



Agenda
City Commission Special Meeting Workshop
Monday, April 13, 2026 6:00 PM
151 Martin Street, Birmingham, MI
City Commission Room 205

This will be considered a workshop session of the City Commission. No formal actions will be taken. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss candidates for the vacant City Commission seat.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Clinton Baller, Mayor

2. ROLL CALL

Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk

3. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

a. Applicants for the Vacant City Commission Seat

1. Richard Wetherhold
2. Ilir Doresi
3. Beth Correa
4. Gordon Thompson
5. Brian Gordon
6. Debra Horner
7. Mary E. Jaye
8. Doug White

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The City of Birmingham welcomes public comment which may be limited to a certain number of minutes per person speaking, announced at the Mayor's discretion at the beginning of the public comment portion of the agenda, on items or discussions that do not appear anywhere else in the printed agenda. The Commission will not participate in a question and answer session and will take no action on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. The public can also speak to agenda items as they occur when the presiding officer opens the floor to the public. When recognized by the presiding officer, please state your name for the record, and direct all comments or questions to the presiding officer.

5. ADJOURN

City boards and committees meet in person, and most have a virtual option available to the public. Members

of the public may attend the City Commission meeting in person at Birmingham City Hall or attend virtually.

Link to Access Virtual Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/655079760>

Telephone Meeting Access: 877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID Code: **655 079 760**

City Hall is open to the public during regular business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Police Department lobby entrance on the east side of City Hall on Pierce Street operates as the after-hours public entrance.

Individuals requiring assistance to enter the building should request aid via the intercom system at the parking lot entrance gate on Henrietta Street.

Persons who require mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-3405 (TDD) at least one day before the meeting to request help.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el número (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-3405 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964)



OFFICE USE ONLY	
Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

APPLICATION FOR VACANT CITY COMMISSION SEAT

Thank you for your interest in serving on the City Commission. This application is to fill the vacant Commission seat until the November 2, 2027 general municipal election.

The purpose of this form is to provide the City Commission with basic information about applicants considered for appointment. NOTE: Completed applications are included in the City Commission agenda packets. The information included on this form is available to the public. City Commissioners are subject to the provisions of the Ethics Ordinance (Chapter 2, Article IX of the City Code).

Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at or before noon on the Wednesday, April 8, 2026. The appointment will be made at the Monday, April 13, 2026 regular meeting of the City Commission.
(Please print clearly)

Name Richard Wetherhold

Residential Address 2083 Sheffield Rd.

Residential City, Zip Birmingham, MI 48009

Business Address _____

Business City, Zip _____

Phone (313)720-9528

Email rwetherh@gmail.com

Length of Residence 10+ years

Occupation Strategy Manager

List your related employment experience

Current Strategy Manager at Ford Motor Company. 14+ years professional work experience. Serving roles in Strategy and Planning, Operations, Marketing, and Quality.

List your related community activities

- Family man (father of 3)
- Local parish member
- Participant in local fundraising events in support of children's school
- Volunteer soccer coach
- Local musician (perform locally)

List your related educational experience

Education focused both in business & technical leadership. Masters of Business Administration (UM-Ann Arbor) and Masters in Product Development (Detroit Mercy). Bachelor's in Engineering (UM-Ann Arbor), Bachelor's in Economics (UM-Ann Arbor), and Bachelor's in Music (UM-Ann Arbor).

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

Rich background in Strategy, Operations, Planning, Project Management, Scoping, and Marketing. An experienced servant leader with experiences in forming, managing, and leading cross-functional teams. Incredibly resourceful, exceptional problem solver, a true listener, not afraid to think outside the box. Someone who consistently delivers on objectives.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?

- "Engaged and Connected Community" – Better connect the city (E and W) to increase community bonds and engagement.
- "Environmental Sustainability" – Birmingham is beautiful and historic. I believe this creates an interesting opportunity to modernize sustainably while at the same time working to preserve its historic and natural charm.
- "Efficient and Effective Services" – I am an advocate in the value of new technology to improve transportation, flow of information, and safety. I believe we should explore how we can leverage technology in new ways to reduce cost and enhance the experiences for our residents.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

- Aging sewer infrastructure – Increase transparency of present challenges and efforts to address. Prioritize sewer system upgrades for the purposes of modernization and increased development and usage.
- Budget forecasting (schools et al)- Increased rigor in forecasting to ensure most efficient and effective allocation of resources, while maintaining leadership amongst our neighboring communities.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

- Taking on a “growth mindset” to increase community engagement across all age groups – connecting all areas of Birmingham.
- Exploring collaboration opportunities with neighboring communities.
- Enhancing services through the leveraging of new technologies.

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

No

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes

Richard Wetherell
Signature of Applicant

3-22-2026
Date

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8:50 AM



OFFICE USE ONLY
Meets Requirements? Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend

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(Please print clearly)

CLERK'S OFFICE

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Name Ilir Doresi

Phone 248-835-7400

Residential Address 1312 Haynes ST

Email idoresi@yahoo.com

Residential City, Zip Birmingham, 48009

Length of Residence 30 yr

Business Address 38760 Grand River AVE

Occupation Sales manager

Business City, Zip Farmington Hills, 48335

List your related employment experience
Managing, Booking, Account and Budgeting

List your related community activities
charity Youths/Seniors

List your related educational experience
managment training/meetings

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?
I Know How to Budget
I've Been with the Birmingham community for a long time
I can bring back people to the city, I feel its changed too much
What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?
I would like to keep it a safe and family oriented city
get more shops in downtown we have too many
closing and need to get people back in

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

we need to start watching the Budget closer, too much spending in unnecessary places, we need to Hire right people for the projects and not over paying for their services

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

Find a way to uncap yr Home taxes, Bring a more Youthful Homeowners to the city that are willing to pay

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain: NO

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? NO

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? yes



Signature of Applicant

3-30-26

Date



OFFICE USE ONLY	
Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

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(Please print clearly)

CLERK'S OFFICE

Name **Beth Correa**

Phone **586-663-6700**

Residential **Address 315 W Lincoln St**

Email **bethcorrea@aol.com**

Residential City, Zip **Birmingham, MI 48009**

Length of Residence **35 years**

Business Address N/A

Occupation **Retired Financial Executive**

Business City, Zip N/A

List your related employment experience

Recently retired Executive Vice President and Director of Corporate Responsibility at Flagstar Bank, where I led enterprise-wide strategy across community investment, stakeholder engagement, and governance. I oversaw a \$22 million foundation and a \$6 million annual community investment budget, ensuring disciplined allocation of resources and measurable outcomes aligned with organizational priorities.

Previously, I served as Senior Vice President overseeing community affairs, CRA programs, customer experience, and operational quality. Earlier in my career, I held leadership roles at Flagstar, Comerica, and JPMorgan Chase, managing large retail banking networks and leading initiatives focused on operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and growth.

This experience has strengthened my ability to evaluate complex budgets, oversee large-scale operations, and make balanced, data-driven decisions—skills directly applicable to municipal governance.

List your related community activities

Current

- Past Board Chair and Board Member, Detroit Public Schools Foundation (led strategic initiatives supporting educational outcomes and community impact)
- Coach and Judge, Michigan Women Forward WomanUp & Pitch Competition
- Advisory Board Member, The Unity Collaborative

Past

- Board Member, Inforum

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- Executive Committee Member and Treasurer, Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (oversaw financial governance and regional initiatives)
- Committee Member, Sustainable Business Network Detroit
- Board Member, Michigan Humane
- PreK–12 Education Workgroup Member, State of Michigan
- Capstone Advisor, ABA Stonier Graduate School of Banking

List your related educational experience

- Sustainability Management Certificate – Yale School of Management
- ABA–Wharton Stonier Graduate School of Banking
- Wharton Leadership Certificate
- BS in Finance, Magna Cum Laude – Walsh College

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

I bring more than three decades of executive leadership experience in financial services, community development, and governance. I have overseen multi-million-dollar budgets, led complex organizations through change, and built partnerships across public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

My work has consistently focused on translating strategy into measurable outcomes—whether improving service delivery, strengthening community investment, or ensuring accountability in decision-making. I bring a practical, disciplined approach to evaluating trade-offs and making decisions that balance fiscal responsibility with community impact.

As a long-time resident of Birmingham, I also bring a deep appreciation for the city’s character, high standards, and the expectations residents have for quality services, thoughtful planning, and strong governance. With my recent retirement, I have the time and flexibility to be fully engaged and accessible in serving the community.

What is your vision for the City’s future, and how does it align with the Commission’s strategic goals?

My vision is for Birmingham to remain a vibrant, walkable community that balances thoughtful growth with preservation of its unique character. As the city continues to evolve, it will be important to carefully manage downtown development, maintain strong neighborhoods, and ensure infrastructure and public services keep pace with demand.

I believe in transparent decision-making, active community engagement, and disciplined financial stewardship. My experience developing organizational strategy and working across sectors aligns with the Commission’s priorities around responsible growth, economic vitality, and maintaining the high quality of life residents expect.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

Key challenges include balancing continued development with preservation of Birmingham’s character, maintaining long-term financial discipline, and ensuring infrastructure keeps pace with growth.

I would approach these challenges by combining data-driven analysis with meaningful community engagement—ensuring decisions reflect both fiscal realities and resident priorities. My experience leading complex initiatives has prepared me to evaluate trade-offs, ask the right questions, and build alignment around solutions that are practical, balanced, and sustainable over the long term.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

Over the next several years, Birmingham has an opportunity to:

- Strengthen its downtown as a destination while continuing to support local businesses

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CLERK'S OFFICE

- Enhance walkability, mobility, and the quality of public spaces
- Invest in infrastructure to support long-term growth and service reliability
- Expand community engagement and transparency in decision-making
- Maintain strong financial stewardship with clear priorities and accountability

My experience leading strategic initiatives, managing resources responsibly, and building partnerships would allow me to contribute meaningfully to these priorities and help ensure they are executed effectively.

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

To the best of my knowledge, neither I nor any member of my immediate family has a direct financial or business relationship with any supplier, service provider, or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which we derive compensation or financial benefit.

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes



Signature of Applicant

4.6.2026

Date

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A WALKABLE CITY

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

APPLICATION FOR VACANT CITY COMMISSION SEAT

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(Please print clearly)

Name Gordon Thompson

Phone (810) 571-1776

Residential Address 171 N Worth St

Email gthomps43@yahoo.com

Residential City, Zip Birmingham

Length of Residence 3 years

Business Address P.O. Box 801

Occupation teacher

Business City, Zip Bloomfield Hills, MI. 48303-0801

List your related employment experience

teacher, dorm advisor, Wilderness leader, literary magazine advisor, class advisor at Cranbrook School from 2003 to present

List your related community activities

I am a denizen of the farmers' market, library, local businesses, parks. I sing with the Detroit Concert Choir, which rehearses and performs throughout the metro area, including in Birmingham. I have volunteered extensively with Kiva.org, a microfinance organization, and am looking for more local volunteer opportunities.

List your related educational experience

MFA: University of Florida, 2000
BA: Swarthmore College, 1995

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

Having worked, studied, and traveled in some 50 countries and 45 states, I bring a rich and varied perspective on what a city can and should be, a "fresh face" who loves Birmingham and understands its place in the wider world.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?

Balance business development with preservation of green space and livability initiatives (movie nights, shopping events, e.g.). Maintain a balanced budget while supporting needed investments in infrastructure and other issues. Support sustainability in both the financial and environmental sense.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

Rising cost of living. Population loss and demographic shifts. Representation that reflects the population. I would explore new ways of engaging residents such as more interactive newsletters and website, surveys about pending issues.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

Maintaining affordability for a range of residents and businesses. Promoting status as "a walkable city" and the crown jewel of Oakland County. Increasing accessibility in physical access to city amenities as well as more robust and varied communication.

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

No.

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No.

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Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes.



Signature of Applicant

March 21, 2026

Date

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Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

APPLICATION FOR VACANT CITY COMMISSION SEAT

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(Please print clearly)

Name BRIAN GORDON

Residential Address 645 W BROWN ST

Residential City, Zip BIRMINGHAM

Business Address _____

Business City, Zip _____

Phone 248.229.1300

Email EMAILBG@AOL.COM

Length of Residence 5 YEARS

Occupation REAL ESTATE

List your related employment experience
 45 Years commercial real estate investor/broker/developer.
 Numerous interactions with various municipalities in SE Michigan re zoning, development, site plan, ZBA, etc.
 Also extensive business and retail managment

List your related community activities
 10 years council Trustee Franklin Village, including election to President Pro Tem.
 Served on FBFD Fire Commision, legal committee, finance committee.
 Drafted ballot language for the successful implementation of first ever sidewalk and streetscape program

List your related educational experience
 BS MSU 1979, with Honors, Geography
 Course work in appraisal

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?
 Experianced fiscally conservative manager. Not political by nature, but by necessity, to serve the community
 Experiance in municipal budget process, legislative process, Roberts rules of Order, purchasing process, etc
 Ability to hit the ground running on all matters before the Council.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?
 Maintaining and improving Birmingham's high quality city services while conserving tax payers' dollars when and where appropriate and possible.
 Improving and expanding, walkability, neighborhood connectivity and recreational and cultural opportunity

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

As always, the biggest challenge is budget, taxes, and expenses.

I have many years of direct experience to bring to the deliberations on these matters

Intelligent expansion of housing stock, in compliance with existing Zoning and Master Plan

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

The matters listed above are Council's priorities as well as Continued improvement of public space, parks and trails.

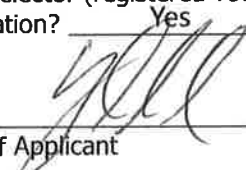
To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

No

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No

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Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes



Signature of Applicant

March 31, 2026
Date



32325 Franklin Road, Franklin, Michigan
48025

FAX: (248) 626-0538 (248) 626-9666

www.franklin.mi.us

PROCLAMATION
Village Council President Pro-Tem Brian Gordon
In Appreciation of his Public Service to the Village of Franklin

WHEREAS Brian Gordon has served as Village Trustee from July 2012 until January 2022; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon has served as a Village Council President Pro-Tem from November 2020 until January 2022; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon was an active participant as a Village Trustee, exuding his building experience, asking purposeful questions to provoke well-rounded discussions, committed to representing the Village residents fairly; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon was an active proponent of the Village Streetscape Project and an author of the Ballot Language Initiative; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon was also an active proponent of the Village Downtown Lighting Initiative and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon was a member of the Final Design Committee for the Village Streetscape Project and was instrumental in the process of acquiring the desired aesthetic of the Village residents; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon has served as the Village Council Appointed Liaison for the Legal Committee; and,

WHEREAS Brian Gordon has served as the Village Council Appointed Liaison to the Franklin – Bingham Farms Fire Department and was instrumental in the purchase of two (2) Fire Apparatus; and,

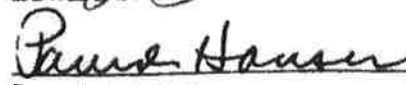
WHEREAS Brian Gordon along with his wife, Julie Gordon have resided in the Village for thirty-one (31) years; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on this 14th day of February 2022, that the Franklin Village Council hereby publicly recognizes, commends, and thanks Village Council President Pro-Tem Brian Gordon for his service to the Village.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution and expression of civic appreciation be presented to Brian Gordon on behalf of the undersigned.


Kathrine Erlich

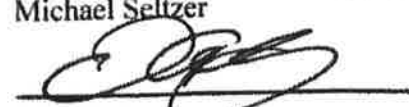

Edward Saenz


Pamela Hansen


William Lamott, President


Mark Hanke


Michael Seltzer


David Goldberg

Brian S Gordon
BERT GORDON REALTY COMPANY
GORDON REALTY CORPORATION

Bert Gordon Realty Company (MI License # 6505003169) and Gordon Realty Corporation are Michigan Corporations founded by Bert Gordon (1924-1996) in 1950. Bert Gordon was a licensed real estate broker in the State of Michigan since 1950 and was appointed to the State Board of Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons in 1987 where he served continuously until 1994. Brian Gordon, President and owner, has been with Gordon Realty Corporation since 1983.

In 2012 Brian Gordon was appointed, in 2016 elected and in 2020 reelected Trustee of the Village Council, Franklin Michigan, where he served until relocating to Birmingham in 2022; on the Council Legal and Finance Committees, and Commissioner of the Franklin Bingham Fire Department throughout his Council tenure, and elected to President Pro Tem after the 2020 election.

Brian Gordon has been a licensed real estate salesperson in the state of Michigan since 1977 and was licensed as a broker in 1982 (MI License #6502121855). He has also been licensed in the states of Illinois and New York. Prior to joining Gordon Realty, Brian Gordon was a Vice President with Michigan National Bank (now Bank of America) where he specialized in real estate construction and development financing. He holds an honors degree from Michigan State University with a major in Geography, concentrating his course work on Real Estate and related subjects. In addition he has successfully completed course work offered by the Society of Real Estate Appraisers and Continuing Education as required by the State of Michigan.

In 1987 Brian Gordon formed Gordon Management, Inc., a company specializing in the management of commercial buildings, related businesses and real estate syndication.

Brian Gordon has acted as Managing Member/Partner in numerous commercial real estate deals, purchasing, managing, and selling performing properties profitably. This work has included site analysis, conceptualization, promotion, evaluation, lease negotiation and working on financing arrangements. In the course of this type work, he has had extensive dealings with attorneys, accountants, architects, bankers, engineers and store designers as well as local and chain tenants and developers, both on a local and national level.

Brian Gordon has engaged in all facets of the commercial real estate brokerage business handling purchases and sales of all types of income property as well as the assemblage of vacant parcels for developers. Additionally, he has extensive experience leasing commercial spaces in shopping centers of all types and descriptions including storefronts strip shopping centers, community sized shopping centers, regional shopping centers, enclosed malls and freestanding buildings. Brian Gordon has dealt with tenants of all types ranging from independents and franchisees to regional and national Big Box users.

Brian S Gordon

Brian Gordon has acted as agent for landlords and tenants, and buyers and sellers of all types of shopping center and commercial properties.

Brian Gordon has acted as exclusive agent for financial institutions and Bankruptcy Court appointed trustees in the successful sale of numerous properties. These properties have consisted of vacant parcels, commercial buildings, medical buildings, multi tenant and mixed-use properties. Some of the properties have been leased and were performing economically while in other instances the properties were vacant and nonperforming.

Brian Gordon and Gordon Realty have dealt extensively in recycling older, unproductive commercial spaces to newer uses and to productivity. Instances where this was done include buildings vacated by Federal Department Stores, Chatham Grocery Stores, Kmart, and many others.

Integral in these efforts was knowledge of all types of lease arrangements, net, gross and percentage as well as land leases and leasebacks.

Further experience includes knowledge of and familiarity with various laws and ordinances, state, local and federal, which has necessitated working with governmental agencies and local units of government on matters from banking and mortgages and land usage to local zoning and land use restrictions.

Naturally, a thorough knowledge of the constantly changing current market conditions is vital to these efforts. Also necessary, of course, is a constant awareness of ever changing demographic information. Brian Gordon has engaged in these efforts extensively in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Washtenaw, Livingston and Ingham Counties, all of southern Michigan and selected metropolitan areas of Ohio and Indiana.

Brian Gordon has been admitted as expert witnesses testifying in U.S. Federal Court and arbitration proceedings regarding historical and current real estate values and leasehold values.

Gordon Realty offers its clients a full range of commercial real estate services in an atmosphere of personal service. Gordon Realty staff and sales/broker associates are all highly trained and specialized in the field of commercial real estate. This specialization gives Gordon Realty's clients comfort in the knowledge that their transactions are all handled in a professional manner and typically with very successful results.

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4:56 PM**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Meets Requirements? Yes No

Will Attend / Unable to Attend

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(Please print clearly)

Name **Debra Horner**Phone **248-854-4411**Residential Address **1800 Pine Street**Email **dhorner@umich.edu**Residential City, Zip **Birmingham 48009**Length of Residence **34 years**Business Address **735 S. State Street, Suite 5312**Occupation **U-M research program manager and lecturer**Business City, Zip **Ann Arbor 48109**

List your related employment experience

Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy - Fall 2008- present

I'm the Senior Program Manager for the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS), overseeing the administration of a statewide census survey of 1,856 Michigan local governments (<https://closup.umich.edu/michigan-public-policy-survey>)

List your related community activities

Birmingham Environmental Sustainability Committee chair – Jan 2026-present**Birmingham Environmental Sustainability Committee and original Ad Hoc Committee vice chair – March 2023- Jan 2026****League of Women Voters Oakland Area (LWVOA) Voter Guide and VOTE411 Coordinator - 2004-present**

List your related educational experience

PhD, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Department of Political Science, August 2007**Master's** in Political Science, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, December 1992**Bachelor of Arts** in Political Science and History, Duke University, Durham, NC, May 1991

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

I have spent my career at the University of Michigan conducting research on Michigan local government policymaking, including cities like Birmingham. I have co-written over 100 policy reports (<https://closup.umich.edu/michigan-public-policy-survey>) on a wide variety of topics that the Birmingham City Commission grapples with, from fiscal health and budgeting, roads, water and sewer, resident engagement, planning and zoning, housing, workforce issues, and more. I've worked closely with Michigan state agencies and with organizations like the Michigan Municipal League to help understand the challenges Michigan municipalities face, the resources they need, and the policy solutions different communities across the state are pursuing.

In addition, in 2023 I was selected as a member of Birmingham's Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee and now chair the permanent Committee, working with city staff and other residents to develop and promote Green policies that benefit our community and region.

I am a 34-year resident whose family roots in Birmingham are deep. I live next door to the home my husband's grandparents bought when it was built in the 1950s and lived in for the next fifty years. His father and uncle, he himself, and all three of our children went to Seaholm High School. Birmingham is our forever home. I'm committed to helping the City continue to promote and manage growth, our neighborhoods to stay interconnected and to flourish, and to preserve Birmingham as an aspirational community where people want to live, visit, work, start businesses, raise families, and age in place.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?

As might be expected from my choice of committee position, I feel the Commission's goal of **environmental sustainability** and protecting our natural environment is absolutely critical for Birmingham's long-term success. I believe we should push to be among the leading communities in the state in adopting policies that shrink our dependence on fossil fuels, clean our air and water, build resilience against extreme weather and flooding, cultivate flourishing biodiversity and expand the tree canopy in the city's landscapes.

The City must work in partnership with our residents and businesses to make all of this work on sustainability successful, which ties into the larger aim of expanding resident participation in city governance overall, to meet the goal of an **engaged and connected community**. I believe the strengthening of our democracy begins at the local level, and we can work diligently to bring residents to the table before decisions are made, to be welcoming to their perspectives, and to make sure the Commission's choices are informed by the preferences of residents across the entire city. Engage Birmingham is a terrific tool we already have for communicating with a self-selected group of residents, and I've been helping to develop the citywide resident survey that will hopefully reveal some additional insights about the people and groups we don't always hear from. Getting people to pay attention and possibly even show up takes work, but I believe that effort on our part will pay off in greater trust and better policymaking.

I also want to maintain and expand Birmingham's legacy reputation as an excellent community for residents, with a focus on both foundational services such as public safety and infrastructure improvements to quality-of-life amenities like our high-quality parks, walkable Downtown, and community events that bring residents together. The backbone of this is our amazing city workforce. In order to continue to provide **efficient and effective service**, we need to prioritize recruiting and retaining the highest quality personnel and then providing them with a workplace environment that promotes innovation, mission-driven work, competitive pay, and work flexibility where possible.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

In the short term, I am concerned about an economic downturn in the state and nationwide. I have confidence in the City's financial risk management, but I am interested in learning more about our budget and long-range planning for revenues, expenditures, capital costs, and any liability we carry. In addition, I only know (at best!) what the average resident does about the debates around funding and potential funding for large-scale projects like 400 East Lincoln, The Community House, Derby Bridge replacement, or City Hall/Police Station renovation, but as a Commissioner I want to ensure the city is prepared to weather a potential recession or other economic turbulence.

In the long-term, I'm similarly concerned about funding, but specifically in our need to focus on road, water and sewer, and stormwater maintenance and improvements in a sustainable, data-driven way that reduces the burden of these recurring costs as much as possible. I'd love to see us integrate resilience into city projects (use of public easements to manage stormwater and create naturalized areas, permeable surfaces where feasible, etc.), and also discuss how to make long-term planning and funding decisions that could help reduce lifecycle costs and minimize disruption to residents and businesses.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

I'm excited about the upcoming Zoning Ordinance update and the effort to bring our zoning into alignment with the Birmingham Plan 2040 Master Plan and to make it clearer and more predictable so that development and investment is encouraged but also in line with community expectations and long-term City goals.

I'd like to see the City and individual departments have a consistent and dedicated approach to seeking out state and federal grant opportunities. It takes a certain amount of capacity, particularly staff time, to find and apply for external funding, but now that large-scale funding like that which came from ARPA or IIJA has been phased out, looking for other funding sources for new or innovative projects could be fruitful.

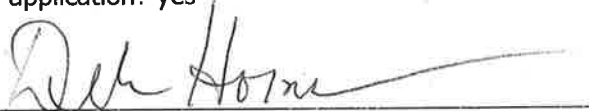
Finally, we should institute carbon reduction and climate resilience programming and policies into municipal operations. Environmental sustainability in Birmingham starts with leadership and action by City government, and we can enact both small-scale (e.g., anti-idling policy for municipal vehicles) and larger-scale (e.g., transitioning to electric and alternative-fuel equipment, phasing out the use of all chemical pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers on City property and in park maintenance operations) to inspire buy-in and commensurate action by the broader community.

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? **No**

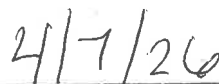
Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? **No**

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? yes



Signature of Applicant



Date



OFFICE USE ONLY	
Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

APPLICATION FOR VACANT CITY COMMISSION SEAT

Thank you for your interest in serving on the City Commission. This application is to fill the vacant Commission seat until the November 2, 2027 general municipal election.

The purpose of this form is to provide the City Commission with basic information about applicants considered for appointment. NOTE: Completed applications are included in the City Commission agenda packets. The information included on this form is available to the public. City Commissioners are subject to the provisions of the [Ethics Ordinance](#) (Chapter 2, Article IX of the City Code).

Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at or before noon on the Wednesday, April 8, 2026. The appointment will be made at the Monday, April 13, 2026 regular meeting of the City Commission.
(Please print clearly)

Name	<u>Mary E. Jaye</u>	Phone	<u>248 760-9638</u>
Residential Address	<u>288 Ravine</u>	Email	<u>mejaye@gmail.com</u>
Residential City, Zip	<u>Birmingham 48009</u>	Length of Residence	<u>33 years</u>
Business Address	<u></u>	Occupation	<u>Retired Automotive Executive</u>
Business City, Zip	<u></u>		

List your related employment experience

As an executive for Chrysler/DaimlerChrysler/FCA/Stellantis, I was involved in all aspects of product and commercial development and had extensive decision-making responsibility on business proposals. I also have experience developing and reviewing legal agreements (technical, operational, distribution/franchise). My recent time on the HDC has provided some perspective into the functioning of the city and the responsibilities of the commissions.

List your related community activities Most current, relevant:

- Commissioner (Alt), Birmingham Historic Districts Commission (2023-present)
- Board Member, "SAIL" - Solutions for Adult Interdependent Living (2023-present)
- 4H Volunteer, Wayne County – Pingree Farms, Viticulture Program (2022 -2025)
- Board Member, MSU Broad School of Business Advisory Board (2010-2017)

List your related educational experience

- MBA – Strategic Planning and International Business, University of Michigan
- BA – Marketing, Michigan State University

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

Throughout my 40-year automotive career, I was known as a strong decision-maker, with the ability to consider a broad array of factors to determine what actions were consistent with our corporate strategy, and then ensured we implemented those actions efficiently and effectively. I bought my first home in Little San Francisco and have lived in it for 33 years. I have seen many changes in Birmingham and the neighborhoods. I believe we can support growth and modern living in the city, while still maintaining the unique character, charm of its older homes and the other strengths that first attracted me to the city.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?

I believe Birmingham can continue to grow and thrive, but we need to not lose perspective of its core strengths: a charming, tree-lined, walkable city with great schools, and amazing resources and services. We need to protect these core strengths, especially as we implement the vision set in the Master Plan 2040.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

- Implementing the 2040 Master Plan. We have an impressive and far-reaching plan that was originally intended to focus on the neighborhoods. We need to ensure we are considering the input of the residents and prioritizing their interests.
- Availability of affordable housing. As our population ages, we need to attract young families and a wider demographic, as well as allow options for seniors. This problem has become even more challenging in Birmingham due to the high price of homes/land and the interest in developing new, large structures. We need to explore more options.
- Aged and over-stressed infrastructure – With costs continuing to rise, the challenge to replace our aging roads, sewers and bridge becomes even greater. Improvement projects need to be scrutinized and prioritized, and we need to ensure projects are delivered on a timely basis and within budget. It's important we focus on the "must haves," not the "nice to haves."
- Street noise. In the past 5 years, increased road noise has greatly impacted the quality of life for those living near Woodward. While this is a complex challenge, we need to work with the legislature for speedy resolution.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

- Birmingham provides residents and visitors great walkability on tree lined streets and wonderful parks and greenspace. We need to protect our core strengths of being a walkable city and having Tree City status.
- We are blessed with a strong tax base; we need to ensure we spend wisely.
- Coming from the HDC, I am concerned about losing the historic homes and buildings that help make our city so charming and attractive. Like with the affordable housing challenge, increasing purchase prices and the interest in residential development make this challenging. We should work with the Historic District Commission and their recently publish Historic Preservation Master Plan to identify ways to move forward to prioritize preservation.


To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

None

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes



Signature of Applicant

4/7/2026

Date



OFFICE USE ONLY	
Meets Requirements?	Yes No
Will Attend / Unable to Attend	

APPLICATION FOR VACANT CITY COMMISSION SEAT

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Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office at or before noon on the Wednesday, April 8, 2026. The appointment will be made at the Monday, April 13, 2026 regular meeting of the City Commission.
(Please print clearly)

Name Doug White
 Residential Address 1342 Holland Street
 Residential City, Zip Birmingham, 48009
 Business Address _____
 Business City, Zip _____

Phone 248-825-2223
 Email dwhite10@peoplepc.com
 Length of Residence 21 years
 Occupation Automotive

CLERK'S OFFICE RECEIVED

List your related employment experience

- + Hino Trucks
- + Ford Motor Company - Retired
- + United States Army Officer

List your related community activities

Multi-Modal Transportation Board: Two Full Terms / Past Chairman
 Birmingham Tory Community Association: Past President & Vice-President

List your related educational experience

BA Business Administration - Washington & Jefferson College

What skills, experiences, or perspectives do you bring to the role that would benefit the City and its residents?

I bring a unique perspective having served at the grass roots level as Birmingham's Tory Community Association President and Chairman of Multi-Modal Transportation Board. I bring extremely valuable experience and a desire for collaboration, compassion and understanding along with a sincere goal of best serving the citizens and businesses in the City of Birmingham.

What is your vision for the City's future, and how does it align with the Commission's strategic goals?

My vision for the City is to remain a safe, walkable, vibrant and adaptable community where families want to move to and stay for years ensuring infrastructure, services and atmosphere appeal to residents across all stages of life. I want all our residents to feel proud, invested and engaged in our wonderful community.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing the City, and how would you address them as a Commissioner?

I believe the biggest challenge facing the City is our aging infrastructure and how to address it with timely, cost effective and equitable solutions.

I don't believe there is one single solution. Rather, it will require investigating a myriad of opportunities for funding, regulation modifications, potential public/private partnerships and prioritization. I think expanded benchmarking of some of the hundreds of very similar cities in Michigan and beyond facing like challenges can garner new and workable ideas.

What opportunities do you think the City should prioritize in the next 1-5 years?

- + Infrastructure needs
- + Building / property issues, including, but not limited to Community House, 400 East Lincoln, parking structures and a new police station.
- + Street safety including parking, speed & noise control, especially on Woodward Avenue.

To the best of your knowledge, do you or a member of your immediate family have any direct financial or business relationships with any supplier, service provider or contractor of the City of Birmingham from which you or they derive direct compensation or financial benefit? If yes, please explain:

No

Do you currently have a relative serving on the City Commission? No

Per the City Charter: "No person shall be eligible to the office of commissioner who shall not be an elector in the city and who has not been a resident of the city for at least one (1) year immediately prior to his election."

Are you an elector (registered voter) in the City of Birmingham and have you been a resident for at least 1 year prior to your application? Yes

Doug White
Signature of Applicant

4/7/2026
Date

Doug White