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**[External] Application for City Council Member – Ward 2 [#13]**

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**From** Wufoo <no-reply@wufoo.com>**Date** Mon 12/23/2024 5:06 PM**To** City Clerk <City\_Clerk@longmontcolorado.gov>

<b>Name *</b>	Cassandra Barnhart
<b>Address *</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 818 S Terry St #18 Longmont, CO 80501 United States
<b>Email *</b>	<a href="mailto:queenofyin@gmail.com">queenofyin@gmail.com</a>
<b>Daytime Phone *</b>	(512) 769-7700
<b>Evening Phone *</b>	(512) 769-7700
<b>How long have you been a resident in Longmont? *</b>	2 years
<b>Current occupation: *</b>	Teacher

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

I have served on various non-profit boards for several years, and found it gratifying to impact my community in ways big and small. However, there are limits to what I can demonstrably achieve as a volunteer and advocate. My goal is to be an agent of change, and, while volunteering is powerful and necessary, I need a proper leadership role to have a bigger impact. Advocating is not the same as being a policy maker. I love our community, and I want to be part of an intentional and committed group of people who share my passion for making our city a great place to live. By serving on the City Council, I can help shape policies, and make decisions that promote the best interests of our citizens. A seat on the Council empowers me to do that. As trite as it sounds, "think globally, act locally" is a powerful truism. I live in Longmont and want to be part of the conversation about it. This position is my way of showing up for Longmont, and serving my community. Longmont is a fantastic city, and I want to make the good parts great, and give the sticky parts the attention they need so the whole city thrives together. I also have the right temperament, experience and passion needed for public service.

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

Based on the most recent survey by the City, growth and homelessness are the top concerns of residents. Since I think elected officials should represent their constituents, I think my priorities should reflect my community's. Therefore, economic growth and the unhoused population needs are my critical issues. Growth is good and inevitable. Longmont is growing for good reasons. However, the city needs to adhere to a common vision that meets the needs of the community through a critical lens that balances economic development, environmental sustainability and social equity. We can use tools such as master plans for land use, zoning regulations, and growth boundaries. We can support transit infrastructure that is inclusive (cars, bikes, buses, trains) and connects various communities to keep people, goods and services moving with minimum

congestion. Are bike/walk paths clear of debris and passable? Can we add more bus routes? We should avoid approving new construction in areas already impacted by traffic congestion. Can we work with the local school district to make start/stop times staggered so that we don't add to rush hour? People loathe heavy traffic, and finding ways to ease traffic congestion can diffuse a lot of fears about development. We also need to monitor housing developments. I prefer approving housing that creates neighborhoods, not just massive apartment buildings with the ability to control the price of housing for huge swaths of land. Whenever there is a question about the viability of new growth, go back to the mission and value statement. Does it make our community better for everyone or just a few?

Homelessness has become a massive issue for everyone in Boulder county. There are affordability factors at play, but mental health and substance abuse programs are better tools for addressing homelessness. We need robust programs that are well-funded and have community support that meet the unhoused person where they are, and can provide immediate and direct relief to get them into treatment centers. As for the larger community, they will be more supportive of expensive social programs when they feel safe on their streets, and the streets are kept clean of litter and encampments. Our community does want to see the unhoused populations getting help and support, but they also (and should) have their needs as a tax-paying citizen to be addressed and protected. Several cities, such as Salt Lake City, and Austin, have utilized the "Housing First" model with varying degrees of success. Admittedly, their tax base is significantly larger, but shows promises of success even when scaled down. They also utilize coordinated entry systems to directly channel people into helpful programs. We can look to other cities and their responses for solutions and ideas as well.

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**Letter of Interest \***[letter\\_of\\_interest.barnhart.lcc.pdf](#)

22.34 KB • PDF

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**Resume (Optional)**[cbarnhart.currentresume.lcc.pdf](#)

98.22 KB • PDF

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**Signature \***

Cassandra Barnhart

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**Date \***Saturday, December 21, 2024

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I, Cassandra Barnhart, am interested in the position of Longmont City Council Member for Ward 2. I currently reside in Ward 2 and meet all requirements for the position.

Thank you,  
Cassandra Barnhart  
December 23, 2024

# Cassandra Barnhart, M.Ed.

(512) 769-7700  
[queenofyin@gmail.com](mailto:queenofyin@gmail.com)

## DYNAMIC COMMUNITY LEADER

I am committed to promoting social equity, encouraging civic engagement, and driving sustainable change by working together with diverse groups to identify needs, solve problems, and build lasting relationships. Through transparency, compassion, and integrity, I strive to create a strong foundation for the well-being and success of all members of our community. I believe service to others is the key to my own happiness and achieving a sense of purpose.

## NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

### **Boulder County League of Women's Voter, Boulder, CO**

Member, Board of Directors | September 2023- Current

### **Pikes Peak Children's Museum, Colorado Springs, CO**

Member, Board of Directors | January 2023-Current

### **Before the Americas, Boulder, CO**

Co-founder & Curriculum Developer | March 2023- Current

### **Leadership St. Vrain, Longmont, CO**

2023-2024 Cohort

### **EnVision Eanes, Austin, TX | January 2018- January 2021**

Sub-Committee Chair, Employee Advisory & Advocacy Panel

### **Girl Scouts of Central Texas, Austin, TX | October 2015- June 2022**

Troop Leader

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Douglass Elementary, Boulder, CO**

Teacher- Kindergarten

August 2024- Current

### **University of Texas Elementary School, Austin, TX**

Teacher- 4th Grade Language Arts & Social Studies

November 2020- May 2022

**Bridge Point Elementary, Austin, TX**

Teacher- Special Education/Reading Interventionist

May 2014- November 2020

**EDUCATION**

**M.Ed., Educational Leadership & Policy Studies & Principalship  
Practicum**

University of Texas, Arlington, TX | June 2019-August 2020

**Certification in Principal as Instructional Leader**