



CLERK OF THE BOARD DIVISION  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' OFFICE

## COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 FIFTH STREET  
EUREKA, CALIF. 95501-1153

PHONE (707) 476-2384; 445-7299 (FAX)

APPLICATION TO SERVE ON THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY

### PLANNING COMMISSION

APPLICANT NAME: Sarah West

MAILING ADDRESS: [REDACTED] Eureka

TELEPHONE: Home: [REDACTED] Work: [REDACTED] Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: srhawest@gmail.com

OCCUPATION: Economic Development Coordinator, City of Eureka

PERSONAL REFERENCES:

(1) Swan Asbury PHONE: [REDACTED]

(2) Delo Freitas PHONE: [REDACTED]

PRIOR ADVISORY BOARD OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXPERIENCE?  NO  YES

PLEASE WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT DESCRIBING WHY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

See attached statement.

PLEASE ATTACH A CURRENT RESUME.

DATE: 2/27/2023

SIGNATURE: 

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct

**SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:**

HUMBOLDT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, Clerk of the Board, 825 Fifth Street, Suite 111,  
Eureka, CA 95501-1153.

DATE TO SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ NOT APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

## Statement of Interest – Humboldt Planning Commission

I deeply believe in service to my community and am passionate about local issues and planning. I bring a breadth of experience as a land-use planner and economic development practitioner to the Commission.

Today, I work in Economic Development for the City of Eureka, but planning will always be a passion. As an Economic Development Coordinator, I oversee a variety of projects that support community revitalization, job creation, and business collaboration. In addition to my current role, I bring perspectives to the Commission from both public and private sector planning. I have shepherded a diversity of projects through the planning process as both the applicant and as the governing body. I understand what it's like to be on both sides of the process.

Over the years I have worked on a variety of projects, but my role serving as staff for the Humboldt Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) was one of the most rewarding. I provided analysis for many robust conversations around urban growth, availability of municipal services, and the preservation of open space/agricultural land in Humboldt County. The variety of projects that LAFCo considers deepened my understanding of the challenges and opportunities our County faces. From analyzing growth in our larger cities, to looking at the financial structures supporting rural municipal services, my role introduced me to almost every community in the county. I particularly enjoyed getting to know the rural communities of Humboldt better, and spent quite a bit of time in the Eel River Valley and southern Humboldt analyzing how to support sustainable rural fire and medical response services.

As a Planning Commissioner, I would be thrilled to apply my love for Humboldt and my professional experiences to the decisions and processes of the Commission. I believe that listening, fostering constructive community dialogue, and a solution-oriented mindset are key to good planning governance.

Sincerely,

Sarah West



## EXPERIENCE

**MARCH 2022 – CURRENT**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR, CITY OF EUREKA**

Serves as an Economic Development liaison to the city’s local and regional partnerships. Coordinates central business service programs activities within the core business districts; including the development of effective communication and outreach services; provides assistance and resources for special events; and administers business-supporting grants. Oversees planning and implementation of the Economic Development Strategic Plan and the Strategic Arts Plan. Provides staffing support services to the Arts and Culture Commission, the Economic Development Commission, and City Council, as required.

**SEPTEMBER 2019 – JULY 2020**

**ASSOCIATE PLANNER, SHN**

Provided municipalities with planning tasks such as processing project applications, setting up application files, developing notices, writing staff reports, attending public meetings, developing policy analysis, and writing planning documents.

**MAY 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2020**

**ASSOCIATE PLANNER, PLANWEST PARTNERS**

Provide staffing services to local government agencies. Tasks included acting as staff for clients to provide technical assistance, inquiries, consultation, and outreach to other local agencies and the public; carrying out administrative functions such as website posting, recordkeeping, coordinating with subcontractors, and budgeting; staffing board meetings, authoring reports, agendas, resolutions, noticing, and communication with board members; processing applications and permits; and authoring policy analysis and municipal service reviews.

## EDUCATION

**MAY, 2015**

**NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING,  
HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY**

## ACTIVITIES

Served as a Director on the Friends of the Dunes Board from 2018 to 2022.