



OHIO CITY INCORPORATED BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPLICATION

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

August 12th, 2026

OCI is currently seeking candidates to fill four Board of Trustee seats which are up for election on Tuesday October 27th, 2026. Qualified candidates must submit their applications electronically or via mail on or before September 13th, 2026. Applications can be submitted to Jane Platten@jplattenohtcity.org or Virginia Benjamin, gigibenjamin@gmail.com .

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED MISSION:

OCI strives to enhance the quality of life for those who live, work, and play in our historic, urban and diverse neighborhood by advocating, collaborating, and convening forums for community promotion and problem solving, by creating space for gatherings, and by improving the community's beauty and safety

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 13th, 2026.**

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.

 Jennifer Pugh Aug 31, 2026
Signature Print Date

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.

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| ☐ Part 1: Candidate Information | ☐ Application Signed & Dated |
| ☐ Part 2: Experience & Professional Expertise | ☐ Signed Ohio City Incorporated Board Expectations Document* |
| ☐ Part 3: Personal Statement | |

*Available online at ohiocity.org/board



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:	Jennifer Prugh							
Address:	[REDACTED]		City:	Cleveland	State:	OH	Zip:	44113
Phone:	[REDACTED]		Email:	[REDACTED]				
Ohio City Incorporated Membership:			☒ I am currently a Resident Member in-good-standing					
			☐ 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.

☐ Accounting/Finance	☐ Developer/Builder	☐ Human Resources
☐ Bilingual	☐ Education	☐ Legal
☐ Community Activist	☐ Finance/Lending	☒ Marketing
☐ Community Connections	☐ Fundraising	☐ Outreach
☐ Construction Contractor	☐ Grant Writing	☐ Real Estate
☐ Design/Architecture	☐ Historic Preservation	☒ Strategic Planning

PART 3: PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please answer the following questions & attach with your application. Limit 1 page, single-spaced.

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

I've called Ohio City home for more than 30 years—first as a renter just out of college and now as a longtime homeowner. I've always been a champion of what makes our neighborhood and city special: our parks, waterfront, local businesses, arts, and culture. While I love celebrating the energy and creativity that define Cleveland, I also recognize the important work ahead to ensure our growth is inclusive, equitable, and sustainable. Serving on the board has allowed me to deepen my engagement and contribute in a more meaningful way. As Ohio City continues to evolve, I'm eager to be part of shaping its future—one that balances development with diversity, affordability, and environmental responsibility.

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

My professional background in global marketing and organizational change has equipped me with the ability to build alignment, engage diverse stakeholders, and deliver measurable results—skills that translate directly to nonprofit board service. As Vice President of Marketing and Global Change Management Leader at Avient Corporation, I led initiatives in brand strategy, strategic planning, communications, and team leadership—always with a focus on collaboration and impact. I bring this strategic and operational mindset to OCI to support its mission of fostering an inclusive, vibrant, and sustainable 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

I was appointed to backfill an OCI board seat in December 2025, and quickly was asked if I would chair the Marketing & Fundraising committee (which I did!). In this role, we brought back Evening in Ohio City – a beloved tradition and fundraiser that has been absent since 2019. Helping to lead this team of volunteers and staff has been a deep dive into some of the work that OCI does – and with this (successful!) event now in the books, I want to apply these lessons learned to make next year's event even better (as well as develop additional fundraising opportunities).

I've been an active member of the Randall/Whitman/John/Woodbine block club for many years, attending and hosting meetings to strengthen local connections. Through participation in the Cleveland Leadership Center's *Thriving Cleveland* initiative, I've explored challenges and opportunities related to affordable housing across Cuyahoga County. Previously, I served on the boards of the Western Reserve Rowing Association Family Promise.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

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



Jennifer N. Prugh August 31, 2026

Signature

Print

Date