



CITY OF COACHELLA

COMMISSION APPLICATION

NAME: Manuel Gaitan

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

TELEPHONE: [REDACTED] E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

COMMISSION:

- Planning**
- Cultural and Arts**
- Parks and Recreation**
- Utilities User Tax Citizen Oversight (UUT)**
- Youth Advisory** (To be eligible for appointment to the Commission you must be enrolled in high school. Please state your age and high school you currently attend in the "other comments" in section 5.)
- Social Justice & Public Safety**

To be eligible for appointment to any Commission you must be a resident of the City of Coachella. Members may only serve on one commission/committee.

Note: In the event a member of the commission has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from meetings of the Commission, the City Council may declare the office of such member vacant.

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PLEASE FURNISH BRIEF RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS BELOW:

1. Why do you think you should be appointed? What is there specifically in your background, training, education and interests that qualifies you as a candidate?

I have over a decade of experience managing land use, infrastructure planning, and agricultural operations across the Coachella Valley.

As General Manager of the Riverside County Citrus Pest Control District No. 2, I lead public programs that directly affect local zoning, environmental compliance,

and regional growth. My background in leadership, project management, and policy gives me the tools to serve effectively on the Planning Commission.

2. What do you see as the goals and objectives of the Commission? How would you help achieve these objectives and goals?

The Planning Commission is responsible for shaping growth in a way that balances development, environmental needs, and community well-being.

I would help by applying practical insight from both government and private sector experience to guide smart land use, infrastructure design, and community outreach. My focus would be on thoughtful, sustainable planning that protects Coachella's unique identity.

3. What special qualities can you bring to the Commission?

I'm local, bilingual, and I understand how to get things done at both the policy and project level. I've managed crews, budgets, land, and compliance

work. I also connect well with people and believe in communicating clearly and listening first. I bring a lot of real-world perspective to the table,

especially when it comes to land use, infrastructure, and ag-related planning.

4. Do you have any questions or comments about the Commission's structure or functions?

5. Other comments and/or ideas as to how you as a member of the selected Commission could benefit the City of Coachella.

I love this city and want to see it thrive. Whether it's helping navigate land use decisions, zoning changes, or balancing development with the

community needs. I'd like to see Coachella continue to grow in a way that stays true to its roots while building something for a great future.

Signature *Manuel Gaitan*

Date 4/14/2025

Note: Members of commissions shall be appointed for four-year terms or less. The term of each commission member shall continue for the term of the nominating council member and automatically terminate when the council member's term ends. If a council member is reelected, that council member is entitled to make all new nominations or may choose to re-nominate the council member's previous nominee.

Youth Advisory Commission Note: The term of a Commissioner is one year from August to June; mirroring the local school district's school year.

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Deputy City Clerk
City of Coachella
53-462 Enterprise Way
Coachella, CA 92236

cityclerk@coachella.org