



## Application for - CITY COUNCIL - Ward- #3

|                |                             |             |                             |
|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Name (Full)    | <u>Jennifer Lu Senesche</u> |             | <i>Please Print Clearly</i> |
| Address        | <u>[REDACTED]</u>           |             | <u>Camas, WA</u>            |
| Contact Phone  | <u>[REDACTED]</u>           | Other Phone | <u>N/A</u>                  |
| E-Mail Address | <u>[REDACTED]</u>           |             |                             |

### Eligibility Requirements, Notification and Signature

A Council Member for the City of Camas must reside within City limits and be a registered voter in Camas, Washington. To be eligible for appointment to a Council vacancy, applicants must have lived in the City of Camas for 12 consecutive months prior to being appointed to office.

As an applicant, I declare that I am qualified for appointment to this public office and acknowledge the information provided on this application will be available to the public.

Signature [Signature] Date 1/31/23

### Additional Information

|  |                                      |                                     |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Are you a registered voter in Camas, WA?   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES | <input type="radio"/> NO            |
| Are you a resident of Ward 3 in the City of Camas?   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES | <input type="radio"/> NO            |
| How long have you been a resident of the City of Camas?  | <u>40 years</u>                      |                                     |
| How long have you lived at your current address?   | <u>22 years</u>                      |                                     |
| If you have lived at your current address for less than 12 months, please list your previous address:  | <u>N/A</u>                           |                                     |
| Previous address & length of time at address - <u>N/A</u>  |                                      |                                     |
| Do you or any family member residing in your household, have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that conducts business with the City of Camas? | <input type="radio"/> YES            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO |
| I confirm that I am legally qualified to serve in this capacity.   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES | <input type="radio"/> NO            |

Please return this form, your cover letter, resume and answers to the supplemental questions to the City of Camas City Hall (616 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue) no later than 5:00 pm on February 1, 2023. Applications received after 5:00 pm will not be accepted.

The application and attachments should be sent to:

**Clerk's Office**

**Camas City Hall**

616 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Camas, WA 98607

Contact Phone: (360) 834-6864 Email Address: [administration@cityofcamas.us](mailto:administration@cityofcamas.us)

Jennifer Senescu

Camas, WA 98607

January 31, 2023

Camas City Clerk  
616 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Camas, WA 98607

Re: Application for Camas City Council, Ward 3 Vacancy

In accordance with the requirements for filing an application for appointment to council, I submit this cover letter in support of my application for appointment to the Ward 3 position left vacant by former Councilmember, Greg Anderson.

As I was updating my resume, it led me through a chronology that I thought would be helpful to council in their search for the next councilmember. I believe that all of my life experiences have prepared me for this position, which is representing the citizens of Camas.

After graduating from Washington State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, I began working as a legal assistant. I worked in this capacity for 15 years and continue to do so on a part-time basis. This experience is instrumental in teaching me analytical skills, working with people at difficult times in their lives, being a problem solver and determining how to be the best advocate I can for them. This directly correlates with my goals to represent the citizens of Camas.

Next, I became a stay-at-home mom. This truly was a learning experience, taking problem solving skills to the next level. I was also able to connect with the people of Camas that I may not have been able to connect with otherwise. I enjoyed getting to know the needs of families and being a part of their lives.

After 8 years at home, I knew it was time to return to the workforce in the form of service. I began working at the Chamber of Commerce and was honored to be connected to our downtown community. I also joined my mother at the Camas Gallery and began connecting with Camas merchants. I regularly attend merchant meetings to learn of their concerns and victories.

I became very involved in our City and felt like I needed to do more. I ran for public office, which was a wonderful experience that expanded my mind more than I could have imagined. I realized through that process that my purpose in this community is to serve with civility, compassion, and collaboration. I immediately joined service groups and participate in many service activities that directly impact the success of our City now and in the future. This pursuit brings me joy and inspires me to continue to serve and led me to submit this application.

Thank you for your consideration in my aspiration for appointment to City Council.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Senescu

## EDUCATION

- Washington State University: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
- 1985 Camas High School Graduate

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### *Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce:*

- ***July 2020 - Present: Executive Director***

The Executive Director is the chief administrative and operations officer for the Chamber. The Executive Director carries out the long-term plans and programs of the Board in accordance with its established policies and serves as the direct representative of the board to chamber staff, the public, and members. The Executive Director's area of responsibility includes, but is not limited to, the following: coordination of the program of work, supervision of organizational structure and procedures, motivation of volunteers, monitoring of income and expenditures, prepare a yearly budget, development of membership, training and supervision of staff and interpretation of policy facilitation.

- ***February 2013- February 2014 / August 2018 - June 2020:  
Administrative Assistant***

Supports the Executive Director and Executive Board while providing general office and clerical support to the organization.

### *Owner Camas Gallery:*

***March 2014 - Present***

### *Stay at Home Mom:*

***March 2005 - January 2013***

### *Legal Assistant::*

- ***Senescu & Babich: 2005-Present***
- ***Todd W. Wetsel, Attorney at Law: 1999-2005***
- ***Boettcher, LaLonde, Kleweno, Jahn, Rutledge and Holtmann: 1993-1999***
- ***Meader & Devlaeminck: 1990-1993***

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce Board Member from 2014-2018. Served as President of the Board in 2018.
- City of Camas Parking Advisory Committee from 2014-Present. Currently serving as the Chair of this committee.
- Downtown Camas Association liaison for the Chamber.
- Camas-Washougal Rotary
- Camas Lions
- Soroptimist International of Clark County

### **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.



## Answers to Supplemental Questions

1) Why do you want to serve on the Camas City Council?

I want to represent the citizens of Camas with civility, compassion, and collaboration. It is my passion to serve with impartiality and equity for all Camas residents. Graduating from college in political science, working in the legal field, being a stay-at-home mom, working at the Chamber of Commerce, owning a small business have all given me a unique and diverse perspective that I believe would be an asset on council. This body is comprised of people from different backgrounds and experiences, which allows everyone in our community to be represented. Together, we can develop effective solutions to any challenges we are facing, while embracing and furthering the positive work in our community.

2) What experiences, talents or skills would you bring to the city government that you would like to highlight?

With my legal experience, I am analytical and am able to examine issues without bias. I do not believe in making a decision without thoroughly weighing both sides of an issue. I understand the importance of considering intended and unintended consequences prior to making significant policy decisions impacting Camasians. I am able to review information and determine the pertinent issues at hand. With my experience as a stay-at-home mom, I am aware of what is important to our families. With my experience as a small business owner and at the Chamber of Commerce, I see what is important to our merchants and businesses as a whole.

3) What forms of public service or volunteering have you been involved in; and/or what other elected bodies have you sought a seat, or been elected to? Provide details regarding the dates, organization/agency names, roles, and responsibilities.

Through my memberships with Rotary, Lions and Soroptimists I have had the opportunity to participate in service at the Clark County Food Bank, Walk and Knock, bell ringing for the Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, Wreaths Across America to name a few. I also recently ran for Mayor, which was an amazing experience. While I was not successful in this campaign, I learned a lot about what it takes to be an effective leader in Camas. Building trust and respect, acting with civility toward colleagues and citizens, and leading with compassion and authenticity. I would bring those lessons learned to the City Council every day if appointed.

4) What is your vision for Camas four or five years from now? Explain how you would lead the community toward your vision.

Last year's Camas Days theme was, "Experience the Magic of Camas". My vision is that all citizens will experience that "magic" not for one brief period of time, but every day in their daily lives. During my recent campaign, I was door knocking throughout Camas and actively heard the hopes, aspirations and vision for the Camas our citizens want in the future. The Camas I shared time with knows we have significant challenges before us but believes that together we can effectively navigate those challenges to create a community we all can be proud of for decades to come. The magic comes from thoughtful planning and smart sustainable growth. I want to be a part of this transformational process. It is the hard work of the Mayor, Council and City Staff that creates the magic all Camasonians enjoy. We know there are tough decisions to be made, but together we can continue to provide the citizens with a magical experience. Camas is an amazing place to live and raise a family.

- 5) In your opinion, what are the top two or three significant challenges facing the City of Camas today? How would you propose to address these challenges?

While I could address specific challenges, we all know what they are, I want to focus on a broader level that would allow us to handle any type of situation. 1) Keeping in mind the bigger picture through effective leadership and governance. What is the end goal? What do the citizens of Camas want? Analyze unintended consequences of decisions. 2) Establishing trust in government. Across the nation people are questioning our governing bodies. It is no different in Camas. As we face challenges, we need to act thoughtfully taking into account all of the materials presented to us without preconceived notions. We need to do a better job of connecting and listening to our citizens. Rather than having them come to us to provide comments or soliciting input on-line, we should physically go to them and listen. Town Halls, door knocking efforts, open coffee hours for each Councilor at local shops to hear various concerns, for example. 3) I embrace the growth of the City of Camas. We need to make sure that this growth is sustainable and has a supportive infrastructure. For example, the Northshore Sub-Area Plan, we must ensure that the design has the appropriate infrastructure to support the growth. Also, actively support increased economic development within Camas' city limits. I believe the City would be well-served to focus on attracting a diversified commercial and industry base, so that short-term economic conditions would not devastate a large portion of Camas' tax base.

## DECLARATION AND AFFIDAVIT OF CANDIDACY

State of Washington }  
County of Clark } ss.  
City of Camas }

### DECLARATION

I, Jennifer L. Seneseu, declare that I am a registered voter  
residing at [REDACTED], City of Camas, Clark County,  
State of Washington. I further declare that I am legally qualified to assume the office of  
COUNCIL MEMBER, if selected. I hereby request that my name be placed before the City Council, as a  
candidate.

### AFFIDAVIT

FURTHER, I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the  
United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington, and the Ordinances of  
the City of Camas.

[Signature]  
Signature of candidate as registered to vote

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31 day of January, 2022.

(SEAL)

NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
KENNETH M. CLINE  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES  
NOVEMBER 10, 2023  
COMMISSION # 19631

[Signature]  
Signature of Acknowledging Official

Notary  
Title of Acknowledging Official