

7.1. Appointment of One Member to the Planning Commission



DATE: May 19, 2025

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council

VIA: Stefan Chatwin, City Manager

FROM: Priscilla Schaus, Communications Director/City Clerk

DEPARTMENT: Communications/City Clerk

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF ONE MEMBER TO A FULL TERM FROM
JUNE 1, 2025 THROUGH MAY 31, 2029 ON THE PLANNING
COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council interview and by resolution, appoint one (1) member to a full term from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2029 on the Planning Commission.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Planning Commission was established in 1972 and members are appointed by the City Council. The purpose of the Planning Commission is to consider the overall site and architectural development, and redevelopment of properties of all commercial, industrial, and residential districts in Foster City. The Planning Commission is subject to the provisions of Chapter 2.28 of the Foster City Municipal Code. The Commission meets on the first and third Thursday of each month.

The Planning Commission consists of five (5) members and one (1) seat is expiring on May 31, 2025. The new appointment will be for a member to a full 4-year term from June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2029.

A notice of vacancy to fill the full 4-year term on Planning Commission was advertised in the local newspaper, posted, and displayed on the City's website and FCTV posted

five (5) weeks. Four (4) residents submitted their application by the established deadline.

The following residents (listed in alphabetical order) submitted their applications:

1. Shankar Kenkre
2. Avi Hermosa Petel
3. Barry Salberg
4. Cindy Wang

All applicants have been invited to the May 19 City Council meeting for consideration of appointment by the City Council.

California Environmental Quality Act

Not Applicable

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this appointment.

CITY COUNCIL VISION, MISSION, AND VALUE/PRIORITY AREA

City Council Operations and Improved Community Engagement

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attachment 1 – Resolution
- Attachment 2 – Press Release
- Attachment 3 – Planning Commission Applications

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOSTER CITY
APPOINTING ONE MEMBER TO THE FOSTER CITY PLANNING COMMISSION TO A
FULL FOUR-YEAR TERM

CITY OF FOSTER CITY

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOSTER CITY, as
follows:

WHEREAS, effective June 1, 2025, _____ is hereby appointed to
fill one new full term from June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2029 on the Foster City Planning
Commission.

PASSED AND ADOPTED as a resolution of the City Council of the City of Foster
City at the regular meeting held on the 19th day of May, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

STACY JIMENEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PRISCILLA SCHAUS, CITY CLERK



NEWS RELEASE

The City of Foster City
Priscilla Schaus, Public Information Officer
PSchaus@fostercity.org; (650) 286-3250

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release #032625-01

Serve Your Community – Join the Planning Commission

Contact: Priscilla Schaus, Communications Director/City Clerk, (650) 286-3250,
pschaus@fostercity.org

Foster City, CA: March 26, 2025 – Want to make a positive impact in Foster City? Serving on a Commission is an opportunity for you to participate in local government and serve your community. The City of Foster City is currently accepting applications for the Planning Commission to fill one vacancy. Term information is as follows:

- Full, four-year term (June 1, 2025, through May 31, 2029). Meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month, and Study Sessions, if needed, are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

The Planning Commission consists of five Foster City residents. To be eligible to apply, a resident must be at least eighteen years old and must have continuously resided in the City for a period of at least three years immediately prior to submission of an application for appointment to the Planning Commission. Community involvement in Foster City, a license in architecture and relevant experience will be considered in evaluating applicants. Those interested are encouraged to attend a Planning Commission meeting prior to applying. Appointments are made by the City Council. Planning Commissioners are compensated \$269 per month.

Applications for the Planning Commission will be accepted electronically via Netfile. Applicants are encouraged to sign up for an account and apply at <https://netfile.com/bac/public/#/FOS/>.

Under Chapter 2.28 of the Foster City Municipal Code, the Commission makes recommendations to the City Council regarding General Plan amendments, rezoning, zoning ordinance amendments, environmental review, and other matters related to land use and development in the City. The Commission also reviews and renders decisions on conditional use permits, major room additions,

new home constructions, use permit modifications, and major development projects pursuant to the architectural and design review and subdivision sections of the Foster City Municipal Code.

Those interested are invited to submit applications by 5:00 p.m. by **May 1, 2025**. Applicants are required to attend the **May 19, 2025, City Council meeting** for an interview and consideration of official appointment. For more information or to download an application, visit www.fostercity.org/bc-pc. If an applicant elects to not submit using Netfile, applications can be submitted in person at City Hall, 610 Foster City Blvd., or via email to clerk@fostercity.org. Please note that incomplete applications will not be accepted.

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04/21/2025
10:59:38

Filing ID:
10761

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Planning Commission Application

Personal Information

First Name

Shankar

Middle Name

G

Last Name

Kenkre

Street Address

Apt, Suite #

City

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Email

Cell Phone

Home Phone

How long have you lived in Foster City?

33 years

Employment

What is your Occupation/Present Position?

Retired

Employer's Name

n/a

Employer's Address

Apt, Suite #

n/a

City

State

Zip

n/a

N/A

n/a

Length of Employment

n/a

Self Employment

Name and Description of Business

n/a

Address

Apt, Suite #



City

State

Zip

Phone

Length of Ownership

Service

Have you ever served on a public board, committee, or commission?

Yes

If yes, please explain

I am currently a planning commissioner for the city of Foster City

Do you have any relatives employed in the city or serving in any official capacity?

No

If yes, please give name(s) and relationship

Community Organizations or Activities

Community Organizations or Activities

Hearts for Humanity	Five years ago, I co-founded an initiative to prepare hot, home-cooked meals for the homeless commmu	None	1/1/2020 - present
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References

Kandy O'Mara	██████████ Foster City CA 94404	Project Manager	██████████
Shilpi Goel	██████████ Foster City CA 94404	Business Owner	██████████
George Zatulovsky	██████████ Foster City CA 94404	Retired	██████████

Objectives



Please state reasons and objectives for desiring to become a member of this committee/commission

As someone who has called Foster City home for many years, I care deeply about our community's growth and long-term well-being. Over the past three months, I've had the honor of serving on the Planning Commission, an experience that has given me a clearer understanding of its critical role in shaping the city's future. In March 2025, I attended the Planning Commissioners Academy—a highly informative and inspiring experience. It expanded my knowledge of land use planning, CEQA regulations, state mandates, and best practices from across California. I came away energized and more determined to contribute not just locally, but also at the regional level.

The breadth of responsibilities and the opportunity to actively participate in shaping policies that directly affect our city initially drew me to the Commission. Urban development in Foster City must balance present needs with future priorities. Being part of this process through the Commission enables me to help guide our city's evolution in a thoughtful, sustainable direction.

An aspect of this role I find especially meaningful is reviewing neighborhood and area-specific plans. Preserving the distinct character of each neighborhood while making room for inclusive and intentional growth is key to maintaining the city's vibrancy and cohesion.

The work of the Planning Commission has a lasting impact, and I would be privileged to continue contributing in this capacity. With my longtime connection to Foster City, recent professional development, and strong commitment to civic service, I'm confident in my ability to support sound planning decisions that benefit both our community and the broader region.

Have you attended a meeting of the Committee/Commission you are applying to?

Yes

If Yes, enter the date of the meeting you attended.

04/17/2025

Verification

Signature

Shankar Kenkre

Signature Date

04/21/2025



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04/15/2025
00:56:23

Filing ID:
10758

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Planning Commission Application

Personal Information

First Name

Avi Hermosa

Middle Name

Last Name

Hermosa petel

Street Address

Apt, Suite #

City

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Email

Cell Phone

Home Phone

How long have you lived in Foster City?

10 years

Employment

What is your Occupation/Present Position?

An Engineer

Employer's Name

n/a

Employer's Address

Apt, Suite #

n/a

City

State

Zip

n/a

N/A

n/a

Length of Employment

n/a

Self Employment

Name and Description of Business

Address

Apt, Suite #



City

State

Zip

Phone

Length of Ownership

Service

Have you ever served on a public board, committee, or commission?

Yes

If yes, please explain

when I was employed ,I was participating in our social committee which does a lot for the employees.

Do you have any relatives employed in the city or serving in any official capacity?

No

If yes, please give name(s) and relationship

Community Organizations or Activities**Community Organizations or Activities**

Adicet Bio

Social Committee

Redwood City

2022-2024

References

Daniel Boyle



An Engineer



Ali Abdul



Business Developer



Mathias Schmalisch



Director

**Objectives**

Please state reasons and objectives for desiring to become a member of this committee/commission



I am interested in joining this committee because I'm passionate about making a positive impact in our community and want to be more involved in shaping decisions that affect our city. I believe that community engagement is essential for a city's growth, and I'm eager to contribute ideas, listen to diverse perspectives, and help promote thoughtful, inclusive solutions.

My objective in joining this committee is to learn more about local government processes, collaborate with others who care about Foster City, and bring a fresh perspective to the table. I'm especially interested in planning commission, and I want to be part of efforts that enhance the quality of life for all residents.

Ultimately, I see this opportunity as a chance to grow as a civic-minded individual, while actively helping Foster City remain a vibrant, welcoming, and forward-thinking community.

Have you attended a meeting of the Committee/Commission you are applying to?

I plan to attend a meeting before the interview

If Yes, enter the date of the meeting you attended.

Verification

Signature

Avi Hermosa Petel

Signature Date

04/15/2025



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04/27/2025
12:42:21

Filing ID:
10763

1/3

Planning Commission Application

Personal Information

First Name

Barry

Middle Name

Ronald

Last Name

Salberg

Street Address

[REDACTED]

Apt, Suite #

[REDACTED]

City

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Email

[REDACTED]

Cell Phone

[REDACTED]

Home Phone

[REDACTED]

How long have you lived in Foster City?

49 years

Employment

What is your Occupation/Present Position?

freelance writer/editor

Employer's Name

current assignment is with Northern California Golf Association

Employer's Address

3200 Lopez Road

Apt, Suite #

City

Pebble Beach

State

CA

Zip

93953

Length of Employment

over 15 years (random assignments)

Self Employment

Name and Description of Business

Barry Salberg Freelance Writer/Editor <https://www.linkedin.com/in/barrysalberg/>

Address

[REDACTED]

Apt, Suite #

[REDACTED]

*City*

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Phone

[REDACTED]

Length of Ownership

over 20 years

Service*Have you ever served on a public board, committee, or commission?*

Yes

*If yes, please explain**Do you have any relatives employed in the city or serving in any official capacity?*

No

*If yes, please give name(s) and relationship***Community Organizations or Activities****Community Organizations or Activities**San Mateo County
Elections Officesupervised local
precinct poll workers,
trained poll workersPrecinct Inspector;
Poll Worker Trainer

1998-2018

Care Advantage Care
Advantage workshop,
Heath Plan of San
Mateo,invited workshop
panel member

panel member guest

2013

References

Angela Lau

[REDACTED]
(Foster City)product manager,
Adobe

[REDACTED]

Sasha Graham

c/o Allen Matkins (law)
San Francisco

Real Estate attorney

[REDACTED]

Neelam Maharaj

c/o Floor&Decor
Burlingame

Operations Manager

[REDACTED]



Objectives

Please state reasons and objectives for desiring to become a member of this committee/commission

While I am not an engineer, or land use professional, I am a long-time, continuous Foster City resident and apartment renter going back to October of 1975. As an apartment renter, I present a unique perspective, different voice, and previously unrepresented factor in the Planning Commission.

My undergraduate degree is in communications from UCLA, and I have a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Southern California. I have been formally trained in strategic planning, and am well-equipped to deal with many of the nuances and complexities involved in helping to shape the future of Foster City. My LinkedIn profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/barrysalberg/> <https://www.linkedin.com/in/barrysalberg/> for a more in-depth assessment of my relevant professional background, accomplishments, and skill-set.

I would also cite my long-time work tenure at the former (and now sadly vacant) Orchard Supply Hardware here in Foster City. Clearly, I have seen first-hand the dramatic changes in our city over these last 50 years, from population demographics, to infrastructure, industry, cost, traffic, and virtually everything else, as Jack Foster's vision continues to come to fruition. I am also an occasional viewer of FCTV, noting with fascination at the mechanics and operational dynamics as I watch the City Council meetings, and now seek to play my own part in the process of city government.

I'm proud to be a resident here, where I offer unique insights, a genuine passion for the present and future of Foster City, and a legitimate, relevant skill-set. I could be an invaluable asset and genuine contributor as a member of the planning commission.

Have you attended a meeting of the Committee/Commission you are applying to?

I plan to attend a meeting before the interview

If Yes, enter the date of the meeting you attended.

Verification

Signature

Barry Salberg

Signature Date

04/27/2025



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04/30/2025
16:25:35

Filing ID:
10768

1/3

Planning Commission Application

Personal Information

First Name

Cindy

Middle Name

Chao

Last Name

Wang

Street Address

Apt, Suite #

City

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Email

Cell Phone

Home Phone

How long have you lived in Foster City?

21 years

Employment

What is your Occupation/Present Position?

Most recently served as a Management and Program Analyst (left 8/25/2024)

Employer's Name

Small Business Administration

Employer's Address

Apt, Suite #

(Telework)

City

Washington

State

DC

Zip

20024

Length of Employment

4.5 years

Self Employment

Name and Description of Business

Phaenomena West Capital, A Private Investment Fund

Address

Apt, Suite #



City

Foster City

State

CA

Zip

94404

Phone

[REDACTED]

Length of Ownership

9 years

Service

Have you ever served on a public board, committee, or commission?

Yes

If yes, please explain

I served a 3-year term in Audit Committee of Foster City from January 2020 to December 2022

Do you have any relatives employed in the city or serving in any official capacity?

No

If yes, please give name(s) and relationship

Community Organizations or Activities

Community Organizations or Activities

Audit Committee, City of Foster City	Review annual report and advise the city council on finance related issues.	Chair, Vice Chair, and member of Audit Committee	Jan 2020 - Dec 2022
Aragon High School Music Booster	Volunteer coordination for events and concerts	Board Member	2016-2018
Haas Alumni Network San Francisco Chapter	Organize alumni events and outreach.	Secretary of Board	2008-2010

References

Michael Zhong	Evergreen, CA	Venture Partner	[REDACTED]
Gang Xiong	[REDACTED], Foster City	Director, Oracle Corp.	[REDACTED]



Thomas Yap

[REDACTED], San Carlos

Fmr GM, Sun
Microsys

[REDACTED]

Objectives

Please state reasons and objectives for desiring to become a member of this committee/commission

I have lived in Foster City since 2004 and raised my kid here. Foster City is a wonderful place for working professionals, families, kids, and all residents because of its premium location, nice weather, the award-winning unique landscape, parks, and our diverse community.

While my career spans from federal government, venture investments, investment banking, and software industry, I have always been active with schools and business communities. I also served in Audit Committee of City of Foster City for the 3-year term from 2020 to 2022 and really enjoyed working with the city government and serving as a citizen of the community. I learned a lot about the City's Finance related matters via regular meetings, special meetings, and special focused studies that we ordered.

My goal for serving the Planning Committee is to help analyzing pros and cons of various projects and plans, work with the city council, listen to and bring community voices and ideas, and achieve a balance of growth and quality of life for residents of the city. I hope to have the opportunity to serve the city again with my time and skills and making our city an even better place to live.

Have you attended a meeting of the Committee/Commission you are applying to?

Yes

If Yes, enter the date of the meeting you attended.

04/03/2025

Verification

Signature

CindyChaoWang

Signature Date

04/30/2025