

# VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

**Dan Sapienza**

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dan.sapienza@gmail.com

Application: **URA - Urban Renewal Authority**

## Applicant Information

Birthday: [REDACTED] Gender: Male Education Level: Doctoral degree

Address: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED] <<

## Availability

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
Morning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Afternoon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Evening	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Volunteer Groups Applied For

Urban Renewal Authority

## Job Description

I have read the job description

## Questions

Current Occupation: Attorney and Owner of Poudre Legal Advisors, LLC

Current Employer: Poudre Legal Advisors, LLC (owner)

Prior work experience (please include dates): Attorney, Partner - March, Olive & Sapienza LLC (2019-2023)  
Policy Advisor - Health District of Northern Larimer County (2012-2018)  
Owner and Data Analyst - Vionza Limited (2012-2018)  
Adjunct Professor (policy) - Colorado School of Public Health (2015)  
Legislative Assistant and Counsel - US House of Representatives (2009-2011)

Volunteer experience (please include dates): Director, Salud Family Health (2021-present)  
Director, Fort Collins Municipal Railway (2012-2020)  
Director, Fort Collins Musicians Association (2015-2018)  
Director, Northern Colorado AIDS Project (2012-2015)  
Leadership Fort Collins (2015-2016)

Are you currently serving on a City board or Commission? If so, which one? No

Why do you want to become a member of the Urban Renewal Authority? The URA is an important tool for the City of Fort Collins to proactive address its development needs. While the community

has strong fundamentals, there are particular areas that need strategic help (North College, Foothills Mall, Midtown) that the URA can provide. Development generally focuses on new building in the outskirts of town, heading toward other municipalities. I want to work with the URA to help make those decisions to ensure that the interior of Town is not forgotten and can continue to thrive.

Have you had any exposure to the Urban Renewal Authority? If yes, please explain:

Yes;  
I've advised elected boards on laws related to URAs (TIFs, etc.) and written policy analyses on the same. I currently am town attorney for the Town of Wellington and work with that Town on a variety of economic development topics that include URAs.

Specify any activities which might create a serious conflict of interest if you are appointed:

I am, through my firm, currently the Town Attorney for the Town of Wellington. I do not believe that this would be a conflict of interest, as my service on the URA would be in my personal capacity.

Optional: How did you learn of a vacancy on the Urban Renewal Authority?

Website

List any abilities, skills, certifications, specialized training, or interests you have which are applicable to this board.

My law practice includes municipal law, business and development law, and more that directly touch the issues that the URA is involved in. I've written reports on URAs and given presentations to many groups on TIF and other public financing methods. I taught public policy at the Colorado School of Public Health and led executive trainings on policy advocacy for non-profit directors; these trainings all included local government processes and financing.

Briefly explain what you believe are the three most important issues facing the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), and how do you believe the URA should address each issue? You may also attach/upload a separate document if additional space is required.

First, the redevelopment of the Foothills Mall seems to be floundering, which seems to be more an issue of changing retail realities and COVID, than anything. The URA will need to identify how to turn this project into a success in the future, which may require more hands-on involvement with the business plans of future owner operators.

Second, this project highlights issues around general public-private partnerships that the URA will need to be cognizant of when future proposals are brought forward. COVID changed the world and old ways of using URA resources may need to keep this in mind. I believe this will require a larger focus on the public side of public-private partnerships to make sure such projects succeed.

I'm not sure the current nomenclature for the area, but College Avenue south of Drive will be the next area that needs redevelopment. So many strip malls are

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redvelopment. So many strip malls are prime for redevelopment. The URA needs to be proactive in identifying possibilities and helping this area to succeed before it becomes overly blighted. I'd like to see the URA start early to set up business and community groups to plan for this area's future.

Are you willing to complete the required training if appointed?

YES