

Zubatkin Owner Representation, Assistant Project Manager, New York, NY 2007-2008

- Coordinated project team through the concept, schematic and design phases of the renovation and expansion project for the Clark Art Institute including budget and schedule development, invoice review and contract administration. Project value: \$146M.
- Oversaw the consultant selection process for The American Museum of Natural History's Central Park West \$40M restoration project, including developing and leveling client RFPs, conducting site visits and surveys, contract administration, budget and schedule development.

Collegia, Inc., Program Manager, Wellesley, MA 2002-2005

- Launched and managed the implementation of \$1 Million regional economic development initiative to attract, engage and retain college students in Pittsburgh, PA. Created partnerships with hotels, tourism agencies, city economic development officials and universities to enhance the visitor experience for students and their families.

EDUCATION **Columbia University, M.S. Urban Planning, 2007, New York, NY**
Union College B.A. Anthropology, Spanish Minor, 2001, Schenectady, NY
Award: Lewis Henry Morgan (Anthropology/Sociology Dept.) Thesis Prize

ADDITIONAL Skills: Proficient in all Microsoft Office programs, Adobe Creative Suite (Illustrator, PhotoShop, InDesign, Contribute). **Organizations:** ULI and SPUR. **Skills:** Partially fluent in Spanish. **Interests:** urbanism, placemaking, skiing, backpacking and cooking.