

## APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BAINBRIDGE ISLAND CITY COUNCIL POSITION #4

### Applicant Information

(Please type or print)

Applicant Name Nathan Daum  
Residence Address █ Ihland Way NW, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
Home Phone (206) █ Work/Cell Phone (206) █  
E-Mail █

### Cover Letter & Resume

Please attach a one page cover letter and a resume of no more than two pages to this application.

### Supplemental Questions

Please respond to the following questions regarding your interest in the position of Councilmember for the City of Bainbridge Island on separate pages using no more than 3 pages total:

1. Why are you interested in serving as a Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?
2. What strength would you bring to the Council?
3. What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?
4. Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Bainbridge Island community. Address its relevance to the position of Bainbridge Island City Councilmember.
5. What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?
6. What is your vision for our City and community?
7. Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?

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Please return this form, your cover letter, resume and answers to the supplemental questions to the City Clerk at Bainbridge Island City Hall (280 Madison Avenue North) **no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, April 13, 2018**. Applications received after 4:00 pm will not be accepted.

The application and any correspondence should be addressed to:

**Christine Brown, City Clerk  
Councilmember Recruitment  
280 Madison Avenue North  
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110**

# Nathan Daum

Urban Planning • Real Estate • Economic Development • Transportation • [Linkedin.com/in/natecd](https://www.linkedin.com/in/natecd)

April 12, 2018

Mayor Kol Medina, Deputy Mayor Sarah Blossom, Councilmember Ron Peltier, Councilmember Rasham Nassar, Councilmember Joe Deets, Councilmember Matthew Tirman  
City of Bainbridge Island

Dear Mayor Medina, Deputy Mayor Blossom, and Councilmembers,

I am excited to submit my application for appointment as the next Councilmember for the Central Ward of Bainbridge Island. The purpose that drives me has always been to contribute to the wellbeing of communities. The greatest achievements in my career have come when presented by a compelling vision shared by a community in search of a hard-working champion, willing to serve as a tireless catalyst. I have always thrown myself at opportunities to make a difference, be it in urban planning, economic development, housing, education, health, or public transportation. I want to use this letter to explain how that experience has prepared me for this opportunity.

For most of the past year, I have been the lead negotiator for dozens of agreements with private property owners on behalf of the City of Seattle. These negotiations represent the final, critical path for many Seattle Department of Transportation projects. I've taken complex engineering drawings and esoteric technical concepts and presented our projects and plans to property owners in a way that is approachable and understandable. By listening, practicing empathy, and being responsive and accountable, I've completed the property-negotiation process for new sidewalks, natural storm-water drainage systems, ADA-compliant curb ramps, and repaving projects. It has been great to contribute to the transformation of the city of my birth in a way that reinforces the sense of purpose in my career.

Over the prior three years I launched a successful economic development concept envisioned by leaders of the University of Washington and the Seattle tech community. Being an effective liaison was the most important part of my job as the founding manager of Startup Hall. By building relationships across campus and throughout the city, I was able to recruit event organizers, mentors, sponsors, and members. Many contributed to our success, including volunteers, figureheads, founding members, and their referrals. We convinced these early adopters to participate, listened to their ideas, and followed through on their advice, which in turn, created a community with a sense of ownership and pride. As a result, Startup Hall was full at nine months, and cash-flow-positive by the 18-month mark.

I've always been an inclusive, mission-driven individual who takes initiative and follows through. A common thread throughout all my experience is that I love working with people to learn, solve problems, and bring a shared vision to life. The variety of clientele, combined with the purpose of helping residents, entrepreneurs, public leaders, and coalitions achieve their goals is, I hope, just the beginning of a long career of transformational community development. I see this as a great opportunity to do exactly that. Working to serve the people of Bainbridge Island is right where I want to be.

Sincerely,



Nathan Daum

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linkedin.com/in/natecd

2014 NAOP  
Challenge

## education

University of Washington  
MA Urban Planning, Real Estate Specialization, 2014

Western Washington University  
BA History, 2002

## proficiencies

Public Speaking Advanced

Writing and Editing Advanced

MS Excel Advanced

MS Word Advanced

Nexus Advanced

ESRI GIS Intermediate

Adobe Creative Suite  
Intermediate

Sketchup Intermediate

AutoCad Novice

## volunteering

Great City Board of Directors

UW Planning Students Association  
Professionals Council Liaison

Leschi Community Council  
Land Use Chair 2008-2010:  
Monitored actions using city and county online map tools, produced content/events

Uptown Alliance  
Transportation Co-Chair  
2003-2004: Reviewed, presented city policy, drafted responses in partnership with Co-Chair D. John Coney

Futurewise Advocacy and Policy Coordinator

## work experience

City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) | Real Property Agent  
June 2017-Present

- Negotiate with property owners for the acquisition of real property rights per federal guidelines and the Uniform Relocation Act
- Maintain necessary real property diaries and records
- Perform comprehensive research into proposed transactions such as deeds easements, title searches, and right of way restrictions
- Prepare documents such as temporary easements
- Read and interpret legal descriptions as well as read and interpret right of way and construction plans and maps

UW Startup Hall | Founding Manager  
June 2014-June 2017

- Launched new, 15,000-SF coworking community for top Seattle tech entrepreneurs
- Hosted 80+ companies, who raised almost \$30 million in venture capital
- Filled vacant space within 9 months due to popularity of program, word of mouth, events, and direct outreach/networking
- Established strict criteria (below 50% admission)
- Developed all policies and procedures, sourced and selected all services/products
- Aided UW Real Estate legal staff in developing contract templates
- Prepared contracts, and managed their execution and proper record-keeping
- Recruited, hired, and managed staff of four (plus 10-15 volunteers at a time)

UW Real Estate | Graduate Student Internship  
May 2013-June 2014

- Managed UW Medicine IT move into two floors of IBM Tower, partnering with department admins, facilities staff, move managers, designers, suppliers, and installers
- Researched zoning, boundary line history, and other technical information for potential disposition, acquisition, or other action on campus and at field stations
- Searched and referenced title reports, deeds, correspondence, and other files
- Used ESRI GIS software to analyze data downloaded from online sources hosted by various counties and municipalities as well as UW-developed and stored shapefiles

Great City | Programming and Outreach  
May 2012-April 2013

- Recruited speakers and produced monthly community/professional event series
- Produced social, blog, and HTML newsletter content and grew digital engagement

Weber Shandwick | Account Supervisor  
October 2011-March 2012

- Improved local awareness of Bank of America community investment
- Coached ST Link contractor Traylor-Frontier-Kemper on community engagement
- Developed creative new business proposals and led presentations to prospective clients

The Fearey Group | Senior Account Executive  
June 2010-October 2011

- Managed stakeholder meeting and open house outreach for Seattle Department of Transportation First Hill Streetcar Project
- Organized Sound Transit public outreach to inform Sounder station area improvements
- Developed and launched National Development Council social media program
- Secured industry honors for Security Properties
- Helped Vulcan RE solidify South Lake Union as a top urban revitalization success story

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April 12, 2018

Supplemental Questionnaire

Central Ward City Council Appointment

1. *Why are you interested in serving as a Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?*

From the moment we moved into our new home six months ago, I knew I never wanted to move again. I was amazed at the ease with which we'd already made meaningful connections since moving here six months prior. We had come for the schools, but were immediately enchanted by the environment, and overwhelmed by the spirit of community. Just about every day we feel grateful to live here. I am passionate about protecting what makes this place special, and motivated to provide a guiding hand in the areas of my expertise in service of the will of the voters. I am moved whenever I think of the shared vision laid out in the aspirational *Vision 2036*. It reflects my own dream for the future of our island as an inclusive, thriving, sustainable community. It is my purpose in life as a professional to take up the banner of community and serve as an empathetic, hard-working catalyst for the shared vision of that community. It would be an honor to give back to the island I now call home in this way.

2. *What strength would you bring to the Council?*

My expertise is in urban planning. I have a master's degree from the University of Washington in Urban Design and Planning, with a specialization in Real Estate. I have studied, worked professionally, and volunteered in the realm of growth management, land use, and transportation. As a professional, my approach is based on strengths of creative problem-solving, taking initiative, following through, customer service, and building rapport. For more than 15 years I have applied those strengths within public agencies, non-profits, and consulting firms. I would like to bring that creative, tireless, collaborative spirit to the Bainbridge Island City Council.

3. *What are the three highest priorities and/or issues you believe the City needs to address? How would you propose to address these issues?*

Growth, transportation, and the environment, all three of which are inextricably linked. The choices we made as a community 10, 20 years ago and beyond have had lasting impacts, positive and negative, on the Island. They will continue to pay dividends, or levy costs on our community for decades hence. I would propose to address those issues by reaching out to the community to ensure whatever solutions we propose match the vision of the community. I would further look at our proposals through the lens of many years' experience in public policy and studying the results as well as unintended consequences of past policy in the areas of growth, transportation and environment. What are the long-term ramifications of decisions before us today? What are the opportunity costs of one policy direction over another? And, crucially, how do decisions we make, however well-intentioned, match with our rhetoric, the will of the voters, the framework in which we operate as mandated by the state, or legally? These are the sorts of questions a high-functioning body like our City Council can and should ask, and I would be eager to work collaboratively with fellow councilmembers to make sure we consider these important questions, and pursue where they lead us, hopefully to better outcomes.

4. *Explain your current and past community involvement and/or service on city, nonprofit, or public boards, committees, task forces, or commissions and how this has contributed to the Bainbridge Island community. Address its relevance to the position of Bainbridge Island City Councilmember.*

For a high-functioning representative City Council, you need councilmembers well-versed in public process and local politics. I was the communications manager for a successful state-constitution-amendment campaign. I ran outreach programs for the Seattle Streetcar, Sounder commuter rail, and the Seattle Monorail Project. I have served as a board member for two neighborhood councils, one Seattle-wide non-profit, and other ad-hoc campaigns to which I contributed transportation, land use, and communications expertise. I have testified in person and in writing to city council as a member of several coalitions, both as a private citizen and in a professional capacity. I am always eager to put that experience to use and try to make a difference. Most recently at UW I involved entrepreneurs in local policymaking. These startup executives wanted to see their neighborhood grow gracefully to accommodate the growth of their companies but had limited time to participate in city planning processes. To address this challenge, I briefed them on the city's zoning and urban design proposals, encouraging them to share their views in testimony at hearings and comment at open houses. An ambitious, broadly-shared vision for the University District's future growth was approved. This year, The District's first new high-rise in more than three decades is expected to receive final design approval.

5. *What do you wish to accomplish during this appointed term as Bainbridge Island City Councilmember?*

Excellence and clarity in land use policy. I see this vacancy as an opportunity to bring my background in planning, land use, and real estate economics to bear for the benefit of the neighborhood in which I hope to spend the rest of my life. I have spent many years researching and analyzing policy. For example, while working in the University of Washington's Real Estate office, I determined property rights or zoning change impacts related to the full range of land-use types: urban, rural, shoreline, natural-areas such as UW's field station locations. Land use, transportation, and environmental considerations are all linked. Uncovering those linkages through policy to present actionable recommendations has always been my passion. And these are policy areas that can cause a great deal of concern in our community. The council's first value, of listening to the community and representing its interests and goals is especially important in this area. The City of Bainbridge Island needs someone to bring together people, policy, and technical concepts to manage growth effectively, and serve as the primary contact with the residential and business community. That is just the kind of role I've been preparing for. Prior to graduate school, I worked for eight years as a planning and outreach consultant to residents, executives, entrepreneurs, local governments, and non-profits. I worked closely with some of the Seattle area's top real estate developers. I led communications efforts for high-rise luxury real estate, public housing, and office projects. Land uses tend to change the look and feel of the built environment. Change can be hard. While not everyone will be satisfied in the end, no matter the policy, the best we can hope for is a process by which we can listen effectively, reassuring the community they have our ear on all the issues they care about. Because at the end of the day, perception is reality.

6. *What is your vision for our City and community?*

Bainbridge Island is an exceptional place. It is a place blanketed by beautiful, unspoiled nature, home to vibrant home gardens visited by a diversity of wildlife, high-achieving young people, active and charming neighborhood centers and a networked community of compassionate people who love where they live. I believe there is a future for Bainbridge that promises still more of that which makes this community special today. More natural areas preserved. Working farms thriving. More of us, of all abilities, comfortable traveling the island in sustainable, healthful ways. More places to call home in places we've already committed to development and intensive human use, bringing more business into our local enterprises, and more service sector workers into our community, saving everyone some of the economic and environmental costs of travel. A vibrant community welcoming of those who wish to live here among us, with all of us living in harmony with our environment. Our City government, in an open, collaborative, highly-transparent and accessible manner, will play the central role in the realization of our shared vision as a community. It is not mere coincidence my vision is similar to shared vision hammered out over the past few years leading up to the completion of the Vision 2036 statement in the comprehensive plan. Indeed, it is a part of the appeal of the place that this is a community that knows its strengths and has a vision for its future. It would be my honor to work on ensuring that vision becomes a reality.

7. *Is there anything else that you may wish to add that would help us get to know you a little better?*

It has always been a dream of mine to hold public office. I've worked closely with and campaigned for friends who've won political positions. I've been encouraged to seek elective office by mentors many times throughout my career who have found my passion and character traits a good match for the job. For the first time in my life, that advice seems undeniably correct. When I learned of this opportunity, I could not ignore the sense that here, with the set of issues before us as a community, was a place where I could do the most good. A place where my passion for the public interest and all my experience and background would be useful. I'm ready to go to work.