

## Application Form

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### Profile

Johana

First Name

D

Middle Initial

Gurdian

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

San Pablo

City

CA

State

94806

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

Which supervisorial district do you live in?

District 1

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### Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education \*

High School Diploma

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#### College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Contra Costa College

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree for Transfer

Degree Awarded?

Yes  No

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#### College/ University B

Name of College Attended

University of California, Berkeley

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

**College/ University C**

**Name of College Attended**

**Degree Type / Course of Study / Major**

**Degree Awarded?**

Yes  No

**Other schools / training completed:**

**Course Studied**

**Hours Completed**

**Certificate Awarded?**

Yes  No

**Board and Interest**

**Which Boards would you like to apply for?**

Planning Commission: Submitted

**Seat Name**

At Large

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

Yes  No

**If you have attended, how many meetings have you attended?**

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

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I am applying to the Planning Commission because I hope to continue this learning journey about planning and development. What excites me the most about being part of the North Richmond Resident Leadership Team (NRLT), is that I have acquired knowledge about County policies, operations, and developmental processes that I did not understand or was even aware of before I joined the team. I believe that a seat on the planning commission would empower others that otherwise do not feel represented or have little knowledge on how to enact change in their communities to take steps in the right direction. My interest in planning and development began when, as a resident team, we took notice of the demolition of the Las Deltas housing projects. A few of our resident planning meetings consisted of sitting down with the executive directors of the Housing Authority to discuss how these changes would shape North Richmond. We made sure to advocate for community input into these decision-making processes, to ensure transparency and accountability. One of the ways that we, as a resident collective, have furthered and deepened our relationship with the County, is through the Envision Contra Costa 2040 General Plan update process. A victory that came out of the Quality of Life Plan was that many of the recommendations that were outlined in the Plan were adopted into North Richmond's profile and in other sections of the General Plan update. This signals that many parallels stand between what residents from North Richmond, and other neighborhoods like it, want and what County leadership would like to see for the future of Contra Costa. Ultimately, my goal is to deepen my understanding of planning and developmental processes within Contra Costa County to become an even more active and knowledgeable member of my community. I wish to be at the forefront of the implementation process of the new General Plan. This new General Plan signals a new era for the County, and I wish to be the beginning of the new generation of commissioners responsible for shaping the future of Contra Costa County.

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**Qualifications and Volunteer Experience**

**I would like to be considered for appointment to other advisory boards for which I may be qualified.**

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Yes  No

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

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Yes  No

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

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As a North Richmond resident leader, I was involved in the process to develop the Quality of Life Plan. This plan began when fellow resident leaders took to the streets of North Richmond and interviewed over 100 neighbors about what they perceived to be the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of NR. From the data collected, we were able to report back to the community that like the residents, many stakeholders also held similar beliefs and perceptions about our community. The work to develop the Quality of Life Plan did not end with these interviews this is where it all began. For nearly a year, the Resident Leadership team held countless hours of research and planning meetings with stakeholders, organizational partners, regional experts, and County staff. These meetings provided us the technical and policy-related knowledge that informed the recommendations outlined in the Quality of Life Plan. I am actively involved in Contra Costa County's 2040 General Plan Update. As a North Richmond Resident Leader, I have participated at multiple County meetings regarding North Richmond's profile in the general plan update. I was also part of the discussions for the Climate Action Plan community meeting that took place in North Richmond. I was a speaker at the Contra Costa Health Services Envision Health Panel, as well as a speaker at the Department of Health Care Services Conference in Sacramento.

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

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-Moderate understanding of Planning and Developmental policies of Contra Costa County -Great Communication and Public Speaking Skills -Speaks Multiple Languages -Avid Learner -Educational Background in Political Science and Public Policy -Experience in Strategic Planning Processes

[Johana.Gurdian.Resume\\_2\\_.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

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### **Conflict of Interest and Certification**

**Do you have a Familial or Financial Relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors?**

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Yes  No

**If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:**

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

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Yes  No

**If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:**

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### **Please Agree with the Following Statement**

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**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.**

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I Agree

# Johana Gurdian

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/johana-gurdian-371670194/>

## EDUCATION

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### University of California, Berkeley

Aug 2019

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Minor, Public Policy

*Relevant Course Work:* Introduction to Public Policy, Latinos and the U.S. Political System, Empirical Analysis & Quantitative Methods, Race, Space & Inequality, Negotiations, Psychology of Politics

### Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan

June 2019 - Aug 2019

Summer Internship Program

*Relevant Course Work:* History of Japan, Global Citizenship

## SKILLS

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- Languages: *Spanish (Native) | English (Native) | Japanese (Elementary)*
- Technical: Proficient in Microsoft Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint, Google Slides, Docs, Drive
- Social Media/Video: Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Youtube, Vyond, Canva

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### North Richmond Leadership Team

Jul 2018 - Present

*Healthy Richmond*

*Richmond, CA*

- Outreach to North Richmond residents to understand the needs, difficulties, and strengths of the area in order to compile data and establish a Quality of Life Plan
- Research and partner with local stakeholders on Business Opportunities for North Richmond and include them as recommendations in the Quality of Life Plan
- Conduct and lead community events that inform residents and local stakeholders on what the community can do to work towards this Quality of Life Plan

### UC Berkeley Global Intern

June 2019 - Aug 2019

*Welgee NPO*

*Shibuya, Japan*

- Analyzed organization's various services from a top-down perspective in order to compile recommendations for organizational and strategic planning goals
- Created research method in order to fully assess the needs, strengths, and opportunities of the organization in comparison to European and American NGOs' ability for growth

### Richmond Rent Program Intern

Sept 2018 - May 2019

*City of Richmond Rent Program*

*Richmond, CA*

- Created informational videos using Vyond, developed a script, and recorded voice for narration and captions
- Streamlined and increased access to information so it was consumable for landlords and tenants by designing informational guides and videos
- Provided assistance with data entry and handled sensitive landlord and tenant information and documents
- Reviewed forms for accuracy and processed forms using local databases

### Voting Poll Clerk

Nov 2014 - Present

*Contra Costa County Elections*

*Pinole, CA*

- Manage and assist new poll clerk workers with voter data verification process
- Distribute and verify provisional ballots and provide voters with registration information
- Count and consolidate ballot numbers and provide relevant data for election results

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### Coastal Clean-Up Day Leader

Jan 2017 - Present

*The Watershed Project*

*Richmond, CA*

- Help guide volunteers to appropriate and safe locations to clean and give them necessary tools and resources
- Aid volunteers with weighing and classifying debris collected and inform them of hazardous material handling

### Debate Team Captain

Fall 2015 - Spring 2016

*Contra Costa College Debate Team*

*San Pablo, CA*

- Managed team practice times and days as well as lead team practices in preparation for state wide tournaments
- Outreached and recruited students to join debate team through email, text messaging, and speaking at communication events