



OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION

Alex Frondorf, Board President
Virginia Benjamin, Governance Committee Chair
Jane Platten, Interim Executive Director

September 06, 2024

OCI is currently seeking candidates to fill five Board of Trustee seats which are up for election on Tuesday October 22nd, 2024. Qualified candidates must submit their applications electronically or via mail on or before September 14th, 2024. Applications can be submitted to Jane Platten@jplattenohtcity.org or Helen Smith, hksmith42@hotmail.com .

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED MISSION:

We lead the development of Ohio City by collaborating to address the needs of a diverse community of engaged people, driving new investments in and preserving the quality of a historic place, and promoting an inviting urban neighborhood for all.

ELIGIBILITY:

The Ohio City Incorporated Board of Trustees consists of 12 resident-elected seats and 5 to 10 appointed seats for community stakeholders. Resident-elected trustees must be residents of the Ohio City neighborhood and a member of Ohio City Incorporated on or before submitting your application.

If you are not a member, visit ohiocity.org/membership to submit a membership application. **To confirm membership, contact Brandon Collier at bcollier@ohiocity.org or 330-604-4706.**

In order to be considered a candidate, a signed copy of the *Ohio City Incorporated Board Expectations* document must be submitted with this application. **Applications are due no later than September 14th 2024.**

Please contact our office by phone or in person or visit ohiocity.org/board to review the statement of expectations and commitments.

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

- I agree to the expectations and will comply with the requirements.
- I cannot meet these expectations.

DocuSigned by:

Jorge S Palma

9/13/2024

Signature

Print

Date

948319F7A3DB40D...

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Please ensure the following items below are included with your application. Personal information including address, email, and phone number will not be shared. The rest of your application will be posted on the Ohio City Incorporated website and at relevant candidate events.

- Part 1: Candidate Information
 - Part 2: Experience & Professional Expertise
 - Part 3: Personal Statement
 - Application Signed & Dated
 - Signed Ohio City Incorporated Board Expectations Document*
- *Available online at ohiocity.org/board

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.

Name:	Jorge S. Palma				
Address:		City:		State:	
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.				

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 type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Activist	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance/Lending	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marketing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Connections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Contractor	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate
<input type="checkbox"/> Design/Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation	<input 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:

DocuSigned by:



Signature

Jorge S Palma

9/13/2024

948319F7A3DB40D...

Print

Date

FORMS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA MAIL OR E-MAIL TO:

Ohio City Incorporated
ATTN. OCI Governance Committee
3308 Lorain Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113

Helen Smith, Governance Committee : hksmith42@hotmail.com
 Jane Platten, Interim Executive Director : jplatten@ohiocity.org



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

As a resident in Ohio City, I feel a deep connection to this community where my family and I live. I have sent two of my children through St. Ignatius High School, further strengthening my ties to the area. Currently, I serve as the Chief Operating Officer of a technology services company, and I am passionate about giving back to my community. My military background, where I received distinguished medals and had the opportunity to travel to many countries, taught me the value of service, resilience, and understanding diverse perspectives. Being bilingual in English and Spanish, I also feel I can help bridge communication gaps and foster inclusivity. By serving on the Ohio City Board of Trustees, I want to contribute my skills and experience to ensure that Ohio City continues to thrive and support initiatives that foster community growth, inclusivity, and opportunities for all.

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

With my background as Chief Operating Officer of a technology services company, I bring a wealth of knowledge in strategic planning, operations, and leadership. Having owned and grown a successful business, I understand how to navigate complex challenges and drive growth—skills that can be leveraged to strengthen Ohio City’s initiatives. My military experience, which includes earning distinguished medals, instilled in me discipline, leadership, and a deep sense of service—qualities that align with Ohio City Incorporated's mission. In addition, my bilingual ability in Spanish and English will help create a more inclusive community, and my global perspective from traveling the world gives me a broader understanding of different cultures. I am eager to apply these strengths to further the organization's goals and make a positive impact in the community.

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.

While I have been actively engaged with my neighbors and fellow business owners in Ohio City, I am eager to deepen my formal involvement in community organizations. My personal commitment to this area includes sending two of my children through St. Ignatius High School, which has furthered my connection to the community as a member of the St.

Ignatius Father's club. I have mentored young professionals, sharing my experience in business growth, sales, and leadership, and I've offered pro-bono technology consulting for small businesses. Although I have not yet served on Ohio City Incorporated-sponsored committees or block clubs, I look forward to bringing my experience and passion for community-building into these efforts, especially using my bilingual skills to support diverse community needs.

Respectfully,

Jorge S. Palma