



# CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE PLANNING COMMISSION APPLICATION

1. Name: Cameron Cosgrove
2. How long have you lived in San Clemente? 9 years
3. What is your occupation? Retired

4. Please explain why you would like to serve on the Planning Commission.

I want to continue my service on the Planning Commission. I have enjoyed the past year on the PC and have come up to speed on critical planning issues such as the housing element update, Centennial General Plan and Implementation program, Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan (LUP), West Pico Corridor Specific Plan.

I feel it is important to work with City Staff on the Implementation Plan for the General Plan. I see part of my role is to seek out and listen to stakeholders view points regarding the impacts changes may have and bring those concerns to the attention of Staff so stakeholders feel heard and their concerns are addressed.

I see the adoption of a new LCP as very important because it will give the City more control over approving projects within the City's Coastal Zone and will streamline the Coastal Development Permit review process for project applicants. I would also like to participate on the Design Review subcommittee for the deep dives into projects.

5. Please explain how your background and experience would contribute to the Planning Commission.

There are many opportunities for stakeholder engagement to improve the process of making public policy and obtain buy-in on implementation plans. I have the time to engage stakeholders for the purpose of listening and being a well informed commissioner.

As part of the West Pico Corridors specific plan, I have met in person with numerous business owners in the Los Molinos industrial zone to listen to their needs, plans and thoughts about the architectural overlay district. I have participated in their Los Molinos association meetings to understand their perspective and share that feedback with City Staff. There is great interest by business owners to make this part of town more engaging as well as remain industrial. It is important to listen to stakeholders so we can build a better City together.

I have over 10 years experience in City planning, policy and budgets.

6. What is your educational background?

High School/Colleges Attended	Major Field of Study	Degree?
University High School, Irvine	General	Yes
California State University, Long Beach	Business Administration	BS

7. In your opinion, what are the three top qualities of San Clemente that should remain unchanged for future generations?

1. Public Safety and quality of life is paramount with family oriented community development standards

2. Small town feel is part of why SC feels so special and charming. Keeping SC a small town while implementing General Plan is a balancing act of competing interests--which should be done with transparency and engagement.

3. Keeping our beaches safe and clean with sand protection programs is essential to the City

8. In your opinion, what are three characteristics of San Clemente that are most in need of correction?

1. Finding ways to enable stakeholders to success where interests are addressed fairly without micro management. Retaining top talent in the planning department.

2. Continued General Plan Implementation. Local Coastal Program is critical to take control over the coastal zone.

3. Downtown parking. Create a program to address the need for more parking. Finding creative ways to improve El Camino Real.

9. Please explain any experience that you have had in community, governmental, charitable or educational affairs.

The past year on the PC has been a great experience for me to contribute back to this great City. I have learned a lot about the General Plan, Coastal Zone challenges, Community Development Department staff, processes and their challenges. I'm very supportive of our professional staff and enjoy partnering with them to make their jobs more enriching and successful.

As described in question 5, I have 10 years of well-rounded and indepth participation as a City of Irvine public official in the public hearing process establishing public policy, updating elements of the General Plan, granting land use entitlements, Conditional Use permits, applying City Zoning code, reviewing EIR's, understanding traffic models and reviewing City budgets.

I was a core participant in Irvine's General Plan Amendment 16 that revised land, open space, noise and circulation elements of the general plan. 16,000 acres of open space was created along with several zoning code updates. Was given the Conservation Award in 1990 from Sea & Sage Audubon Society for this work.

I was also very involved in the Irvine Business Complex mixed-use urban planning envisioning in 2004-2006.

10. Please describe your ideal vision for San Clemente's future (as it pertains to growth and development).

Retaining the charm of San Clemente. Which to me means keeping the City small. No massive high rises, etc. Making smart land use decisions to help grow City revenue and to serve the community with well designed in-fill projects and remodels.

Looking for creative opportunities to renew community engagement such as in the Los Molinos district.

Improving design aesthetics: City Gateways, visual effect of signage, streetscapes and landscapes

Community improvements to the Pier bowl, El Camion Real and Downtown areas and surrounding beaches, parks for residents and visitors.

Finding ways to facilitate safe use of bicycles to help increase public transportation without impacting parking and traffic.

11. The Planning Commission meets on the Wednesday following the City Council's Regular meeting at 6:00 p.m. Please explain any challenges, if any, you may have in meeting this commitment.

No issues attending meeting. I have a good attendance record.

12. If you could influence the City of San Clemente in just one way, what would that be?

Expand parking Downtown.

In addition to more parking spaces, the City is already doing well with the Trolley as an alternative mode of transportation. The rise in popularity of ebikes presents challenges and opportunities for alternative transportation.

13. Do you have any experience with historic preservation or architectural history? If so, please explain:

As part of the current PC commission, I have had the opportunity to review historical home remodels and remodels 300 feet within a historical building. I see clear paths to updating buildings for safety and remodels while preserving the historical context and architecture.

As an Irvine City Councilmember listened closely to the Irvine Historical Society regarding preserving Irvine's farming heritage while finding a path forward for developed uses. I was involved in negotiations with developers to address historical themes with preservation or representation of Irvine's heritage either on-site or off-site.

14. Please use the space below to explain any other factors about yourself that you would like for the Councilmembers to consider as they review your application.

In the past year of my service on the PC, I have been enjoyed the community engagement and have improved the flow of communications as well as listened to concerns voiced about past encounters with the design review subcommittee that were overreaching. I am very sensitive to finding the right approach and balance to making our City architectural great while respecting and paying attention to stakeholder and applicants rights and points of view.

I had been accepted into the San Clemente City Leadership program for Spring 2020. Given the program is on hold until conditions are safe, I would participate in the next scheduled program.

I participate annually in the 1 mile swim at the Ocean Festival and walk on the beach trail on a frequent basis. I appreciate San Clemente's small town atmosphere; while at the same time keeping San Clemente a highly desired visitor destination.

Overall, I believe the City is doing great things and don't have the perspective that big changes are needed. Just that we need to take responsibilities seriously for keeping San Clemente a great place live, work and play--and make advancements in a fair, public and measured way.