



Town of Erie Sustainability Advisory Board Application

All advisory board and commission members will be expected to support the priorities and work plan set forth by the Town Council.

This board meets the **first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Failure to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled meetings without a leave of absence approved by majority of the Sustainability Advisory Board could be grounds for dismissal.

Full Name Thomas Leese

Are you an Erie resident? Yes

Are you under the age of eighteen? No

Home Address

Email

Primary Phone Number

Employer Charm Industrial, Inc.

Job Title/Occupation Controller

Have you ever been employed by the Town of Erie? No

Do you work for or own a company that does business with the Town of Erie? No

What is your highest level of education completed? Masters Degree or Higher

Are you currently serving on an advisory board or commission? No

Are you currently serving on a board? No

Are you applying for more than one board? No

This board meets the **first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM**. You are required to notify your chair if you are going to be absent from a meeting. Only three excused absences are allowed per year.

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission and what specific talents or expertise do you bring if appointed?

I'm interested in serving on the Sustainability Advisory Board because sustainability isn't just something I work on professionally it's something I care about personally and want to be able to have an impact on this community. Erie is growing quickly, and the decisions we make now will shape what kind of town we are in 10, 20, and 30 years. I've been a resident of Erie for 6 years now and want to use my expertise to contribute in a way that helps balance growth, environmental responsibility, and long term financial sustainability.

In my role as Controller at Charm Industrial, Inc., I work for a carbon removal company focused on addressing climate change at scale. I'm responsible for both the accounting team as well as the MRV (Measurement, reporting, verification) team. I spend a lot of time evaluating tradeoffs how to invest responsibly, how to manage risk, and how to ensure that plans are both net positive for an environmental impactful and financial standpoint. I think that perspective is directly relevant to a sustainability board, where good intentions need to translate into realistic, measurable action.

Have you served on another board/commission in an advisory capacity? If so, please describe the board and what made serving in that capacity a good experience? What were the major concerns or issues?

While I have not served on a municipal board or commission, I have participated in advisory and cross functional leadership groups within my organizations professionally. In those settings, we were responsible for evaluating strategic initiatives, operational priorities, and long-term financial planning. These experiences required balancing differing viewpoints, managing resource constraints, and ensuring alignment between ambitious goals and practical execution. What made those experiences most meaningful was the opportunity to collaborate across disciplines (engineering, operations, policy, and finance) to arrive at decisions that were mission driven and sustainable.

Please describe a situation where you were working with a small group and disagreed with the direction of the project, what did you do? What was the result?

Recently at Charm, I've been involved in a lot discussions around the buildout of new technology and injection processes at our wellheads with our operations and engineering leadership team. As with many first of kind projects, costs have continued to evolve and, in some cases, balloon as engineering complexity evolves. The team is deeply committed to moving quickly and solving hard technical problems, which I respect. At the same time, I have the responsibility of stepping in and challenging their direction. In situations where the engineering team was over automating systems with no line of site to ROI on the project I would educate them on the impact it has from both a dollars as well as a carbon emissions standpoint. In the end the team will often walk away with a new perspective and return to the drawing board.

Sometimes the team will come back, and we all decide to move forward regardless of the costs knowing that the long term goals are more important than the short term financial impact. A lot of times though we come back with a new solution to the problem that has either a better net carbon position, or a better dollar result.

If you were appointed, what goals would you like to see

Exploring fiscally responsible approaches to renewable energy adoption, energy efficiency, and waste reduction.
Encouraging partnerships between local government, businesses, and residents to

accomplished on this board or commission?

accelerate practical climate solutions.
Supporting data driven goals and reporting so the community can see measurable and transparent impacts over time.

Are you aware of the time commitment, and do you have the personal time to devote to this board or commission?

Yes, I understand that serving on this board requires preparation, meeting attendance, and ongoing engagement beyond just attending scheduled sessions.

Please read and agree with the following statement:

I certify that the facts and statements contained in this Board and Commission Application are true and correct.
I further understand that false statements shall be sufficient cause for rejection of this application.
I further certify that I have not been convicted of a felony under the laws of the State of Colorado or in another jurisdiction.
I understand that falsification, omission or misrepresentation will result in a rejection of this application. Any falsification, omission or representation is evidence of perjury in the second degree.
If I become a board or commission member with the Town, this form is valid for the period of my term with the Town and the crime records may be updated periodically at the discretion of the Town.
I understand that this application is considered a public record and subject to the Colorado Open Records Act.

I Agree

Yes

All board and commission members must follow the rules and regulations in the Erie Municipal Code as well as the Town's policies related to harassment, anti-violence, and technology use.

Yes

Acknowledgement Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tha [unclear]".