

Climate Ready Climate Equity Advisory Committee	Application No: No: 20200218110826_9418
INTRODUCTORY LANGUAGE	
The SA Climate Ready Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) is San Antonio's a roadmap to reduce carbon emissions, adapt to a changing climate, and ensure San Antonio remains a healthy, vibrant place for generations to come.	
The Climate Equity Advisory Committee advises City staff and City Council on the advancement of equity-centered implementation of the CAAP, and other associated long-term sustainability plans, such as the SA Tomorrow Sustainability Plan.	
As the CAAP is centered in equity and diversity, membership in advisory committees shall represent those that live and work within the City of San Antonio, inclusive of indigenous persons, communities of color, low-income residents, LGBTQIA+ persons, persons of varying ages, persons with different abilities, and other marginalized communities who hold diverse expertise, identities, and/or perspectives.	
The City of San Antonio, through the Office of Equity, has made a commitment to advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in local government in all of its Departments. Equity means that our policy-making, service delivery, and distribution of resources account for the different histories, challenges, and needs of the people we serve. The Office of Equity is a citywide office focused on advancing social equity within City Government, to help reduce and ultimately eliminate disparities experienced by our most marginalized San Antonio residents, and the Office of Sustainability will continue to	

collaborate with them on the CAAP.	
If you need assistance with completing this application, please contact the Office of Sustainability at 210.207.6103 or Sustainability@sanantonio.gov.	
PROFILE	
Prefix	Ms
Last Name	Kaur
First Name	Harjot
Middle Name	
Suffix	
Preferred Name	
Title	
Address Type?	Residence
Address	
City	San Antonio
State	TX
Zip	78257
Phone Type?	Cell
Phone number	
Phone 2 Type?	
Phone 2 number	
eMail	
Employer	
Job Title	
Occupation	
Board/Commission/Committee Name	Climate Ready Climate Equity Advisory Committee~~~14
DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION	
The City of San Antonio strives for boards and commissions to be representative of our diverse community. Providing the following demographic information is voluntary, and will only be used for statistical and reporting purposes.	
Race/Ethnicity (Please select all that apply):	Asian
Gender:	Female

Age:	25 to 34
Do you identify as a sexual minority (such as lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer, etc.)?	
QUESTIONS	
Are you a City of San Antonio resident?	No
Do you or any of your immediate family members or any businesses that you or they own currently have any direct or indirect financial interest in any contract(s) with the City, including subcontracts?	No
Will you or any of your immediate family members or any businesses that you or they own seek a contract(s) with the City in the foreseeable future?	No
Do you or any of your immediate family members or any businesses that you or they own have any financial interest, direct or indirect, in any sale to the City of any land, materials, supplies, or service?	No
Will you or any of your immediate family members or any businesses that you or they own seek or take part, either directly or indirectly, in any sale of land, materials, supplies, or service to the City in the foreseeable future?	No
Does your employer or an employer of your immediate family members have a contract with the City?	No
Do you or any of your family members currently serve or in the past year served as an administrative aide to a Councilmember?	No
Do you currently serve in any elected or appointed public government office?	No
Are you a member and/or officer and/or employee of any boards, commissions, corporations, non-profit entities, agencies, or other entities?	No
Do you intend to seek election or appointment to any public office or board or commission in the foreseeable future?	No

Have you ever been hired for a position with the City of San Antonio?	Yes
What expertise, and/or perspectives to you bring to the committee? Please select all areas that you believe you represent:	Social Justice Environmental Justice Climate Racial Justice Affordable Housing and Houselessness/Homelessness Public Health Small Business
Please provide a brief summary of your expertise and/or perspectives.	I consider my expertise as a lifelong San Antonian as a critical perspective to bring to the Advisory Board. I grew up in San Antonio, attended Trinity University for college, brought up by parents who built and successfully continue to run small businesses in San Antonio, and personally continue to remain heavily involved with many San Antonio communities. I retain many close friends in San Antonio, and my entire close family lives here. Because of my close personal connections to small business owners who come from communities of color, I am passionate about ensuring all environmental and climate change policies do not unnecessarily hinder San Antonios economy, or its ability to create economic opportunities for all San Antonians. Finally, I am also a Sikh and have played a leadership role to San Antonios Sikh community for most of my adult life. I am also ethnically South Asian, and have played a similar role for the rest of San Antonios South Asian community.
Please provide a description of your professional, educational and community/volunteer experience.	Professionally, I am a climate change and environmental lawyer, and my practice has overwhelmingly centered around creating and implementing effective climate policies for local cities and counties, including Baltimore and Los Angeles County. I have also worked as a City aide for then-councilmember Ron Nirenberg, where I gained skills in San Antonios zoning laws and land use policies generally, as well as a broad overview of how San Antonio government operates. Personally, I am passionate about volunteering my time back to my local community. I have organized workshops for the Sikh community to learn more about climate change, taught young children about Sikh philosophies at my Gurdwaras Sunday school, helped organize 5k charity runs for communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey, organize food, clothing, and toiletries drives for those impacted by Hurricane Harvey, among others. If selected to join this Advisory Board, I would provide as much time and dedication to this role as I would in any other volunteer and professional role I have undertaken.
	I am concerned about policies that widen the gap of economic opportunities for vulnerable populations. The populations most vulnerable to the impacts of climate

<p>Please share your interest and commitment to racial and economic justice and other social equity issues.</p>	<p>change are those who would be unable to financially recuperate from climate impacts such as floods, wildfires, or infectious diseases. These populations are often most at risk of these climate change impacts, because lower-income housing tends to be less resilient to these impacts. I want to help implement policy that considers the heightened vulnerability to climate impacts for fellow San Antonians who are already economically vulnerable. Further, many San Antonians who are economically vulnerable are also socially vulnerable minority communities, women, and children are at greater risk of discrimination for receiving institutional help from charities, governments, or other organizations. Recognizing this relationship, I want to help ensure that San Antonio's own policies promote economic and social resilience as forms of climate resilience. While helping develop Los Angeles County's first Sustainability Plan, which had a large component in climate policy, I met directly with organizations who represented vulnerable communities, as well as members of those vulnerable communities themselves. I made sure to integrate their perspectives and concerns for proposed climate policies that might disproportionately affect their lives more than others. I considered these perspectives as crucial for creating any policy action or strategy within that Plan, and remain committed to ensure those perspectives continue to be actively sought out, understood, and incorporated into any climate policy implemented by any government. I would consider this a crucial aspect of my role on the Advisory Board.</p>
<p>Please explain why you would like to serve on this committee.</p>	<p>I want to serve on this committee because I want to provide my expertise to help San Antonio communities combat climate change and become resilient to it. Climate change has become the main focus of my career as a climate change lawyer, but I chose that career out of my deep concern about the effects of climate change on a global scale, and its existential threat to life on Earth as we know it. Particularly for San Antonio, I am concerned about my communities suffering from increased heat, drought, potential wildfires, infectious disease, and flooding as a result of climate change. To me, it is absolutely imperative that city governments do as much as possible to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as prepare for the impacts of climate change on its residents. I believe my expertise and passion will help San Antonio achieve both.</p>
<p>What potential barrier(s) may affect</p>	

your participation in this committee?	
COMMITTEE MEMBER EXPECTATIONS	
Attend and actively participate in quarterly 2 hour-long meetings (Please note that Committee meetings will be televised and open to the public).	
Attend annual joint CAAP advisory committee retreat.	
Participate in CoSA Office of Equity facilitated training.	
Prepare for the quarterly meetings by reviewing the meeting agenda and completing pre-meeting homework.	
Alert City Staff of conflicts to participation.	
Assist with community and stakeholder engagement.	
Work towards successful outcomes.	
I have read and agree to adhere to the above-referenced expectations for committee member participation.	Acknowledged
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION	
Submit the following documentation needed to establish your eligibility. Be aware that the information you submit may be subject to verification during the application process. The information is also subject to the Texas Public Information Act and may be disclosed to the public unless otherwise protected by law. Attach scanned copies of your documentation using the Attachments panel at the bottom of this page.	
Copy of your current driver's license or other official documentation listing your Last Name, First Name, and Date of Birth.	
APPLICATION SIGN-OFF	
As a board, commission, or committee member, you will be asked to adhere to: Code of Ordinances, City of San Antonio, Part II, Chapter 2, Article IX, Sec.2-534. All board and commission	

members must file a Financial Disclosure Report with the Office of the City Clerk upon appointment, and annually thereafter, throughout the member's term. Failure to file a Financial Disclosure Report within the time required by the City's Ethics Code will be considered an automatic removal.	
I understand that if any member of the public makes a request for information included in this Application for Appointment, most of the information must be disclosed under the Public Information Act. I understand that the City of San Antonio will attempt to maintain the confidentiality of highly private matters by seeking an Attorney General's opinion in accordance with the Public Information Act. I understand that it may not be legally possible to maintain the confidentiality of such information, and I hereby release the City of San Antonio, and its agents, employees and officers, from any and all liability whatsoever if the information must be released pursuant to the Public Information Act or any other law requiring its release.	Acknowledged
OATH: I have read and understand the guidelines set out in this application. The foregoing statements are true, accurate, and complete. I agree that any misrepresentation or omission of facts may result in my disqualification for appointment.	Acknowledged
Enter Your Name	Harjot Kaur
Date of submission.	2/18/2020
The Texas Public Information Act provides that each government official may choose whether to allow the public access to the information in the custody of the City that contains your home address, home telephone number, or reveals whether you have family members. Please note that this does not apply to business addresses, which are subject to public disclosure. If an open	

records request is filed requesting to view or obtain records that contain your personal information, the City will take steps to protect your personal information as authorized by the Texas Public Information Act, but only if you have elected to protect personal information.	
I want the public to have access to my Home Address.	No
I want the public to have access to my Home Telephone Number.	No
I want the public to have access to my Social Security Number.	No
I want the public to have access to my Emergency Contact Information.	No
I want the public to have access to my Family Information.	No
Please attach any additional information, such as a current resume, using the Attachments panel at the bottom of this page.	

HARJOT KAUR

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an environmental and climate change attorney writing to apply for the Climate Equity Advisory Committee Board vacancy. I grew up in San Antonio and is deeply dedicated to its prosperity and progress. My professional life has centered around creating and implementing effective climate change laws and policies at the local level. My resume enclosed demonstrates my dedication and expertise in both climate change law and policy, as well as San Antonio itself.

I have focused my legal career on finding opportunities for local governments to create effective policies on climate change. Soon after starting law school, I helped draft an ordinance for Baltimore that would prevent oil trains from avoiding permitting. Last year, I was chosen to join the Steering Committee that would help develop SA Climate Ready – this city's very own climate action and adaptation plan. I later took a two-year fellowship in Los Angeles, California, where I helped Los Angeles County develop its first Sustainability Plan that integrated policies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This fellowship ends in June of this year, and I am eager to apply some of the diverse perspectives gained from Baltimore, Los Angeles, and California generally to my hometown. I would also be excited to help implement SA Climate Ready, and help tease out some of the questions and concerns that were raised regarding specific elements of the Plan that I remember we discussed at Steering Committee meetings.

If selected, my personal background will also inform my perspectives on climate policy implementation in San Antonio that promotes prosperity for San Antonio's unique needs. I have a deep understanding of San Antonio that only local residents could have – I attended public school here, attended college here, and worked as a City aide for then-Councilmember Ron Nirenberg after college. I grew up going to Gurdwaras in Sikh and South Asian San Antonians for most of my life and remain heavily engaged those communities. Further, my father and brother have both started, and continue to successfully run, their own small businesses in information technology contracting and real estate in San Antonio. All of these experiences have afforded me a deep appreciation for the interconnected relationships between local government policy and its impact on communities and businesses. These perspectives inform my philosophy that policies looking to reduce emissions should also provide equitable economic opportunities for both San Antonio residents and businesses.

I am grateful for the experiences and skills gained while I attended law school in Washington, D.C., and while worked as a law fellow in Los Angeles. However, I am also excited to come back home after completing my fellowship and apply what I have learned while I was gone. Serving on this Advisory Board would be a fulfilling way to give back to the community and its issues to which I am so deeply connected.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Harjot Kaur