



**Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m.
Friday, January 6, 2017**

**CITY OF SANTA CLARITA
CITY COUNCIL
APPOINTMENT APPLICATION**

Submit signed original application and letters of recommendation to the City Clerk's Office by the deadline. No late applications, postmarks, copies, electronic submissions, or faxes accepted.

PLEASE ATTACH THREE (3) LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION TO THIS APPLICATION

APPLICANT NAME Joan Carol Sodergren	RESIDENCE ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
EMAIL ADDRESS		
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: 1. Are you a registered voter? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (Applicant must be a registered voter residing in the City of Santa Clarita at time of appointment.) 2. Are you now or have you ever served on a City Commission / Committee? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If so, which one(s)?		
EDUCATION: Indicate the highest year completed and degrees received: Bachelor of Science in Child Development from University of California, Davis		
EMPLOYMENT: Employer's name, address, phone and your position or title: Assurance Learning Academy 32248 Crown Valley Road, Acton, Ca. 93510 (661) 418-1224 Special Education teacher-9th through 12th grade Part-time, two days a week.		
YOUR REASONS FOR WANTING TO SERVE (Additional information may be attached to application.) I am a relatively new Santa Clarita Valley resident, moving to this community from the Antelope Valley where I lived and served for 37 years. Serving one's community is exemplified in many important areas. I have served on the Board of Directors for a California State Park, as a founding Board member for the Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery, as the Treasurer for an educational foundation, as a PTA President and other Board positions for our daughter's schools, as President of three school Site Councils (elementary, middle school and high school), as a Sunday School teacher, as a substitute teacher from kindergarten to high school, as a special education teacher, as a member of the UCLA Parent Council, and as a Trustee on the Westside Union School District Board of Trustees for 11 years. These positions were service opportunities in my previous community. However, I am anxious to become an active member of this thriving area. Individuals with whom I have had the opportunity to serve refer to me as a conservative and Christian voice, a skilled administrator, a passionate advocate for children and those in need, a thoughtful decision maker, and an educational leader. I would like to serve on the Santa Clarita City Council and become a participating member of your effective and successful governance team. I am proud of my new community and I can see what your hard work has accomplished for all members of the Santa Clarita Valley.		

Application and entire application package become public record upon receipt.

(continued on next page)

QUALIFICATIONS OR EXPERIENCE (As applicable to the purpose and subject matter of the City Council, and additional information may be attached to application.)

Through my service as a trustee on the Westside Union School District Board of Trustees for 11 years, I understand what good governance is and I know how to model it. I am very familiar with the Brown Act and know the rules and practices surrounding that law. I know what it means to be a trusted and honest leader and I value and honor that distinction. I know the importance of preparing for a meeting by reading documents and materials provided by staff and listening to all community concerns. A poorly prepared governance team member is not serving the community and is not an educated voting member of a Board. I am practiced in respectively listening to all viewpoints, including those voiced by community stakeholders and fellow governance team members, with civility and respect. As an escrow office manager and school district trustee, I very thoroughly understand the importance of property values and the effect upward movement or downward fall of property values has on a community, its economy, its businesses, its schools, and its homeowners. I know that taxpayer money, earned through the hard work of property and business owners, must be spent wisely without prejudice or favor. I have experience managing large budgets, campaigning in the community for the passage of bonds, and know the value of credit ratings. I understand the many facets of a Human Resources Department and have dealt with employee matters, both hiring and discipline. Lastly, I have been an exemplary community member, as evidenced by past endorsements by Supervisor Michael Antonovich, Congressman Steve Knight, Mayor James Ledford of the City of Palmdale, and State Board of Equalization Member George Runner. Please see attached Resume.

Prior to appointment, voter registration status will be verified.

Upon appointment, a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700) is required.

DAYTIME AND EVENING AVAILABILITY IS REQUIRED

I declare that the information furnished herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



APPLICANT SIGNATURE

January 6, 2017

DATE

Joan Carol Sodergren

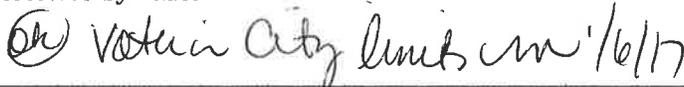
CITY OF SANTA CLARITA

APPLICANT NAME (PRINTED)

2017 JAN 6 AM 11:32

FOR CITY USE ONLY

Received by / date



CITY CLERKS OFFICE

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Joan Carol Sodergren

Education

California State University, Bakersfield

- Special Education teaching credential for moderate/severe students

University of California, Davis

- Bachelor of Science Degree in Child Development

Professional Experience

Special Education teacher

2009 to Present

- Moderate/Severe from infants to adults

Substitute teacher

2000 to 2009

- General education and special education from kindergarten to 12th grade

TMC Escrow Company – Palmdale Branch

1983-1990

- Manager/Escrow Officer
- Staff of 32

Volunteer Service

1997-Present

- Westside Union School District, Board of Trustees, elected November 2005
- Friends of the Lancaster Cemetery Board of Directors
- Friends of the Antelope Valley Indian Museum California State Park Board of Directors
- Sunday School teacher Central Christian Church (Special Needs-kindergarten to 5th grade)
- Rancho Vista Elementary School and Joe Walker Middle School parent volunteer
- PTA Board, President and several Board positions
- Rancho Vista Elementary School Site Council (Member and President)
- Joe Walker Middle School Site Council (Member and President)
- Quartz Hill High School parent volunteer
- Quartz Hill High School Site Council (Member and President)
- West Antelope Valley Educational Foundation Treasurer
- WASC Committee, Parent member, for Quartz Hill High School and R. Rex Parris Continuation School
- UCLA Parent Council

References

Dr. Connie Petit, Director of Special Education for Learn 4 Life Concept Charter Schools (661) 483-6213

Christine Borzaga, Deputy in the Office of the Supervisor, 5th District, Antelope Valley (661) 726-3600

Dr. Linda K. Jones, Westside Union School District, Board of Trustees (661) 406-5811

January 5, 2017

Dear Santa Clarita City Council,

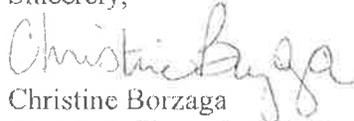
I am delighted to provide this reference for Joan Sodergren, a longtime friend and public servant in the Antelope Valley.

I have known Joan for fifteen years and have witnessed her commitment to public service and her integrity in serving our local community. During her twelve years of service on the Westside Union School District Board of Trustees, Joan played an integral role in identifying concerns, setting goals, and working closely with her fellow board members to make those goals a reality.

Recognizing her dedication to the community, she was endorsed by Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich in her campaigns for the Westside Union School District Board.

Joan is a hard-working and genuine woman who will make a great addition to the Santa Clarita City Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christine Borzaga". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Christine Borzaga
Deputy to Supervisor Kathryn Barger



January 5, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Joan Sodergren. I have known Ms. Sodergren as a member of the Westside Union School District governing board since November 2005. For the last 11 years I have served with her; and the words or phrases that would describe her tenure during that time would include, thorough, integrity, thoughtful, passionate, and a dedicated lifelong learner. Ms. Sodergren always arrived to our board meetings thoroughly prepared, asking or making very thoughtful questions and comments. While demonstrating a visionary and collaborative leadership style, she was unwavering in maintaining transparency and accountability to district stakeholders. She regularly shows her support of students, parents and staff with monthly visits to school sites and campus events. Prior to her tenure as a governing board member, she was an active and highly respected parent volunteer, and was recognized for her efforts and excellence in leadership.

Ms. Sodergren's leadership on our board is greatly missed. It is with great pleasure that I highly recommend her as a volunteer for your organization, as she will be an valued asset. If you have any further questions, you may contact me at (661) 406-5811.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda K. Jones".

Linda K. Jones, Member
Westside Union School District, Governing Board



January 5, 2017

To whom it may concern:

Please allow this letter to serve as a recommendation for public service for Mrs. Joan Sodergren. It is my pleasure to have an association with Mrs. Sodergren for the past eight years as colleagues in the education of students with disabilities.

Mrs. Sodergren's service in this area, as in all areas of her life, has been exemplary. While she has always been professional in each area related to teaching and education, she has been especially successful in fostering positive parent/student relationships. This is an exceptional feat due to the challenges faced with this population. Her role has also required her to be incredibly organized so that legal timelines are respected and addressed in a compliant manner.

She has been an excellent special education teacher whose knowledge and experience in using strategies for instruction have allowed her to fully engage students in the learning process. Her personal love of learning has resulted in her being prepared in every arena to which she applies her focus.

I am confident Mrs. Sodergren will bring her commitment to excellence to any role of public service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Connie Petit".

Dr. Connie Petit
Director of Special Education
(661) 261-4022
cpetit@learn4life.org

Administrative Office:

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Lancaster, California 93535
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Toll Free (877) 463-5985