

# OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION

## PART 1 : CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Please fill out the contact information below. Personal information including address, email, and phone number will not be shared.

<b>Name:</b>	Joel Wimbiscus						
<b>Address:</b>		<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Email:</b>					
<b>Ohio City Incorporated Membership:</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am currently a Resident Member in-good-standing <input type="checkbox"/> My Resident Membership form is attached to this application.					

## PART 2 : EXPERIENCE & PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

Please check the areas in which you have experience and/or professional expertise. Responses to Part 2 will be made available to Ohio City Incorporated membership prior to the election.

<input type="checkbox"/> Accounting	<input type="checkbox"/> Developer/Builder	<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bilingual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Activist	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Lending	<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Connections	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Contractor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Real Estate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Design/Architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic Planning


## PART 3 : PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please answer the following questions & attach with your application. Limit 1 page, single-spaced. Responses to Part 3 will be made available to Ohio City Incorporated membership prior to the election.

- 1) Why do you wish to serve on the Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees?
- 2) In what ways do you feel your strengths, knowledge, skills, and experience will help Ohio City Incorporated further it's mission?
- 3) Describe your involvement in Ohio City and/or non-Ohio City neighborhood organizations. Include Ohio City Incorporated sponsored committees, projects, or block clubs if applicable.

## APPLICANT SIGNATURE

This application was completed to the best of my knowledge and in good faith:

 Signature	Joel Wimbiscus Print	2/28/2020 Date
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**FORMS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA MAIL OR E-MAIL TO:**

**Ohio City Incorporated**  
**ATTN. OCI Governance Committee**  
 2525 Market Avenue, Suite A  
 Cleveland, OH 44113

**Brendan Doyle, Governance Chair : brdoyle77@aol.com**  
**Carrie Miller, Director of Neighborhood Services : cmiller@ohiocity.org**



Why do you wish to serve on the Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees?

I'd like to continue to serve on the Ohio City Board of Trustees because I believe that a well-guided and effective CDC can strengthen and unite people in our community. We have a neighborhood that is old, new and unique; decisions made about the place and people must be done with a thoughtful awareness of the various factors that impact this neighborhood's direction. Ohio City is a historic neighborhood with many moving parts; there is a dynamic mix of people, buildings and spaces. People here care, communicate, and get involved. I deeply believe in listening and that no single voice or person completely understands the best solution to any neighborhood problem. There are no boilerplate solutions to neighborhood decisions as I've learned through board work and as a project manager at LAND studio. People who live in the neighborhood are the ones who best understand the myriad nuances that form the puzzle pieces of a neighborhood's personality. In my work life, I focus on identifying those puzzle pieces so that the project's design is right for its neighborhood. I believe these professional skills have proven to be important and valuable to OCI during my tenure as a Board Trustee. Finally, being part of this neighborhood is exciting and enhances my family's life. As the fifth of six kids to a single mom, I learned first-hand about the importance of my West Park neighborhood and the value of living in a supportive community. Now, my five young kids can walk or bike just about anywhere and learn from the vibrancy of their community. They benefit from adults and friends in the neighborhood who are there for them. I want to contribute to sustaining the strengths of this urban community and fostering innovative approaches to our evolving challenges.

In what ways do you feel your strengths, knowledge, skills and experience will help Ohio City Incorporated further its mission?

As demonstrated below, I have a unique combination of experience, education and skills that have helped make me a valuable contributor to the OCI Board.

**Bilingual:** Fluent in Spanish; I lived for 3.5 years in Dominican Republic, Peru, and Guatemala.

**Community Connections:** My 14 years at LAND studio, 12 years on the OCI board, as well as being an active parent at Near West Intergenerational School has fostered connections with families, non-profits, businesses, schools, and community members.

**Architecture/Design and Real Estate:** Over the past decade, I have coordinated urban design plans for urban parks, trails, and public art in Cleveland including Irishtown Bend, Perk Park, Uptown Plaza, Red Line Greenway, Lake Link Trail and Wendy Park Bridge. I have a Masters degree in Urban Planning & Design.

**Education:** I have taught 5 years at the high school level in Peru and 3 different US cities.

**Grant writing:** I have written numerous successful grant applications at LAND studio to fund mural, trail and park projects in Ohio City and throughout Cleveland. I led the effort to secure a \$1.4 million Clean Ohio grant to purchase 14 acres on Irishtown Bend for a future park. I worked with the Metroparks team to secure a \$7.9 million USDOT TIGER grant to fund trails in and adjacent to Ohio City.

**Legal:** My legal background (Juris Doctor, Ohio bar) is useful as I work frequently with real estate legal issues.

**Strategic Planning:** Steering committee member on several past OCI strategic plan processes.

Describe your involvement in Ohio City and/or non-Ohio City neighborhood organizations. Include Ohio City Incorporated sponsored committees, projects, or blocks clubs if applicable.

My wife and I are part of the founding group of parents at Near West Intergenerational School. I have been the Chair of OCI's Real Estate & Land Use committee since 2014. I was the OCI Board Secretary (2011-2013) and Vice-President (2013-2015). I served as the organizer of the Ohio City fundraiser Run and Crawl from 2008-2011. I was a coach for the Near West Rec Lego League (2013). I have been a member of the Franklin-Clinton block club since 2006. My wife and I have been members of the Ohio City Babysitting Co-op since 2007, part of the Near West Family Network and actively involved in Eating Cooperative(ly). I work at LAND studio which is located in Ohio City. With LAND studio, I regularly work with other CDCs, non-profits, Cleveland Metroparks, block clubs, and City Hall. A few of my projects include: Land acquisition for and design of the future Irishtown Bend Park; Lake Link Trail, Red Line Greenway Trail, design and construction of Perk Park; Rockefeller Park Strategic Plan; CWRU Strategic Plan; Clark-Metro Neighborhood Plan.