

Susie Schade

, Stevenson, WA 98648

April 12, 2026

Stevenson City Council
City Hall
7121 E Loop Road
PO Box 371
Stevenson, WA 98648

Re: Application for City Council Position No. 3

Dear Members of the Stevenson City Council,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in the City Council Position No. 3 vacancy. I am a registered voter and three-year resident of Stevenson, and I meet all eligibility requirements for appointment. It would be an honor to serve our community in this capacity.

I bring more than four decades of experience in financial systems, budget management, and strategic business operations. As CEO and Founder of Vector Business Solutions, I have led complex ERP system migrations, managed outsourced accounting engagements, and architected technology solutions for growing organizations. My 41-year business track record translates directly to the responsibilities of a city council member — particularly in the areas of budget review and modernizing operations.

Beyond my professional qualifications, I am deeply invested in Stevenson. My husband, Bob, owns and operates Ocean Flight surfski and accessory shop on 2nd Street. My husband and I own a three-acre property in town, raise chickens, and have relocated both our lives and my businesses here. I want to put my professional expertise to work for my neighbors and help Stevenson thrive.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss my qualifications at the upcoming interview session. Thank you for your consideration, and for your continued service to our community. My application and resume are enclosed for your review.

Sincerely,



Susie Schade

Enclosures: Application, Resume

CITY COUNCILMEMBER APPLICATION

Application is due by 11:59 p.m. *April 15th, 2026*

Name: Susan ("Susie") Schade

Are you a registered voter? Yes

Are you a resident of the City of Stevenson? Yes

Length of residence in Stevenson? 3 years

1. List your educational background (or attach resume).

BS in Mathematics, University of California, Santa Barbara

Graduated 1985, with honors

2. Please state your occupational background, beginning with your current occupation and employer (or attach resume).

Currently Founder, CEO and President of Vector Business Solutions (past 17 years), relocated to Stevenson.

See attached resume for professional history.

3. Describe your community activities and volunteer work (or attach resume).

- Board of Directors member for Kids Korps in Solana Beach, California, including active involvement in environmental cleanup, community services, and family participation in community.
- Performed as Campaign Manager for the successful election of Solana Beach Elementary School District Board Member Debra Schade, PhD, for each campaign each four years (of her first 20 years of service)

4. Describe your special qualifications applicable to City Council.

I bring strong experience in business, financial analysis from my 41-year career in technology, finance, and business ownership. I have a strong collaborative nature and can work well to bring

reason and rationale to decisions. As a three-year resident of the Stevenson community, I can represent the unique perspective of a recent addition to the community.

5. Why do you want to serve on the Stevenson City Council?

I would be able to bring additional skills and perspective to the City Council. I also am personally driven to become more involved in our community.

6. Specify any activities that might create a conflict of interest if you should be appointed to the City Council.

My husband, Bob, and I are developing 3 homes, over the next few years, in Stevenson. These are small entry-level homes, and I don't anticipate any conflict of interest with these projects. I would recuse myself from City Council level involvement if any conflict arose.

My husband owns Ocean Flight, a surfski shop in downtown Stevenson. Again, I don't anticipate conflict of interest, but would be fast to recuse myself if issues ever arose.

7. Briefly explain what you believe are the most important issues facing the Stevenson community at this time and the role the City Council can play in addressing each issue.

I believe Stevenson has some challenges based on growth and change in the community.

- **Trust and Fairness:** There is some community distrust in some historical Council decisions. I believe Stevenson will benefit from strong leadership and open communication to help reclaim community trust.
- **Financial Management:** Several recent challenges require a balancing of community needs, fairness, and city financials. This balance can be notoriously tough to navigate, and requires careful navigation and focus from the Council. An example of this is the sewer system and residential requirements to connect (or not), and how to balance these requirements with the financial impact to the city and residents alike.

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

Signature



Date: 04/12/2026

Application Form Attachment

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Legal Name: Susan Margaret Schade

Home Physical Address: , Stevenson, WA 98648.

Mailing Address: PO Box 861, Stevenson, WA 98648.

Phone:

Email:

SUSAN (“SUSIE”) SCHADE

, (PO BOX 861), Stevenson, WA 98648 |

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Strategic business leader and financial systems executive with 41 years of experience in enterprise resource planning, fiscal management, global project delivery, and organizational leadership. CEO/Founder of Vector Business Solutions with deep expertise in budget oversight, technology modernization, and process optimization. Stevenson resident and property owner committed to transparent, data-driven governance and community service.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Budget Analysis & Fiscal Oversight
Strategic Planning & Project Leadership
ERP Systems (NetSuite, JDEdwards)
Technology Modernization & Process Improvement
Stakeholder Engagement & Consensus-Building

Financial Reporting & Compliance
Small Business Operations & Management
Global Team Leadership & Collaboration
Data-Driven Decision-Making
Community Engagement & Public Service

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CEO / Founder / Financial Consultant & Systems Architect

Firm: Vector Business Solutions • 2008 – Present (18 years)

- Built financial systems implementation and outsourced accounting firm from the ground up,
- Developed AI strategy and systems to provide improvements to customer service and deliverable quality across clients
- Led end-to-end NetSuite ERP migrations for multiple growing companies, delivering on-time, on-budget implementations
- Managed outsourced accounting operations, ensuring financial accuracy, compliance, and timely reporting
- Architected and integrated SaaS-based business systems to streamline operations and reduce costs and provided long-term strategic technology support and business advisory services to diverse client base

Various Leadership & Technical Roles – Senior Software Engineer, Accounting Systems Manager, Business Development Manager, Account Executive

Firms: Electronic Data Systems, Coopers & Lybrand, Affiliated Computer Services, Perot Systems • 1985-2008 (23 years)

- Managed IT outsourcing engagements for large enterprise clients, overseeing service delivery and client satisfaction
- Designed and implemented financial systems supporting multi-million-dollar operations
- Provided strategic consulting on technology adoption and organizational efficiency
- Managed JDEdwards ERP implementation for a global medical glove manufacturer with operations across the United States, Malaysia, and Thailand
- Coordinated cross-functional teams across three countries to deliver complex system integration on schedule
- Drove new business development and account management for enterprise technology services

COMMUNITY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Historic

- Board of Directors member, Kids Korps — Solana Beach, California (environmental cleanup, community services, and family participation)
- Campaign Manager for Solana Beach Elementary School District Board Member Debra Schade, PhD (first 20 years of Debra's service)

Current

- Stevenson, WA resident and three-acre property owner
- Support spouse in his ownership of Ocean Flight surfski shop in Stevenson
- Active community member invested in local development, economic development
- Building entry-level houses in the city of Stevenson
- Understands rural community needs, Columbia River Gorge environmental stewardship, and small-town governance challenges

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics
University of California, Santa Barbara
Graduated in 1985, with honors

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Claude AI • Microsoft 365 • QuickBooks Online and Enterprise • NetSuite ERP • JDEdwards • SaaS Integration
Architecture • Financial Systems Design • Data Analysis & Reporting • Project Management Tools