

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION



Part 1: Candidate Information

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

Name:	Kausar Razvi						
Address:	2900 Jay Ave	City:	Cleveland	State:	OH	Zip:	44113
Phone:		Email:					
Ohio City Incorporated Membership:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am currently a Resident Member in-good-standing						
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> My Resident Membership form is attached to this application						
Length of Ohio City residency?	10 years						

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 type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Activist	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Lending	<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Connections	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Contractor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate
<input type="checkbox"/> Design/Architecture	<input 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) Please describe your experience in the areas checked in Part 2. Include any special achievements and/or any experiences that you feel would enhance the organization.
- 3) Describe your involvement in Ohio City neighborhood organizations or Ohio City Incorporated sponsored committees, projects, or block clubs.
- 4) Describe your involvement in non-Ohio City neighborhood organizations/activities.

Applicant Signature

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

	Kausar S. Razvi	3-10-2017
Signature	Print	Date

9. Commit to uphold and comply with fiduciary duties of care, loyalty, compliance, and to maintain accounts as provided under Ohio law.
10. Disclose any potential conflict of interest with OCI and possess the ability to make independent decisions, unencumbered by material conflict of interest.
11. Refrain from discussing or sharing confidential Board business with non-board members in accordance with our confidentiality policies.
12. Be willing to participate in periodic Board of Trustee self-evaluations and annual board evaluations, and be open to constructive feedback on performance as a board member.
13. Support in a positive manner all actions taken by the Board of Trustees even when in a minority position on such actions. Recognize that decisions of the Board can be made only by a majority vote at a Board meeting and respect the majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes through ethical and constructive channels.
14. Exercise authority as a Board of Trustee only when acting in a meeting with the full board or as delegated by the Board.
15. Refrain from intruding on administrative and personnel issues that are the responsibility of the Executive Director, except to monitor the results of the organization.
16. Represent OCI in a positive and supportive manner at all times.
17. Abide by this Statement of Expectations, the Confidentiality Agreement, the Conflict of Interest Agreement, and all other Board operating policies and procedures.

I understand that as a member of the Board of Trustees for Ohio City Incorporated, I will be held accountable to the expectations above on an annual basis.

I agree to the above statements and will comply with the requirements

I cannot meet these expectations

Signature:

Kauser S. Razvi

Date:

3-10-2017

Print Name:

Kauser S. Razvi

Ohio City Incorporated Board Member Application

Kausar S. Razvi Part 3: Personal Statement

Question 1: I have lived in Ohio City for 10 years and been involved in many activities. I'm looking to increase my engagement now that my kids are older and I have more time to be able to invest in working on the boards of organization at a much deeper level. I think that being involved in the civic space is important and part of my DNA. I have a BS in sociology, a BS in Journalism and a Masters in Urban Planning. I'm going to be involved in a variety of projects/ideas/programs/organizations always regardless of where I am. Now seems like a good time with my work and family commitments to be on a board like Ohio City. Also, the board should be more diverse to represent the neighborhood. Being a minority (gender, race, religion) is important for differing points of view. Also, I want to be engaged in the direction the neighborhood's direction, especially those issues of inclusion and diversity that I am worried about. The issues of neighborhood/urban development are on my radar all the time in what I do, what I read, and how I see the world.

Question 2: Please describe your experience in the areas checked in Part 2.

- **Bilingual** – I speak Urdu and Spanish.
- **Community Activist** – I have volunteered on political campaigns; school events; charity events for a variety of organizations; supported various local OCI programs as a participant; active in the babysitting coop and near west family network; and developed my own projects to engage residents like Literary Lots. Currently am working on monthly political meetings and a mayoral campaign.
- **Education** – I'm currently on the Birchwood School of Hawken parent committee (formerly a board member) and have done work with Cleveland Public Schools, Cleveland Transformation Alliance, Chicago Public Schools, Baltimore City Schools, Baltimore County School District, and the states of New York and New Jersey Boards of Education. I am up to date or have knowledge of a variety of education policy and programs and their execution and implications on students and families.
- **Grant Writing** – I have written numerous grants for projects for myself as well as clients. I have written grants for Shaker Heights Planning Department, The City of Chicago (when I was an employee), Literary Lots (www.literarylots.org) my own project, Hard Hatted Women, and others.
- **Outreach** – My work as a consultant and currently as Director of Community & Developer Relations at Digital (www.digitalc.org) meet monthly with a variety of organizations around using data/information/technology for improvement program design, planning and outcome measurement.
- **Strategic Planning** - I was hired by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, wrote the strategic business plan for and started Global Cleveland. In addition, I worked, when I first moved here with Enterprise Foundation to develop / refine the work of the Earned Income Tax Coalition (EITC) in Cleveland. I have written strategic/business/technical plans for various programs for Cleveland Public Schools, Chicago Public Schools, Chicago Housing Authority, Chicago Fund, Sisters of Charity (Cleveland), North Union Farmers Market, and many others.

Question 3: I have worked with Ohio City most closely on the Literary Lots (www.literarylots.org) Project which is my project with Cleveland Public Libraries. In addition, I've been a supportive / active community member in almost every Ohio City event through the years, usually attending or supporting others. I participate, when possible (due to the time/locations of block club meetings) in block club and Ohio City project meetings.

4. I'm very involved with developing the digital economy base of NEOhio through my job at www.digitalc.org. I am an active at Birchwood School as part of the parent advisory committee. I have been active in a variety other projects with family and friends out of state mostly entrepreneurial efforts and startup companies and ideas.

Kauser S. Razvi

PROFILE

15+ years experience developing collaborations among public, private and non-profit corporations • Organizational and change management experience • Extensive internal process improvement experience • Readily able to understand traditional organization processes and culture to identify alternative solutions for increased engagement • Cultivated ability to move diverse groups to strategic and beneficial results for participants and stakeholders • Understanding of diverse, complex environments and the creation of solutions for mission-based and values-driven organizations • Extensive skills in oversight and management of grants between \$500,000 to \$8M • Experience with city, state and federal government programs and processes • Extensive skills in program design and development

LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Thorough understanding of industry-specific benchmarks and goal creation strategy; Extremely capable of creating multiple tiered internal and external programs for mission-based organizations; Possesses a rare combination of IT, entrepreneurial, and philanthropic knowledge and skills, both in the for-profit and non-profit sector; Facility with quantitative and qualitative analysis skills; Multiple successful experiences creating, directing and managing teams

RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2016 **DigitalC** Cleveland, OH
Director of Community & Developer Relations
Supporting the development of a new Civic Tech organization working nationally on projects that leverage data, information, and analytics to improve community impact. Projects include the design, development and support of a big/open data hub for public data around land use, workforce, health, and community for the NEOhio region through collaboration with various community, government and private organizations around data development, data sharing, and public access to information. Work also includes providing data analytic and strategic system design report for various projects within the community. Additional efforts include community engagement through civic tech and educational events to education, engage and support the inclusion of all in the tech community.
- 2002+ **Strategic Urban Solutions, Inc.** Chicago, IL/Cleveland, OH
President/Owner
Consulting organization focusing on government and non-profit projects in the areas of program development, process improvement and technology implementation. Provide start-up and oversight of multi-year, multi-million dollar programs including but not limited to, developing multi-sector coalitions or partnerships, securing grant funding, hiring vendors, completing best practice research, hiring staff, managing executive committees, facilitating stakeholder groups, managing budgets and compiling reports for clients and their funders.
- Select clients:**
- **Chicago Public Schools** – Working with the Talent Office to implement their Teacher and Principal evaluation system to be implemented in the 2012-2013 school year impacting all CPS schools and 24,000 teachers and 8,000 Principals, Assistant Principals and Coaches
 - **Lorain County Community College** - Provide focused leadership to support the strategic design, launch and management of LCCC's portion of the NE Ohio Speed to Market Accelerator project, a 4-year, \$1M federally funded initiative to develop a regional workforce development strategy and process for 30 energy or flexible electronics companies to commercialize products with a goal to create 645 jobs over the next 4 years. Involves a collaboration with 3 additional incubators: NorTech, JumpStart and MAGNET
 - **Cuyahoga County Department of Information Technology** - Convened 15 municipalities and regional service agencies to collaborate with the County in requesting a \$100,000 1-year grant to develop a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) shared services model to reduce costs and improve service throughout the County
 - **Hard Hatted Women** – Provided direction for implementation of Sales Force's non-profit tool kit for client/donor tracking and design of workforce programs called Inspiring Girls to Greatness for female youth grades 8 to 12 and increasing their interest and participation in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and construction careers from 60 to 120 youth yearly; developed programming documentation to secure an additional \$50,000 of funding for the program; managed design consultant to redesign and update HHW website
 - **Global Cleveland** – Developed business plan to launch Global Cleveland as a non-profit focused on increasing talent attraction strategies to the Northeast Ohio Region; secured \$500,000 in initial start up funding; convened over 45 business, civic, and institutional partners including the Mayor of Cleveland and

County Executive for input and design of programs in 4 strategic areas; designed and executed citywide summit with participation of over 500 individuals; hired initial vendors and staff; managed the build-out of office space; managed website development and development of the Sales Force implementation for program and case management

- **Chicago Department of Children & Family Services** – Managed \$8M grant from Wallace Foundation to build a comprehensive Out-of-School time case management system to track youth programming across 500 organizations including city schools, parks, libraries, and funded non-profits within the City of Chicago. Developed partnership agreements between agencies, handled contracts with City agencies, and supported design and implementation of the tracking system over 4 years
- **State of Ohio Department of IT** – Completed various projects over 2 year period including a strategy for Ohio to more rigorously seek grant funding for technology projects, reviewed data acquisition strategies for a Statewide Location Based Response System, wrote various federal grants requesting \$750,000 from the Department of Commerce to support technology implementation for specific statewide projects that would have an impact in economically-depressed areas of the state; projects included broadband extension, LBRS system, and connected CRM for human resources

2004-2006

City of Shaker Heights
Project Planner

Shaker Heights, OH

City planning department focused on improving the physical and community assets of the city through community based input, strategic planning, transit planning, community development and landscape design

- Supported Planning Director and Director of Community Life to develop a Recreation and Leisure Assessment and to gather community input and desires for short, medium, and long-term initiatives for city improvements
- Managed executive committee of Mayor, Department heads and Council members for year-long project
- Coordinated 3 city-wide public meetings that included over 300 stakeholders and managed the 14 member Taskforce for Recreation and Leisure appointed by the Mayor along with consultants leading the design process
- Conducted grant research and wrote 6 grant proposals to foundations and state funders to secure funding and support for the redesign of Horseshoe Lake Park

1997-2002

City of Chicago
Assistant Chief Information Officer/GIS Director

Chicago, IL

City information technology department providing IT services to 42 city departments including IT policy, IT procurement, application development, IT budget and funding allocation, IT standards

- Worked with all 42 City departments to create a strategic plan for the City of Chicago's citywide Geographic Information System (GIS), developed the process for enterprise implementation, Awarded ESRI's *Best GIS Award* for the State of Illinois in 2002
- Managed an annual \$3M budget; managed 8 city staff and 5 on-site consultants as well as cross functional city department teams and vendor teams for specific data projects and application development
- Developed over 15 request for proposals and streamlined procurement process for hiring GIS vendors
- Developed Intergovernmental Agreements with the Cook County Assessor's Office to cost share in the data collection project and the Cook County Recorder of Deeds to share data with the City saving over \$1.5M for the City and the County
- Developed over 10 new citywide data layers and over 15 departments specific applications and created new data to improve business processes and systems within City Departments
- Secured or managed new data for the City's strategic initiatives
- Collaborated with other City departments on application development and systems integration projects

EDUCATION**Case Western Reserve University**

Certificate in Appreciative Inquiry

Cleveland, OH

University of Michigan

Concentration in Community Development and Organization

Awarded Martin Luther King Award for Leadership, President of Urban Planning Student Association

Ann Arbor, MI

Boston University

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Minor in Spanish

Bachelor of Science in Journalism

Boston, MA

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2016	Program committee chair, NEOhio GIS Symposium Conference
2014+	Board member Birchwood School
2013	German Marshall Fellow
2011	Inaugural class of Entrepreneurs in Bizdom U Idea Generator and Business Incubator - product idea CIVIC CONNECT
2009+	Bridge Builders participant and mentor for major leadership development program in Cleveland focused on building leadership and civic engagement of young professionals
2009-2011	Board member Cuyahoga County Land Trust (focused on equitable housing)
2004-2006	Board member 10,000 Villages Cleveland (focused on fair trade retail)
2002-2004	Urban and Regional Systems Association (URISA) workshop committee co-chair and member of conference committee
2000-2005	Volunteer tax preparer for various Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) programs