

From: [Marie Bowman](#)
To: [Kimberly Corcoran](#)
Cc: [Bryan Craig](#)
Subject: RHFD Director/CAP Member Application
Date: Monday, March 22, 2021 6:58:25 PM
Attachments: [RHFD Application to Serve on Board.docx](#)

Marie Bowman

[REDACTED]
Hercules, CA. 94547

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
March 22, 2021

Clerk of the Board

Kimberly Corcoran

Rodeo Hercules Fire District

1680 Refugio Valley Road

Hercules, CA. 94547

RE: RHFD Director/CAP Member Application

Dear Kimberly,

I am writing in response to the opening on the RHFD Board. I am very interested in the opportunity to serve on the board. My qualifications, education and professional experience would make me a strong candidate for the position.

The RHFD's priorities are comparable to ones I supported for the Berkeley Fire Department (BFD) which faced similar budgetary concerns:

Maintaining local fire protection and emergency service response times with growing population

Ensuring fire stations are open full time

Maintaining all current local fire stations

Maintaining life-saving rescue equipment

Maintaining professional firefighter and paramedic staffing levels and training

Reducing the risk of property damage from fires

I am a collaborative team player who brings first-hand knowledge of the various resources needed by a fire department to meet the essential needs of the district in addition to budgetary, oversight, auditing and regulatory experience. I have participated in the BFD Fire Ops 101 training and completed the Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) program to gain a better understanding of a fire department's emergency services, and how the community can better prepare for emergencies.

Enclosed is the subject application. I welcome the opportunity to meet with the RHFD Board about this position and how my experience can help the board achieve its goals.

Sincerely,

Marie Bowman

Marie Bowman

RODEO-HERCULES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**1680 REFUGIO VALLEY ROAD, HERCULES, CA 94547 (510) 799-4561 FAX:
(510) 799-0395**

DIRECTOR/CAP MEMBER APPLICATION

Please fill out and return by 12:00 Noon, Wednesday, April 7, 2021 to Kimberly Corcoran (corcoran@rhfd.org). Attach additional sheets if necessary.

DATE: March 22, 2021

NAME: Marie Bowman

PHONE NO.: [REDACTED]

E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

No. of years residing in District: 6 ½ years

EDUCATION: MA, Management, John F. Kennedy University/BA; Politics, Economics, Policy and Law, Mills College; Organizational Development Certificate Program, National Training Laboratories (NTL) Institute for Applied Behavioral Science; Additional Certifications in Technology Transfer and Commercialization, Project Management, Procurement, Contract Administration and Negotiation, and Telecommunications-Network Operations, Systems Management...

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE: RHFD Measure O Member; President, Coventry of Hercules HOA; Board Member & Class Agent, Alumnae Association of Mills College; Commission Chair and Sub-committee Chair, City of Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission (quasi-judicial Land Use, General Plan Land Use Element, Community Development Block Grants, House Trust Funds, Emergency Service Grants); Ad Hoc sub-committees on City Budget, Density, etc.; President, Council of Neighborhood Associations; President, Berkeley Alliance of Neighborhood Associations.

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

CITY OCCUPATION AND EMPLOYER : N/A

REASON FOR APPLYING: See cover letter and responses below.

DATE SIGNATURE Marie Bowman, March 22, 2021

Please answer all questions legibly. (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Do you have prior experience serving on the board of a legislative body or another governing board, specifically a fire district board? Please list such prior experience. RHFD Measure O Member; President, Coventry of Hercules HOA; Board Member & Class Agent,

Alumnae Association of Mills College; Commission Chair and Sub-committee Chair, City of Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission (quasi-judicial Land Use, General Plan Land Use Element, Community Development Block Grants, House Trust Funds, Emergency Service Grants); Ad Hoc sub-committees on City Budget, Density, etc.; President, Council of Neighborhood Associations; President, Berkeley Alliance of Neighborhood Associations.

- 1. Have you worked on any city, county, citizen advisory or District committees or participated in any fire district related activities recently? Please list them.**

Recently: RHFD Measure O

Prior to moving to Hercules: Citizen advisory and Mayor's Ad Hoc Sub-committee to the City of Berkeley regarding the City's budget, including that of the Fire Department.

Represented Berkeley Community organizations in supporting the Berkeley Fire Department i.e. funding to keep all stations open full time, procure life-saving equipment, maintain firefighter and paramedic staffing levels and reduce the risk of property damage from fires.

Participated in the Berkeley Fire Department's Fire Ops 101 and Citizens Emergency Response Training (CERT).

- 2. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment related.**

RHFD Measure O Member; President, Coventry of Hercules HOA; Board Member & Class Agent, Alumnae Association of Mills College; Commission Chair and Sub-committee Chair, City of Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission (quasi-judicial Land Use, General Plan Land Use Element, Community Development Block Grants, House Trust Funds, Emergency Service Grants); Ad Hoc sub-committees on City Budget, Density, etc.; President, Council of Neighborhood Associations; President, Berkeley Alliance of Neighborhood Associations. Volunteer related.

- 3. Why do you want to be a fire district board member?**

I'd like to see a collaborative relationship between the Fire District, RHFD Board, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, City of Hercules and the residents of Rodeo and Hercules in order to meet the needs of the residents and community of Rodeo and Hercules. As the City of Hercules continues to grow, demands are placed upon the RHFD to meet the additional demands that come with growth. It's incumbent and essential for all stakeholders to work as a team in meeting the current, short term and long term needs of the District. Concerned that the resources required for the district to provide services at

the highest levels are lacking due to a lack of a collaborative relationship amongst the stakeholders and knowledge of RHFD needs.

4. What do you see as the basic purpose of the fire district?

To provide emergency services to the community at the highest level possible (mitigating fires and other disasters, delivering emergency medical services, maintaining a constant state of readiness and educating the public).

5. What is the role of the governing board in the fulfillment of that purpose?

Provide financial oversight and strategic policy direction to maximize the public value of District services, and to be a liaison between the RHFD and the communities of Rodeo and Hercules.

7. How does the board's role differ from that of the Fire Chief?

The Fire Chief is responsible for functions similar to that of a Chief Executive Officer i.e. the day-to-day direction and operation of the fire district, financial management, internal and external communication amongst staff and stakeholders. He ensures that RHFD essential services are delivered at the highest level to the communities of Rodeo and Hercules, with input from the board.

8. What should the relationship be between the board members and the staff in the handling of fire district concerns?

Collaborative team that works jointly to meet the mission of the district; providing the essential services expected by the residents and community of Rodeo and Hercules.

9. Briefly describe your commitment to the Rodeo-Hercules community and our local fire district.

I'm committed to working as a team member in a collaborative manner to assist the RHFD in providing the essential services of mitigating fires and other disasters, delivering emergency medical services, maintaining a constant state of readiness and educating the public, in order to provide service at the highest level to the residents and community of Rodeo and Hercules.

10. What do you see as the strengths of the fire district?

The fire district is dedicated to delivering the highest level of service to the residents/community/district of Rodeo and Hercules. They can be counted on in the event of fire, other disaster, and emergency medical needs, while maintaining a state of readiness and public education.

11. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the fire district?

Additional staffing and resources so that the RHFD can meet the critical essential services, staff training and administrative services (CEQA, weed abatement, engaging with the City of Hercules and developers on impacts of proposed developments on RHFD services. There are functions that cannot be performed to the highest level despite the willingness of the District, due to staffing and funding limitations. It's essential that the RHFD be able to fully engage in not just emergency and medical services but also guidance and preventative measures as provided in State Law, CEQA, City zoning regulations, with regard to the newer and proposed developments within the boundaries of the district (Hercules Waterfront, Hill Town, Sycamore Crossing, Franklin Canyon). The pressure of new and proposed development, coupled with the lack of additional funding to meet the essential services that are/will be needed by these development projects, makes it uncertain that the District can provide the emergency and medical services, code enforcement, CEQA advice, etc. to these areas or the entire district of Rodeo or Hercules, at the level expected. Some of these services cannot be performed now due to limited funding and staffing levels. The proposed and newer developments will have an impact on the RHFD and the communities they serve. Short term and long term planning is critically needed to support the needed services without putting lives of community and staff at risk.



RODEO-HERCULES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
680 REFUGIO VALLEY ROAD, HERCULES, CA 94547
(510) 799-4561 FAX: (510) 799-0395

DIRECTOR/CAP MEMBER APPLICATION

Please fill out and return by 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 24, 2021 to Kimberly Corcoran (corcoran@rhfd.org). Attach additional sheets if necessary.

DATE: 03/24/2021

Andrew V. Gabriel

NAME

[REDACTED]

ADDRESS

[REDACTED]

PHONE NO.

Hercules

CITY

[REDACTED]

E-MAIL

Attorney, Law Office of Andrew V. Gabriel

OCCUPATION AND EMPLOYER

27

No. of years residing in District

EDUCATION:

Hercules High School, High School Degree; San Francisco State University, Bachelor's Degree; Golden Gate University School of Law, Juris Doctorate

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE:

City of Hercules, Community and Library Services Commission, Commissioner
Rodeo Hercules Fire Protection District, Board of Directors
City of Hercules, Finance Commission, Commissioner

REASON FOR APPLYING: (Please use a separate sheet of necessary)

To serve the community and ensure that the District is best able to serve the public.

3/24/2021

DATE

[Signature]

SIGNATURE

Please answer all questions legibly. Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

- 1. Do you have prior experience serving on the board of a legislative body or another governing board, specifically a fire district board? Please list such prior experience.**

Yes, I was previously a member of the RHFPD Board of Directors. I have also been on two Commissions for the City of Hercules.

- 2. Have you worked on any city, county, citizen advisory or District committees or participated in any fire district related activities recently? Please list them.**

Yes, I was previously on the Board of Directors for the RHFPD as well as on the Finance and Community Library Services Commission for the City of Hercules.

- 3. Describe any other community or business activities in which you have participated. Describe your role, and whether your work was volunteer or employment related.**

In terms of activities, I actively participate in a number of local community events.

- 4. Why do you want to be a fire district board member?**

Having previously served, I realized that my work is not done and there is more to be done for the Board. If chosen, I would carry on the pattern and practice of taking informed, and detailed steps in everything we do.

- 5. What do you see as the basic purpose of the fire district?**

The purpose of the Fire District is to serve the community. The hope would be that sound, rational decisions are made to ensure that the community are adequately protected from a myriad of emergencies, from fire to EMS.

- 6. What is the role of the governing board in the fulfillment of that purpose?**

The purpose of the governing board is to consider the full breadth and scope of the financial and strategic plan of the district and enact policies that reflect such.

7. Briefly describe your commitment to the Rodeo-Hercules community and our local fire district.

I am committed to serving the Rodeo-Hercules community and its fire district. I have resided in the District for over 27 years and have deep roots in the community. I attended Ohlone Elementary School and Hercules Middle/High School. I remain active in the local government and have no plans to stop.

8. What do you see as the strengths of the fire district?

The fire districts' biggest strength is the level of respect it has in the community. The district is highly regarded in the community as one that cares and if appointed as Director, I hope to continue this commitment. In addition, the District has provided a great level of transparency and financial management to all stakeholders and continues to meet or exceed expectations.

9. What do you see as the area(s) most needing improvement in the fire district?

While the District is highly regarded, every organization is in need of improvement. A clear vision and goal for the future is necessary to meet the needs of a growing city. As the population for the its jurisdiction grows, it needs a plan to adequately respond to such growth.