

Application Form

Profile

Sonya

First Name

Bynum

Middle Initial

Last Name

Home Address

Suite or Apt

City

State

Postal Code

Primary Phone

Email Address

District Locator Tool

Resident of Supervisorial District:

☒ District 3

Habitat for humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley

Employer

Homeowner selection manager

Job Title

Length of Employment

6

Do you work in Contra Costa County?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, in which District do you work?

How long have you lived or worked in Contra Costa County?

45 years

Are you a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Board and Interest

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Economic Opportunity Council: Submitted

Seat Name

Sonya Bynum

Have you ever attended a meeting of the advisory board for which you are applying?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, how many meetings have you attended?

Education

Select the option that applies to your high school education *

☒ High School Diploma

College/ University A

Name of College Attended

Arizona State University

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

B.A/ family and human development

Degree Awarded?

☒ Yes ☐ No

College/ University B

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

College/ University C

Name of College Attended

Degree Type / Course of Study / Major

Degree Awarded?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Trainings & Occupational Licenses

Other Training A

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Other Training B

Certificate Awarded for Training?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupational Licenses Completed:

Qualifications and Volunteer Experience

Please explain why you would like to serve on this particular board, committee, or commission.

I was born and raised in Contra Contra County. I have raised my family here, went to school here, attend church here and do not plan to leave. I bring a long career in financing and want to bring this expertise to my community. At Habitat, I interact with our families and hear their stories how they can own a home close to their job. They don't have to worry about relocating their family to own a home. I understand the importance of these type of committees.

Describe your qualifications for this appointment. (NOTE: you may also include a copy of your resume with this application)

I've worked for Habitat for Humanity for almost 7 years as the Homeowner Selection Manager. In my role I complete the loan administration work (underwriting, purchase agreement, closing documents), coordinate with the buyer from time of selection through closing on their home and serve on committees (employment education committee, HOA board, family selection committee, home equity grant). I also manage the homeowners by answering questions, advising on conflicts between neighbors, assist homeowners with HOA conflicts and coordinate the resale of their home. Prior to working for Habitat for Humanity, I was with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage for 14 years as a processor and underwriter. These employment opportunities led me to work with a diverse group of people (volunteers, retirees, donors, low and moderate income homeowners). I have over 20 years experience in lending with the last 6 1/2 in affordable housing (homeownership). While our office is located in Oakland, our organization serves Alameda County, Santa Clara County and Contra Costa County. Assessment Appeals Board Committee While I do not hold the licenses listed in the description, I believe my background in lending has given me the experience for this committee. My prior employment as an underwriter with Wells Fargo helped me review appraisals by paying close attention the comps to ensure it supports the value. After joining Habitat for Humanity, my experience has grown in a few areas. For instance, I manage both programs of Home Repair for homeowners and the Homeownership program for 1st time homebuyers. We determine the maximum loan amount for the home repair program by pulling values for the subject property on various websites or finding similar and recent properties to base the value on. Likewise, for our new homeowners we prepare them for homeownership by explaining the types of property taxes (supplemental vs secured) and providing an estimate of their supplemental property tax bill prior to buying their home. Earlier this year (2025), Alameda County based a Habitat homeowners property tax on a value almost 2x's what the homeowner paid for their below market home. I guided the homeowner through the process by referring them to county to get their paperwork to start the appeal process. During this process I provided letters on their behalf explaining the complex process of buying a below market home and the resale restriction recorded to the property. Recently, another homeowner brought to my attention a similar situation and I referred them to their county Appeals Board to start the dispute process. I believe my 20 plus years in lending and affordable housing, has given me the experience for the Assessment Appeals Board. As Contra Costa County brings more below market housing, I know my experience with Habitat for Humanity will be an asset to this committee to understand the below market housing and the restrictions in place.

Upload a Resume

Would you like to be considered for appointment to other advisory bodies for which you may be qualified?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have any obligations that might affect your attendance at scheduled meetings?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please explain:

Are you currently or have you ever been appointed to a Contra Costa County advisory board?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you are currently serving:

I recently attended a meeting for a position on the Affordable Housing Finance Committee.

If Yes, please also list the Contra Costa County advisory board(s) on which you have previously served:

List any volunteer or community experience, including any advisory boards on which you have served.

Opportunity Junction - Teachers aid (2015-2106) Habitat for humanity - construction volunteer (2018- present) Grace bible fellowship of Antioch - annual Halloween carnival (2010 to present)

Conflict of Interest and Certification

Do you have a familial or financial relationship with a member of the Board of Supervisors? (Please refer to the relationships listed under the "Important Information" section below or Resolution No. 2021/234)

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

Do you have any financial relationships with the County such as grants, contracts, or other economic relationships?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, please identify the nature of the relationship:

My role and department does not apply for grants or funding. In addition, we only provide homeownership opportunities, we are not involved with affordable rent.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I CERTIFY that the statements made by me in this application are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith. I acknowledge and undersand that all information in this application is publicly accessible. I understand that misstatements and/or omissions of material fact may cause forfeiture of my rights to serve on a board, committee, or commission in Contra Costa County.

☒ I Agree

Important Information

1. This application and any attachments you provide to it is a public document and is subject to the California Public Records Act (CA Government Code §6250-6270).
2. All members of appointed bodies are required to take the advisory body training provided by Contra Costa County.
3. Members of certain boards, commissions, and committees may be required to: (1) file a Statement of Economic Interest Form also known as a Form 700, and (2) complete the State Ethics Training Course as required by AB 1234.
4. Meetings may be held in various locations and some locations may not be accessible by public transportation.
5. Meeting dates and times are subject to change and may occur up to two (2) days per month.
6. Some boards, committees, or commissions may assign members to subcommittees or work groups which may require an additional commitment of time.
7. As indicated in Board Resolution 2021/234, a person will not be eligible for appointment if he/she is related to a Board of Supervisors' member in any of the following relationships:
 - (1) Mother, father, son, and daughter;
 - (2) Brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather, grandson, and granddaughter;
 - (3) Husband, wife, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepson, and stepdaughter;
 - (4) Registered domestic partner, pursuant to California Family Code section 297;
 - (5) The relatives, as defined in 1 and 2 above, for a registered domestic partner;
 - (6) Any person with whom a Board Member shares a financial interest as defined in the Political Reform Act (Gov't Code §87103, Financial Interest), such as a business partner or business associate.