

**Name:** Joshua Rosenau

**Are you a registered voter?:** Yes

**Are you a resident of Lake Forest Park?:** Yes

**Length of residence in Lake Forest Park?:** 8

**1. List your educational background.:** University of Chicago, BA in Biology, specializing in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
University of Kansas, ABD Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**2. Please state your occupational background, beginning with your current occupation and employer.:** Director of Policy and Advocacy, Mountain Lion Foundation 2021-present  
Conservation Advocate, “  
Director of Communications, Wild Fish Conservancy 2019-2020  
Deputy Director, ScienceDebate 2018  
Director of Programs and Policy, National Center for Science Education 2007-2017

**3. Describe your community activities and volunteer work.:** Since 2022 I have served on the city’s Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, supporting programming as a volunteer and assisting in outreach and planning for new park development. I brought design exercises to PTA meetings and pancake breakfasts, reaching community members who could not attend evening events at City Hall. I have volunteered with LFP Stewardship Foundation crews maintaining Grace Cole and other city parks, and As a parent of 3, I have been active in the Lake Forest Park PTA, including service as Communications Chair and Advocacy Chair for a term that included the remote schooling year, and the rebuilding that has followed. I have also assisted the Shoreline PTSA council in advocacy efforts directed at maintaining school funding from the legislature and ensuring public input and understanding of the school closure process (which ultimately did not result in a closure). I also served on the Shoreline School District strategic planning discussions in 2024.  
In recent months I have been organizing monthly reading groups on themes of city planning and civic engagement. The goal is a broad discussion to forge consensus on how cities can and do grow, and tools and levers that can shape and improve the life of people. Inspired partly by the recent Comp Plan process, and longer-term discussions about the future of Town Center, the 522 corridor, and the new lakefront park, the goal is to engage new publics across north King County cities, and find creative solutions that maintain what we love about our communities while responding to new needs and obligations.

**4. Describe your special qualifications applicable to the City Council.:** I’m an

experienced lobbyist, advocate, and community organizer. In my work and volunteering, I have built skills in outreach and creating consensus on complex topics, including social controversies like evolution in schools and climate policy. I have worked on salmon conservation, habitat and forest protection, and as an advocate to local governments and the state legislature. The relationships I've forged through that work would help me and the city as a council member. My experience as an advocate on ballot measures would help support the city's work should there be a levy lift vote in the fall. My experience as a nonprofit leader and board member will also help with work on the council. I'm familiar with working in a group of volunteers to oversee a budget and set policy and priorities. Through my volunteering on a city board and engagement with other boards and commissions, I understand the council's work and would be able to pick up the workload quickly.

**5. Why do you want to serve on the Lake Forest Park City Council?:** My extended family, three generations across three households, chose LFP because we love the urban forest and the third spaces that define our city. I want to strengthen and enhance what makes us best and help the city live out its highest ideals. Having been part of the design process for the new lakefront park, I look forward to seeing that work through on the council, and shaping decisions on other parks and park expansions. I've long advocated bringing sidewalks and bike paths to our schools and community centers. The council's recent work on Healthy Streets and the legislature's new shared streets law open exciting opportunities to shape our public spaces in ways that empower the community. When we design roads for cars, we get traffic, but when we design for people, we get community. Doing that successfully, especially amid budget challenges, will be difficult. As a council member, I would be able to drive that work forward and craft creative solutions that enhance our community and bring together neighbors. In this difficult budget moment, I have management and organizing experience and insights into creative solutions that may develop consensus and build support for the choices the council makes for the city. As a long time climate educator and advocate, I know that climate policy touches everything, and only with active coordination on the council and staff level can the city fully integrate the needs of climate policy into decisions from housing and road design to park planning and regional coordination.

**6. Specify any activities that might create a conflict of interest if you should be appointed to the City Council.:** I would not be able to serve as a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board while on the council. I do not see ways that my work for the Mountain Lion Foundation would create a conflict with council work, but would be vigilant for any overlap.

**7. Briefly explain what you believe are the most important issues facing the Lake Forest Park community and the City Council's role in addressing each issue.:** Budget challenges are the most immediate issue. The council has pared down expenses, and lobbied for new legislative funding. A levy lift proposal this year would require broad community buy-in, and I favor a mechanism like "participatory budgeting" to ensure transparency and accountability of that new funding, as well as outreach to

ensure the community understands what a “no” vote would cost us all in services and public safety. More broadly, amid an assault on the nation’s democratic institutions, we need a council that protects residents and neighbors, and builds resilience. The climate crisis also calls for innovation to grow resilience and transform our buildings, streets, and behavior. Crises of affordability and homelessness demand creative solutions that protect beloved tree canopy while keeping our city’s doors open: homes our children can return to after college, their grandparents can downsize to, and where teachers and other public servants can live in the community they serve. There are solutions that cut across those challenges, including creating ways to add less-polluting housing on existing lots, rework streets to encourage walking, biking, and transit, reform zoning to allow walkable retail near more homes, and take fossil fuel pollution out of our homes and roads. Creating more community spaces — including legalizing community cafés and groceries, adding playgrounds, and giving people priority over cars on more roads — will reduce emissions, add revenue, increase affordability, and open new housing options. Adding those solutions will call for creative outreach to every corner of the city, listening to the community’s wishes for new development of housing and roads, and new tools to bring that feedback into policy, especially during the current budget challenges. On the council, I would serve as a conduit for those discussions, looking for creative solutions to implement the consensus that emerges from that outreach.

**Professional Reference 1** - Name, Relationship, Phone, Email:: R. Brent Lyles, Executive Director, The Mountain Lion Foundation

**Professional Reference 2** – Name, Relationship, Phone, Email:: Eugenie Scott, PhD, former Executive Director, National Center for Science Education

**Letters of Recommendation (optional): You may attach up to two letters of recommendation to this application.:** No file was uploaded

**I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the information provided herein is true and correct.:** Joshua Rosenau