

REVIEWED

By City Clerk's Office at 4:27 pm, Jul 19, 2021

Housing Commission Applicant

Desmond P Borresen

Application Date: 07/19/21

Reside in Santa Monica: yes

If yes, number of years: 10

Hold an elected position: no

If yes, please specify:

Applying for the seat reserved for a Housing Authority Section 8 Program participant: no

Applying for the seat reserved for a Housing Authority Section 8 Program participant who is over the age of 62: no

INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE

Current or prior service on city boards/commissions:

None.

Community activities:

Actively follow all city government activity.

Qualifications, experience, education, and technical or professional requirements:

I have an MBA and have owned and rented apartments at various times in Santa Monica for many years.

We are currently mom-and-pop landlords of a small apartment building. We understand the needs of small, long-term landlords and renters, and how the small landlord is the backbone of housing in the city.

Areas of demonstrated expertise:

- 1) I personally managed the construction of a significant, two story addition through the city permitting and approval process, which required adding sprinklers to an existing structure etc.
- 2) Having lived in the city for many years and am a great understanding of the city geography, zoning etc.
- 3) I actively follow city agendas and minutes etc.
- 4) I am aware of community outreach and involvement.
- 5) Both our children attend local schools.

Goals:

To help all classes of resident feel committed to the city, and safe from eviction, and to ensure that all residents can enjoy their homes in peace and quiet for as long as they wish. To ensure that existing

residents get a clear voice in how housing plans affect their future, and to ensure that neighborhoods maintain their unique characters.

I also believe that a large number of renters wish to own their own homes. That home ownership is a vital way for all residents to be freed from the threat of eviction, rent increases and ownership would allow renters to build equity and pass on the ability to live in this city to their descendants who would otherwise find it impossible to live here.

I also believe that affordable housing should not prevent home-ownership and that a lifetime of renting should not be the default solution.

Vision:

I feel that the housing commission should take a broader look at all housing in the city, and all classes of resident. In particular the voices of middle and working classes who may not always be heard above those of housing providers, developers and other city and state agencies.

Personal Qualities:

I have worked many years as a computer programmer in Santa Monica for one of the larger employers where teamwork was paramount. My experience as a housing provider who lives on site with the tenants, requires great understanding and sensitivity.

Will you be able to commit the necessary time to perform your duties if appointed to the board?

yes

How did you learn about the vacancy in this board or commission? (select all that apply)

Word of Mouth- Council or Board/Commission member, City Staff, neighborhood groups, etc.

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Occupation: Homemaker and housing provider.

Business name:

Business address:

Business phone: