
Profile

Ray

First Name

Baxter

Last Name

Middle
Initial

Email Address

Street Address

City

Suite or Apt

State

Postal Code

Mailing Address (if different than Resident Address above)

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Length of Residence in the City of Napa:

2 years

Registered to vote in the City of Napa?☒ Yes ☐ No

Critical Juncture

Employer

Software Developer

Job Title

Upload a Resume**Education:**

University of Kentucky, BA Biological Sciences 1983 Stanford University, PhD Biological Sciences 1992

Please list two local references and their phone numbers:**Gender ***☒ Male

Interests & Experiences

Note: This application allows you to apply for multiple Boards, Commission and Committees; however, only one application can be submitted. Please ensure that your responses clearly address your interest, qualifications, and relevant experience for *each* Board, Commission or Committee you are applying to.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) : Submitted

Members can only serve on 1 commission, committee or board at one time. If you are applying multiple bodies, which would you prefer?

Just the 1.

Community Service Experience:

Trustee, Children's Day School, San Francisco 2008-2012 PTA President, Children's Day School, 2007-2008 Board Member and Secretary, Westwind International 1998-2002

Other relevant experience or expertise:

Data analysis, software development. Active walker, hiker, cyclist.

Additional Questions

What is your understanding of the role and responsibility of this board?

My understanding is that the Active Transportation Advisory Committee advises NVTA on ways to promote and encourage safe walking and bicycling throughout Napa County. The committee's role is advisory rather than administrative: to review issues, plans, and priorities; bring community perspective; identify practical barriers to walking and biking; and offer constructive input to NVTA staff and decision-makers. For the City of Napa, I see the work as part of continuing to become a safer, more connected, and more welcoming place for people walking and bicycling. That includes attention to safe routes, crossings, visibility, connections to transit and destinations, and the everyday experience of people using streets and paths outside of cars. I would see my responsibility as a committee member as listening carefully, coming prepared, asking practical questions, and helping NVTA consider improvements that are realistic, equitable, and useful for people of different ages and abilities.

Have you ever attended a meeting of this board? If so, how many?

No.

What duties of this board are most interesting to you?

I am most interested in the committee's work related to everyday mobility: helping people reach daily needs by walking, bicycling, or connecting safely to transit. Active transportation matters most to me when it supports ordinary life — getting to work, school, shopping, appointments, parks, and transit without needing to rely on a car for every trip. As I age, I want to be able to remain independent, and I think many residents share that concern whether they are seniors, students, workers, parents, people with disabilities, or people who simply prefer to make some trips outside of a car. For that reason, I am especially interested in advising on implementation of the countywide Active Transportation Plan and on Vision Zero-related efforts that improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists. I am also interested in the committee's role in identifying practical barriers and opportunities: unsafe crossings, disconnected routes, difficult access to transit stops, gaps in sidewalks or bike facilities, and places where better design could make walking and bicycling safer and more realistic choices.

What activities of this board are least interesting to you?

Although I enjoy bicycling and walking recreationally, I am less interested in recreation-only projects than in work that improves everyday mobility, safety, access, and independence. My strongest interest is in projects that help people walk, bicycle, or connect to transit for daily needs. I recognize that recreational facilities can also support transportation goals when they improve connectivity and safety, so I would approach them with that broader value in mind.

What programs or projects would you like to see improved or implemented?

I have attended NVTa outreach related to the Active Transportation Plan and submitted comments on the plan. I would like to see the plan move from planning and outreach into steady, prioritized implementation throughout Napa County, including within the City of Napa. I am especially interested in projects that make walking and bicycling safer and more practical for everyday trips. That includes safer crossings, connected bicycle routes, sidewalk and pathway gaps, traffic calming, visibility improvements, and attention to locations where pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles come into conflict. I would also like to see continued progress on Vision Zero-related safety efforts, with a particular focus on pedestrian and cyclist safety. In addition, I would like to see stronger connections between active transportation and transit, including secure bike parking, safer walking and bicycling routes to transit stops, better pedestrian infrastructure near stops, and improvements that make transit easier to reach without driving.

How would you approach improving these project(s) or program(s)?

I would approach improvement by combining lived experience, data, and practical implementation. I believe people respond strongly to stories: their own experiences and the experiences of others. Data, funding, and engineering constraints are crucial, but they become more meaningful when connected to real situations — a senior who cannot safely cross a street, a student without a safe bike route to school, or a worker who cannot comfortably reach a transit stop. I would listen for recurring barriers, compare those experiences with available safety and transportation data, and support improvements that are realistic, prioritized, and clearly explained to the public. My focus would be on projects that improve safety, close gaps in the walking and bicycling network, connect people to transit and daily needs, and can be implemented in a practical sequence.

Are you involved in any organizations or activities that may result in a conflict of interest if you are appointed to this board?

I am currently a member of the Napa Valley Bicycle Coalition Policy Advisory Board and the Eagles Cycling Club. To my knowledge, these affiliations do not create a financial or legal conflict of interest, but I recognize that the Bicycle Coalition's policy work may overlap with issues considered by ATAC. I would serve as an individual member, not as a representative of either organization, and would disclose these affiliations and follow any guidance regarding participation, recusal, or continued service if a specific conflict were identified.

How did you learn of this vacancy?

☒ Other

Applicants appointed to a Boards, Committee, or Commission will be required to take an oath of office. All application will be kept on file for one year from the date of application.

Public Records Act

Applications are public records that are subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act. Information provided by the applicant is not regarded as confidential except for the addresses and phone numbers of references and the applicant's personal information including home and work addresses, phone numbers and email address.