



Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions City and Borough of Sitka

Board/Commission/Committee: Climate Action Task Force

Name: Caitlin Woolsey Preferred Phone: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Alternate Phone:

Email Address: [REDACTED] Fax Number:

Length of Residence in Sitka: ~ 27 years Registered to vote in Sitka? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Employer: Sitka School District

Organizations you belong to or participate in:

National Science Teachers Association, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Sitka Education Association

Explain your main reason for applying:

Climate change is a critical global issue directly impacting our community in many complex ways. Mitigating its affects and adapting to inevitable changes will take a lot of hard work, and I would like to help. My skills and training are a good match for the task at hand, and I would value the opportunity to give back to the community.

What background, experience or credentials will you bring to the board, commission, or committee membership?

I would bring my interdisciplinary understanding of climate science, interest in community planning, and appreciation for the complexity of the impacts we are experiencing in Sitka. I have a B.S. in Engineering and an M.S. in Earth Systems science from Stanford University. I have recently completed a Masters of Education with University of Alaska Fairbanks and am in my first year of teaching at Blatchley Middle School.

Please disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment. These may include but are not limited to:

- A substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment.
- An immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment.

N/A

Please attach a letter of interest, outline, or resume which includes your education, work, and volunteer experience that will enhance your membership.

→ (To be considered, your application must be complete AND be accompanied by one of the above supporting documents.)

Date: 1/6/21 Signature: Curtis

Your complete application and resume should be returned to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

Please note: all information submitted will be made public and published online. Appointments are normally made during open session of an Assembly meeting, however, Assembly members may vote to discuss applicant(s) in closed executive session. In this case, do you wish to be present when your application is discussed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Return to:

Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk/Records Specialist, 100 Lincoln Street

Fax: 907-747-7403 Email: melissa.henshaw@cityofsitka.org

1/5/21

Members of the Assembly,

I am writing to express interest in serving on the Climate Action Task Force. When the last task force published the Climate Action Plan I had just graduated from Sitka High. I feel lucky to have grown up in Lingít Aaní, in a place where the complex connections between humans and natural systems are so evident and valued. I feel even luckier to be a member of a community that is committed to combating climate change through emissions reductions, mitigation, and adaptation.

I could contribute effectively to this task force because of my academic background and my experience with collaborative problem solving. During my undergraduate and graduate programs at Stanford I studied climate science, climate change impacts, earth systems, building systems, and climate change action planning for coastal cities. As part of my undergraduate major in engineering, I learned about sustainable building practices and clean energy technologies. As a design consultant with MRV Architects I had the opportunity to work on the Blueprint Downtown project to collect community input on long-term planning for the Juneau downtown area.

More recently, while training to become a science teacher, I had the opportunity to study the relationship between western science and Indigenous knowledge systems. The in-depth knowledge of natural systems gained by Alaska Native peoples through generations of living closely with the land is invaluable to responding to our current climate crisis. Moreover, Lingít environmental philosophies and values could help guide our actions as we make decisions about living with the land today. I would like to be part of a diverse task force that listens to the community and works together to find a way forward.

I believe the Climate Task Force has an incredibly important mission. Our community is already experiencing the effects of climate change. Whatever action we do or do not take in response will have long lasting impacts. We need to plan ahead to ensure the best possible future for our community and ecosystems. It is time to evaluate and update the previous climate action plan, and to set new goals and initiatives for sustainable community development.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Woolsey