

April 28, 2023

Dear Hon. Walker-Myers and Members of the Board of Alders,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Zoning Appeals for the City of New Haven. I believe that New Haven should be a city where its residents and businesses can thrive. As a member of the BZA, I would strive to consider fairly the applications that come before the commission. I believe that zoning and land use are among the most important functions of municipal government, and that how we choose to write, enforce, and modify zoning codes can play a major role in shaping the future of New Haven and its residents. The city's zoning laws and their application can determine major issues like the shape our city takes and the units of affordable housing that are available for our residents. Ultimately, I want to serve on the BZA because I want to apply my interest in and knowledge of urban policy to help make sure that we can all live in a thriving, diverse, and equitable community.

More generally, I value public service and community involvement. I have great respect for the Board of Alders' legislative agenda as a set of guiding principles for our city. Before coming to New Haven, I worked in Washington DC at progressive Jewish organization doing policy advocacy on voting rights, criminal justice reform, and immigration reform, and as a research analyst on American politics at a think tank. I have served my community in many other ways and look forward to incorporating service on the BZA as part of this work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adam Waters