

# VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Christopher Conway

1/13/2024 3:11 PM

Application: **HPC - Historic Preservation Commission**

### Applicant Information

Birthday: [REDACTED] Gender: Male Education Level: Masters degree

Address: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED] <<

### Volunteer Groups Applied For

Historic Preservation Commission

### Job Description

I have read the job description

### Questions

I acknowledge I am available when the Historic Preservation Commission meets: YES

Regular meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.  
Work Sessions are conducted on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.  
All meetings are held at 5:30 p.m.

How many hours per month are you willing to put in (including research, work, and meeting time) as a commission member? 20

I acknowledge and understand it is recommended to apply for no more than (3) Board/Commission volunteer positions in any one recruitment cycle. YES

If applying for more than (1) board/commission please list all boards in order of preference (the most important board to you should be listed first). Please enter N/A if you have not applied to more than one board/commission. Planning and Zoning, Historic Preservation Commission

Which Council District do you live in? Please refer to the map at: <https://gisweb.fcgov.com/HTML5Viewer/Index.html?Viewer=FCMaps&layerTheme=Council%20Districts> 1

Current Occupation: Teacher

Current Employer: Ridgeview Classical School

Prior work experience (please include dates): Clint Luken's Realty, Los Angeles, California  
Executive Assistant, 2014-2016

Denver City Council, Denver, Colorado  
Field and Communication Aide, 2013

Volunteer experience (please include dates): YIMBY Fort Collins  
Co-founder & Co-lead, 2022-present

HUD Denver Point-in-Time Count, Denver, Colorado  
Volunteer, 2012

Have you applied for this commission before? If yes, please explain. No

Are you currently serving on a City board or Commission? If so, which one?

No

What is your personal interest and/or professional background in local history and historic preservation?

I have had a longstanding interest in the built environment, largely inspired by my grandmother, a city planner in Denver. Her guided walks around the city where she described her efforts to save Larimer Square from demolition, profoundly influenced my perspective. She had rallied local businesses and communities to preserve vital parts of the city. This passion followed me home to Fort Collins, where I grew up. Her approach to urban spaces led me to appreciate the historical architecture of Old Town, fostering an admiration for urban forms pre-dating the automobile era and their reflection of a different way of life.

After graduating from college, I contemplated a career in urban planning, inspired by her legacy. My internship with a Denver City Councilperson further cemented my interest in urban development and history. Though I ultimately pursued a degree in history to become a teacher, my fascination with urban landscapes remained a constant companion.

At the University of Chicago for graduate studies, I found a unique opportunity to meld my love for history with my intrigue for urban studies. My academic journey here taught me that cities are melting pots of diverse ideas, cultures, and histories, serving as crucibles for innovative lifestyles and social structures. I delved into urban history, focusing on how historical buildings and designs influence current urban landscapes and community identities. This exploration included examining the socio-economic impacts of historical preservation and the role it plays in maintaining a city's character and heritage.

What individual perspectives and community interests would you bring to the HPC that might be missing or underrepresented on the existing Commission?

As a younger member of the community and an active participant in YIMBY Fort Collins, I bring a fresh and nuanced perspective to the Historic Preservation Commission. My work with YIMBY Fort Collins has equipped me with a deep understanding of the intricate balance between historical preservation and the pressing issue of housing shortages. This experience has honed my ability to view historic preservation through a lens that also considers the critical need for accessible housing.

My involvement in advocating for responsible development gives me a unique insight into how we can harmoniously integrate modern housing

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harmoniously integrate modern housing needs with the preservation of our city's rich historical heritage. I believe that this perspective, which may currently be underrepresented on the Commission, is essential in an era where cities are rapidly evolving. My aim is to contribute towards solutions that honor our past while responsibly addressing the present and future housing needs of our community

Specify any activities which might create a serious conflict of interest if you are appointed:

I own a home in a historic district in Old Town.

Are you willing to complete the required training if appointed?

YES

How did you learn of a vacancy on this board or commission?

Newspaper

# CHRISTOPHER CONWAY

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## EDUCATION

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### **University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois**

*Master of Arts in the Social Sciences: History, Spring 2018*

### **Latin/Greek Institute at CUNY, New York, New York**

*Basic Greek Program, Summer 2015*

### **St. John's College, Santa Fe, New Mexico**

*Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts, 2012*

## TEACHING & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### **Ridgeview Classical Schools, Fort Collins, Colorado**

*High School Literature Teacher, Fall 2018-Present*

- Design and execute lesson plans
- Run seminar-style classroom and lead writing projects

### **University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois**

*Graduate Student Researcher, MA Thesis Project, Fall 2016 - Spring 2018*

- Examined the relationship of Thomas Hobbes and Francis Bacon to 17th-century legal reform
- Managed all phases of the research project including research design, proposal, data collection, and analysis

## LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

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### **YIMBY Fort Collins**

*Co-founder & Co-lead, 2021-present*

- Organized community members around zoning code
- Coordinated between progressive housing groups on issues at the state and local level

### **Clint Luken's Realty, Los Angeles, California**

*Executive Assistant, 2014-2016*

- Managed investment properties; provided executive-level support on multiple projects simultaneously
- Facilitated client relations; built long-term relationships; handled conflict resolution

### **Denver City Council, Denver, Colorado**

*Field and Communication Aide, 2013*

- Communicated and responded to community concerns and resolved any problems
- Wrote op-ed pieces; edited press releases; facilitated social media, digital and print publications
- Maintained high levels of confidentiality; assisted with standard office practices and procedures

### **HUD Denver Point-in-Time Count, Denver, Colorado**

*Volunteer, 2012*

- Interviewed individuals experiencing homelessness
- Located and counted individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness