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**[External] Application for City Council Member – Ward 2 [#8]**

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**From** Wufoo <no-reply@wufoo.com>**Date** Wed 12/18/2024 6:53 AM**To** City Clerk <City\_Clerk@longmontcolorado.gov>

<b>Name *</b>	Crystal Prieto
<b>Address *</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 705 1st Ave Longmont, CO 80501 United States
<b>Email *</b>	<a href="mailto:crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com">crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com</a>
<b>Daytime Phone *</b>	(720) 448-8043
<b>Evening Phone *</b>	(720) 212-8668
<b>How long have you been a resident in Longmont? *</b>	20 years
<b>Current occupation: *</b>	Family Development Specialist

**Why are you interested in serving as a City Council Member? \***

I am eager to serve on the Longmont City Council because I firmly believe that meaningful change and a balanced, thriving community can only be achieved through active, ongoing engagement in the civic process. From a young age, I have been dedicated to supporting my community, working to ensure its vitality and long-term well-being. With the knowledge and experience I have gained over the years, I am now ready to take the next step in my service, one that will drive lasting, positive change for Longmont.

As a lifelong Longmont resident, I offer a unique and deeply personal understanding of the challenges and opportunities that our community faces. This perspective enables me to not only advocate for our needs but also to connect with our residents on a meaningful level. I am committed to being more than just a candidate for City Council—I am a dedicated member of this community, with a vested interest in its success.

By working collaboratively with both the City Council and the people of Longmont, I am confident we can build a stronger, more united community, ensuring that Longmont remains a great place to live, work, and grow for generations to come.

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**Briefly explain what you believe are the two most important issues facing City Council and how do you believe those issues should be addressed? \***

Affordable housing is a critical issue for the Longmont community. The city's rapid population growth has significantly strained the local housing market, making it increasingly difficult for many residents—especially those in lower- and middle-income brackets—to find affordable housing. Rising home prices and rents have only worsened the affordability crisis. While Longmont is working to expand affordable housing options, the demand continues to outpace the city's efforts.

In addition to housing, Longmont also faces a shortage of safety net resources for its residents. The rising cost of living, exacerbated by inflation and the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, has left many residents living paycheck to paycheck. When unexpected expenses arise, such as car repairs or medical bills, many lack

the resources to cope. This is particularly challenging for those on fixed incomes, minimum-wage earners, and other vulnerable groups, including people of color, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities. One potential solution to these issues is to strengthen the community's safety nets. Enhancing resources such as emergency financial assistance, job training programs, and access to affordable healthcare would help residents meet their basic needs and reduce the risk of displacement. Currently, existing safety nets are often insufficient, hindered by accessibility barriers and gaps in services. By improving these resources, Longmont can help residents maintain stable housing, improve their quality of life, and build a more resilient community overall.

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**Letter of Interest \***[letter\\_of\\_interest\\_.pdf](#)  
26.22 KB • PDF

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**Resume (Optional)**[crystal\\_prieto\\_2024\\_council\\_resume.pdf](#)  
121.74 KB • PDF

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**Signature \***

Crystal Prieto

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**Date \***Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Dear City Council,

I am writing to formally express my interest in filling the vacant seat on the Longmont City Council. As a dedicated member of this community with a deep commitment to its future growth and prosperity, I believe that my experience, passion for public service, and understanding of local issues make me well-qualified to contribute effectively to the Council's work.

I have lived in Longmont for 20 years, and throughout this time, I have been actively engaged in various community initiatives, such as advocating for longer school lunches to installing sidewalks in low-income neighborhoods. I have participated in the Boulder County Leadership Fellows program and the PEARL Boards & Commissions initiative. Additionally, I actively serve on the City of Longmont's Housing and Human Services Board and volunteer as a preteen youth ministry teacher at Word Alive Church. In my current role as a Family Development Specialist, I work to strengthen protective factors for vulnerable families with children in the community.

I earned my education at MSU Denver, an institution recognized for cultivating "Change Makers." There, I studied Human Services, gaining expertise in areas such as mental health, education, ethics, cultural awareness, governance, and resource and system navigation. In conjunction with my professional experience in government, the school district, and local nonprofits, these academic and practical experiences have provided me with a comprehensive understanding of the challenges our city faces and the strategic insights necessary to address them effectively.

I am deeply committed to ensuring that Longmont remains a vibrant, inclusive, and thriving place for all who live here. As a member of the City Council, I would focus on promoting sustainability, supporting local businesses, and enhancing public services and human services. I believe that my ability to listen to diverse perspectives, collaborate with others, and make thoughtful, data-driven decisions will allow me to contribute meaningfully to the city's ongoing development. I welcome the opportunity to discuss my candidacy in more detail and how my skills and experiences align with the needs of the City Council and the community. Please feel free to contact me at 720-448-8043 or [crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com](mailto:crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com) at your convenience.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of serving Longmont and working alongside you to achieve our shared vision for the future.

Sincerely,

Crystal Prieto

# Crystal Prieto

705 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Longmont, CO 80501

Email: [Crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com](mailto:Crystalprieto.prieto@gmail.com)

Ph: (720)448-8043

## **OBJECTIVE**

Seeking a civic duty position where I can actively contribute to driving positive change in the community.

## **SKILLS**

Bilingual	Facilitation Skills
Detail Oriented	Interpersonal Communication Skills
Critical Thinking	Time Management Skills
Computer Skills	Ability to Multitask
Leadership Skills	Confidentiality
Phone Skills	Safety
Adaptability Skills	Resourcefulness
Problem Solving Skills	Multicultural and multi-ethnic understanding
Excellent Customer Service	Deadline Driven
Strength Based	Public Speaking

## **INTERNSHIP & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

Administrative Assistant - Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley, Longmont, CO	2016 - 2017
Youth Ministry Teacher - Word Alive Church, Thornton, CO	2021 - 2023
Housing & Human Services Board Member - City of Longmont, Longmont, CO	2022 - Current
Attendance Liaison - Student Services SVVSD, Longmont, CO	2023 – Current

## **WORK HISTORY**

Family Development Specialist - Emergency Family Assistance Association, Boulder, CO	2024 – Current
Basic Needs Resource Navigator - Emergency Family Assistance Association, Boulder, CO	2020-2024
Community Liaison - St. Vrain Valley School District, Longmont, CO	2018-2019
Non-Instructional Para Educator - St. Vrain Valley School District, Longmont, CO	2017-2018
Case manager - Boulder County Community Justice Center, Boulder, CO	2016-2017

## **EDUCATION**

Metropolitan State University of Denver, Denver, CO	2024
Bachelor of Science: Human Services Major Concentration in High-Risk Youth	
Front Range Community College of Longmont, Longmont, CO	2015
Associate of Arts -General Studies	

**RELATED COURSES**

Research Methods and Program Evaluation in Human Services

Small Group Dynamics

Women Leadership

Intro to Human Services

Intro to High-Impact Nonprofit Organization

Ethical/Legal Issues in Human Services Multicultural Issues Human Services

**CERTIFICATES & TRAININGS**

Boulder County Leadership Fellows

PERL Boards and Commissions

Standards of Quality/Family Strengthening

CFSA 2.0

Motivational Interviewing

Human Trafficking

De-escalation

Crisis Intervention Certificate

Security and safety