



Received

JAN 23 2023

City of Cottage Grove
City Manager's Office



Application for Appointment to City Council

Name: Ivan DelSol

Date: 1/23/23

Address: 53I Adams Ave

Occupation: Software Developer

Cottage Grove

Phone: (Home) 54I 844 9242

Email Address: ivansdelsol@gmail.com

(Work) _____

Council Ward 3

(Cell) _____

Registered Voter? Yes X No _____

City resident for a minimum of twelve months prior to applying? Yes X No _____

Employment, professional and volunteer background:

I work primarily as a software developer for Derivative (www.derivative.ca) on the TouchDesigner software. I am also a teacher and artist, primarily in the realm of digital art and new media. As a volunteer, I founded and have helped to manage the Opal Center For Arts & Education, Cottage Grove's only downtown theatre and art center, for the last 15 years, including providing the space for it at no cost. I have produced countless community theater productions and other art events downtown. I have also volunteered at numerous organizations in town over the years, including the library, Community Sharing, Watershed Council, ROP, Bohemia Mining Days and various other projects.

Community affiliations and activities:

As stated above, I am the founder and main benefactor of Opal Center. I also donate to many non-profits in Cottage Grove. I was formerly a Kiwani and am currently a member of the International Order of Oddfellows. I have a lot of love for Cottage Grove and have try to say yes whenever anyone asks me to be part of a community project.

Previous City appointments, offices or activities:

I have served for one year on the Cottage Grove finance committee. I've participated in a number of community/city events including the VisionKeepers, and am a graduate of the Ford Family Foundation leadership program. I've also run for office a number of times over the years and am relatively familiar with the duties of city councilors.

As additional background for the City Council, please answer the following questions.

1. Please explain why you are interested in the appointment and what you, as a City Councilor, would offer to the City Council and the community.

I've been interested in serving as a city councilor for many years, primarily to be part of the bridge between the community and city government. I am especially familiar with downtown, and as a property owner and non-profit founder I have a good working relationship with the downtown community, as well as strong insights into the issues facing the downtown community.

2. Please describe what you believe are the major concerns of the City residents and businesses. How do you think these concerns should be met by the City?

The list of concerns is long and varied. Downtown revitalization, generating income from freeway traffic, road conditions, and taxes are perennial focuses. In recent times, COVID policies were high on the list. Currently, how to best address the growing homeless population is a major focus. There is no specific answer to "how I think these concerns should be met" but in general, costs and benefits must be carefully examined and the experience of other small cities should be taken into account. Community input should be gathered, especially when the community is directly affected. I am a strong believer in using city resources to the greatest benefit of all people involved, from business owners to wage workers to those needing public assistance.

3. Please explain why you think the City of Cottage Grove should do or accomplish to improve the City and the City government.

The city population and government are currently divided by the same deep political trends that are breaking up communities nationwide. Beyond managing the city responsibly, I believe the city government should be working to bridge that divide and build trust and stronger community bonds, both within the government and among the residents of Cottage Grove. As leaders/representatives of the community, we should highlight common interests and serve as an example of cooperation or, at worst, neighborly disagreement.

4. Please provide any additional information or comments which you believe will assist the City Council in considering your application.

I am currently involved in a work project that has me in California until the end of March. I can participate in interviews and meetings via teleconference only until after that. After this commitment is finished, I can refuse other opportunities that take me out of town for extended periods..

Signature: _____



Date: I/23/23

Thank you for your interest in volunteering in your community.