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Q1: Candidate Information

Name: Chad M. Averett

Street Address: 1206 Saint Tropez Dr.
City, State & Zip: Carrollton, TX 75006

Phone Number (Day & Night): 214-883-7523

Years Lived in Carrollton: 27

Email Address: averett.chad@gmail.com

Q2: Board PreferencesList choice in order of preference (1st, 2nd and 3rd)

1st Choice: Planning and Zoning Commission

2nd Choice: Parks and Recreation Board

3rd Choice: Historic Preservation Advisory Committee

Q3: Provide the name and the date(s) of prior service, if any, on any Carrollton board:

Planning and Zoning Commission: March 2014 - present (Vice Chair December 2014 - present).

Capital Improvements Plan Advisory Committee: April 2011 - March 2014 (Vice Chair September 2011 - March 2014).

Q4: Are you currently holding any public office or appointment? If so, what?

Yes; Vice Chair of Planning and Zoning Commission.

Boards & Commission Applications

Q5: Please list any special knowledge, education or experience that qualifies you to serve in the areas you have indicated and explain why you are seeking an appointment. Also, list any business or personal relationships with the city that might create a conflict of interest or that may affect your ability to serve.

I hold three degrees from Southern Methodist University in finance, public policy and economics with financial applications. In conjunction with these degrees, I also have a minor in political science and a certificate in leadership. During my time at SMU, I served as the sole student representative on the University Admissions Council, was a founder or founding member of several organizations including a peer mentor program and served as the President of SMU's International Relations Council and Model United Nations team among other pursuits. Within the Cox School of Business, I was selected as one of three students to represent SMU at the Wall Street Journal Nationwide BizQuiz. I am a 2006 graduate of Youth Leadership Metrocrest and a 2013 graduate of Leadership Metrocrest. I currently work for a real estate research and analytics firm. I believe my educational background and variety of other experiences serve well for the position I am seeking.

I have served as the Vice Chair of both the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Capital Improvements Plan Advisory Committee and in both cases have run meetings multiple times in the Chair's absence. I am deeply committed to and love the work I do on the Planning and Zoning Commission. I read through each meeting packet multiple times, taking numerous notes, asking questions and driving to view each project during this process of preparation. I keep track of what is going on in city council meetings and try to consider any impacts this may have on a project or vice versa. As a result of planning and commitment, in the nearly five and a half years I have served on city boards, I have never missed or been late to a meeting.

I am seeking an appointment because I want to better the community I have lived in for 27 years. I bring energy and fresh ideas along with the skill set necessary to be effective in this position. I am very confident that I can continue to make a truly meaningful contribution. I possess no conflicts of interest.

Q6: What do you perceive to be Carrollton's two greatest strengths?

One of Carrollton's greatest strengths is its' low crime rate and overall excellent public safety. This is a key component in marketing the city to prospective residents and companies. It is one of the main reasons Carrollton has been named to Money Magazine's "Best Places to Live" for several years and was named one of the "50 Safest Cities in Texas" by SafeWise.

I believe Carrollton's second greatest strength is its affordable housing and relatively low cost of living compared not only to the rest of the nation, but also locally. A testament to this was when the city came in sixth on WalletHub's list of the "Heathiest Housing Markets" in the country.

Q7: What do you perceive to be Carrollton's two greatest weaknesses?

Carrollton's greatest weakness is its' lack of a sizable business community. Although we have a foreign trade zone and over 9,000 businesses, we have little in the way of executive level employment. Carrollton households on average earn 47% more per year than the average Texas household. Unfortunately, in too many cases, the jobs allowing for this standard of living are not available within the city limits forcing residents to seek jobs in other cities. These job centers also take with them many of the restaurant, retail, hotel and other facilities that we are trying to attract to our city. Carrollton is "Where Connections Happen", and we need to make sure it is happening on every level. I believe Carrollton's second greatest weakness is the lack of tourism and destination/landmark facilities within the city limits. Tourists and visitors from other area cities can bring large amounts of money to Carrollton's economy, but unfortunately we are losing out on many of those dollars to other local cities. Fortunately, we are making great progress in this area as we have recently opened the Carrollton Conference Center and adjoining Courtyard hotel as well as achieved a record high retail occupancy rate of 92% in our largest retail centers.