



CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS
20025 Mack Plaza
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

RECEIVED
NOV 12 2025
CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

✓ I am interested in making application to serve as a member on the following Board/Commission:

<input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Building Authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Tree Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Citizens' Recreation Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> Downspout Board of Appeals
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Board of Appeals	<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Events Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Mack Avenue Business Study Committee
<input type="checkbox"/> Local Officers' Compensation Commission	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission
<input type="checkbox"/> Pension Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens' Commission	

NAME: MICHAEL ELLIS

ADDRESS: 740 ANITA AVE.

TELEPHONE: Home: _____ Cell: _____

E-Mail: _____

OCCUPATION: SR. IT MANAGER, AMERICAN AXLE

OF YEARS RESIDENT OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS (Minimum 2 yrs. required): 10

PERSONAL SKILLS OR AREAS OF EXPERTISE RELATIVE TO THE COMMISSION:

SEASONED IT ARCHITECT / PROJECT MANAGER; ABILITY TO SEE LARGER PICTURE

EDUCATION: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, MANAGEMENT INFO SCIENCES FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY

PROFESSIONAL / SERVICE CLUB AFFILIATIONS: GROSSE POINTE CRISIS CLVB

DESCRIBE WHY YOU WOULD BE AN ASSET TO THE COMMISSION/BOARD: _____

SEE LETTER OF INTEREST (ATTACHED).

Signature of sponsor

Michael L.

Signature of applicant

Date: NOVEMBER 11, 2025

Return to Clerk's Office: cityclerk@gpwmich.us

NOTE: Biographical sketches will be retained on file for one year. Please resubmit a new form after that time.

Michael A. Ellis
740 Anita Ave.
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

November 11, 2025

Paul P. Antolin, City Clerk
City of Grosse Pointe Woods
20025 Mack Plaza Drive
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236

Dear Mr. Antolin,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Michael Ellis and I'm a 10-year resident of Grosse Pointe Woods and a lifelong East-sider. I am writing to formally express my interest in serving as a member of the **Planning Commission** for the for the **City of Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan**.

The idea of "serving the community in which you live" was instilled in me at a very young age. My dad was a member of Shorewood Kiwanis Club of St. Clair Shores, including a rotation through each of the officer and board member positions. On evenings and weekends, you could often find me pitching-in at paper drives, setting up tables for a pancake breakfast at the VFW hall, or helping my dad deliver clothes, food, or toys to local families in need. Those are some of the warmest memories from my youth. These days I'm affiliated with the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club. My uncle Jim is the current President of the GPCC, and I regularly attend and contribute to the various events and fundraisers they hold throughout each year.

I grew up in St. Clair Shores on Robert John near Morningside, right on the border of Grosse Pointe Woods where the city boundary cuts through the lots and streets on an angle. Our parents used to tell us that Grosse Pointe Woods clipped a small corner of our backyard, so in a way I've always felt connected to the city. I attended St. Joan of Arc elementary school, which was essentially a 50/50 mix of kids from St. Clair Shores and Grosse Pointe Woods. This was before the video game and smartphone takeover, so you could always see me and my friends on our bikes riding up-and-down the streets of Grosse Pointe Woods on the way to (or from) our latest adventure. To say I know these neighborhoods like the back of my hand is an understatement.

Talk to my friends and family, and they'll tell you I've been considering local public service for a long time. My former father-in-law Joe Dansbury served as a Grosse Pointe Woods City Council member from 1995 – 2003. I was a "campaign helper" for Joe during both of his successful runs for City

Council, with boots-on-the-ground delivering campaign flyers door-to-door and installing lawn signs for willing households throughout the city.

My professional career spans 27 years of IT analysis, administration, engineering, management, and leadership for a handful of Tier 1 automotive suppliers based in Southeast Michigan. During my career in IT, I've led or served on numerous groups, committees, and boards, including the Automotive Industry Action Group, Michigan Progress Users Group, QAD Midwest User Group, St. Joan of Arc Marketing and Public Relations Committee, Lakeview High School Technology Committee, and countless advisory boards and strategy & project steering committees for my employers. For the last 18 years I've been leading and directly supervising hundreds of IT staff members on 3 continents and numerous countries, delivering IT services for global organizations. I'm uniquely adept at establishing relationships and communicating with C-level executives, as well as crafting clear communications in plain language intended for broad and diverse audiences. Having worked with a number of different technologies at global, regional, and site levels of Fortune 150 companies, I have the ability to take a step back and view the "big picture" of any situation and make quick decisions accordingly. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Management Information Sciences from Franklin University in Columbus, Ohio, graduating Summa cum Laude in May 2007.

Regarding our great city of Grosse Pointe Woods, I am particularly interested in helping the city continue to progress and grow in the hopes of attracting new businesses, young homeowners, and families...always with an eye on fiscal responsibility, of course. City-sponsored events like Music on the Lawn and recent initiatives like the Social Districts and the City Shuttle, to name just a few, are great ways to showcase what our city has to offer to the next generation of home buyers and burgeoning businesses & business owners. I feel I possess the desire, dedication, and skills necessary to contribute effectively, and I am anxious to collaborate with current Planning Commission members and our community to create a positive and sustainable future for Grosse Pointe Woods.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of serving our community in this important capacity.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Ellis

