

Form Name: Boards and Commissions Application
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Voter registration verified
City:
By: MH

Applicant Information

Name Émilie Chane

Are you a Sunnyvale resident? Yes

How long have you lived in Sunnyvale? 10+ years (Since 2015)

Description Area Residence Notice:Unless otherwise noted, your principal place of residence must be in Sunnyvale. You must live in Sunnyvale at the time of appointment and at all times during service on a board or commission.

Current Main Residence [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Phone [REDACTED]

Description Area Employment NoticeCity of Sunnyvale employees may not serve on a board or commission.

I am a current City of Sunnyvale employee. No

Have you ever served on a City of Sunnyvale board or commission? No

Have you attended a meeting of the City Council, or a board or commission? No

Have you attended meetings of the board(s) or commission(s) for which you are applying? Yes

How many meetings have you attended? 0 - Planning to attend the April 20, 2026 meeting and future meetings regularly. I recently learned about the Sustainability Commission and am excited to get involved!

Board or Commission Selection

First Choice Sustainability Commission

Applicant Qualifications

What motivated you to apply for this board or commission?

I'm applying to the Sunnyvale Sustainability Commission because I'd like to be more directly involved in how sustainability goals turn into real, local action.

Over the past year, I've become more involved in sustainability through my work in marketing and communications with Environmental Volunteers, as well as supporting a global sustainability conference. This experience made me really interested in what happens between big ideas and actual implementation-especially at the city level.

What stood out to me about Sunnyvale's Climate Action Playbook is how structured and concrete it is. I'm particularly interested in how these initiatives are communicated, understood, and adopted by residents, because that's often where things either work or don't.

What skills or attributes can you bring to this board or commission?

I can bring a practical perspective on how sustainability efforts actually reach people and translate into action.

My background is in technology and communications, and one of my strengths is making complex topics easier to understand and act on. At Slack, I worked on product and AI feature launches, and in my sustainability work, I've focused on engagement-how to get people to actually participate, not just be aware.

I also tend to think in a very user-focused way: how residents experience programs, what might be confusing or a barrier, and what could make things easier to adopt.

I stay connected to the local tech ecosystem as well, which makes it easy for me to gather informal feedback and perspectives when relevant. I think that can help bring an additional lens into discussions-how people and organizations actually respond to new initiatives in practice.

The primary role of a board or commission member is to provide advice to City Council on policy issues that are within the scope of the board or commission. What steps would you take to effectively exercise this specific board or commission role?

I would come prepared by reviewing staff reports and understanding how each topic connects to the Climate Action Playbook and the City's broader goals.

During meetings, I'd focus on listening carefully and asking clear, practical questions-especially around implementation and how proposals will work in practice.

I'd also try to bring a perspective on how residents might experience these initiatives, since adoption is such an important part of success.

Outside of meetings, I'd stay engaged with local sustainability topics and continue learning over time, while also talking to people in the community to better understand their perspectives.

Education - List college degrees, majors and any relevant training or experience that demonstrates your ability to effectively serve on this board or commission.

I hold a Master's degree in Biochemical and Food Engineering from INSA Toulouse and a Master's degree in Marketing from Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

My background is in digital marketing and communications, with experience in both tech and consumer environments, including supporting product and AI feature launches at Slack (Salesforce).

I'm currently taking courses on AI tools for marketing, PR, and communications at UC Santa Cruz Silicon Valley Extension, with a focus on responsible and effective engagement in sustainability. I've also completed emergency preparedness training and am currently enrolled in CERT training with the City of Sunnyvale. I was recently selected for the Climate Reality Leadership Corps Training, focused on climate communication and action.

Describe your involvement in community activities, volunteer and civic organizations.

I currently support Environmental Volunteers, a nonprofit providing hands-on environmental education to over 10,000 students each year across Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. I help with community events and social media to increase outreach and engagement.

I also participate in BioBlitz Newts, a citizen science initiative focused on documenting Pacific newt migration and road mortality in the South Bay.

In parallel, I support a global sustainability conference in Vietnam, organized with academic and international partners, bringing together stakeholders across research, policy, industry, and civil society.

Description Area

The City has a Code of Ethics and Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials and an Attendance Policy (7.2.19), 2 G (II) that appointed members are required to follow.

Do you have any concerns related to the above code and policy? No

Are you willing to accept a temporary appointment for the remainder of an unexpired term? Yes

Board or Commission-Specific Questions

Sustainability Commission

Category One: I'm a Sunnyvale resident. Yes

Category Two: I'm a Sunnyvale business community member. No

Sustainability is a new and emerging concern in many communities. What do you think are the primary sustainability policy issues this commission will be addressing over the next few years?

I think the main focus will be on transportation and buildings, since those are the biggest sources of emissions. For transportation, it's about accelerating EV adoption but also reducing how much people rely on cars overall. For buildings, the challenge is transitioning away from natural gas, especially in existing homes, which is more complex than new construction. I also think a big issue will be to scale adoption-making sure programs are easy to understand and realistic for residents to actually follow. And finally, climate adaptation will become more important over time, especially around heat and resilience.

Description Area View the Climate Action Playbook

Have you read the above version of the Climate Action Playbook? Yes

What are your thoughts on the Playbook? How might the actions ("Plays") be improved? What stood out to me is how structured and concrete the Climate Action Playbook is-it clearly connects goals to specific actions. One thing that stood out is how much success depends on adoption. The solutions are there, but the challenge is getting people to actually participate. I think there's an opportunity to keep improving how programs are communicated and designed, so they're easier to understand and adopt in practice.

Your Agreement

Description Area IMPORTANT NOTICE - READ BEFORE SIGNING:By selecting both "Yes" and "Submit Form" below I am adding my digital signature to this application. I am also agreeing with the following statements:All statements I have made on this application are true and correct.I authorize the City of Sunnyvale (City) to investigate the accuracy of this information.I release the City from all claims and liabilities arising from such investigation.I acknowledge that any false statement on this application will be grounds for the City to deny my appointment. A false statement discovered later, will be grounds to dismiss me from my appointment at any time.I acknowledge that any false statement on this application could lead to criminal charges. Charges could fall under California Penal Code, Section 115 or other applicable law.

I agree Yes

Your full name Émilie Chane

Date Apr 16, 2026
