

2026 Economic Development Authority Commission Interview Questions

Candidate Name and Time of Interview _____
Interviewed by _____

On behalf of the Columbia Heights City Council, thank you for being here today and for your interest in serving our community. We are grateful for the time, care, and commitment you have shown by applying to serve on the EDA Commission.

Columbia Heights is a diverse, engaged, and vibrant community, and our boards and commissions play a vital role in helping shape the City's future. We value the many perspectives, lived experiences, and ideas that residents bring to public service, and we strive to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all who wish to participate in civic life.

EDA Commission appointments are usually for six years, however this is an opportunity to fill the remainder of a vacancy that will expire January 1, 2030. Commission members work collaboratively with fellow residents, City staff, and the City Council to advise on important matters affecting our community. The interview today is an opportunity for us to learn more about you, your interests, and what motivates you to serve, and for you to learn more about this role.

Thank you again for your willingness to contribute your time and talents to Columbia Heights. We look forward to our conversation.

1. Briefly describe any training, education, language skills, or relevant experience that you have acquired that would benefit the City of Columbia Heights, including participation in civic and community groups.
2. What motivated you to apply to serve on the Economic Development Authority?
3. Why do you feel that you would be a good candidate to represent the opinions and concerns of the City?

4. What are some of the most important concerns or issues that you think the City will face in the next 5 years?

5. We strive to have diverse Boards and Commissions representative of our community. What unique qualities, perspectives, and life experiences would you bring to this position?

Economic Development Authority (EDA) Commission Specific Questions

1. Please describe your understanding of the role of the Economic Development Authority Commission and the responsibilities/duties of its members.

2. One of the roles of the Economic Development Authority Commission is to aid the City Council and Planning Commission in strategic redevelopment of suitable areas. What experience do you have with developing long and short-range plans and strategies?

3. Have you ever been a member of a board of directors for a private, non-profit, or public corporation? In what capacity?

4. What do you believe the EDA should do to improve economic development in Columbia Heights?

5. In what ways are you familiar with redevelopment and redevelopment financing?

6. Explain your vision/ideas for the core commercial area of the City?

RATING	<u>Least</u>					<u>Most</u>				
Knowledge of community	1	2	3	4	5					
Involvement with community	1	2	3	4	5					
Ability to present information orally	1	2	3	4	5					
Experience/training/interest beneficial to this board or commission	1	2	3	4	5					
Knowledge of assigned commission	1	2	3	4	5					
Overall Impression	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Overall Rating _____