

Robert T. Wu  
328 Grand Street  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878  
Telephone: 732-977-3262  
E-mail: robwu2000@hotmail.com



September 30, 2014

Gaithersburg City Council  
c/o The City Attorney  
31 South Summit Ave.  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
Via email to: lboard@gaitthersburgmd.gov

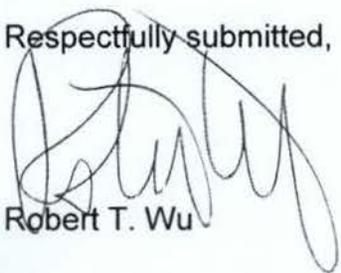
Dear Mr. Mayor and Honorable Council Members,

I respectfully submit my application for the anticipated vacancy on the Gaithersburg City Council. Please find enclosed with this letter of interest: my resume, statement of priorities and vision for the city, financial statement and interest or employment disclosure. First and foremost, I thank you for taking the time to review my application for this very important position. I have no doubt that you have received many qualified candidates, but I believe myself to be at least competitive with those fellow residents.

I will not belabor my credentials as my resume is included with this application. Instead, I would like to take this opportunity to explain why I am asking for your consideration. As you can see from my submission, I have spent many years moving around, primarily due to my service with the U.S. Army. While I am not a life-long Gaithersburg resident, I look forward to prospectively being one. My lovely wife Jamie, my darling son Julian, and I look forward to growing deep roots in the city. It is with this in mind, and a strong desire to become more involved in civic life, that I submit my application. While my eye was towards the next city election, and I have been happily serving as the president of the Watkins Mill Town Center Homeowners Association, this opportunity was too compelling to ignore.

Thank you for your attention and I hope that you will give my application serious consideration. I am available at the contact information, above, should you have any questions, or wish to discuss my application further.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robert T. Wu



## APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL MEMBER

To: Gaithersburg City Council  
c/o The City Attorney

I hereby request that you include my name for consideration for the office of Council Member

Please Print: Robert T. Wu

(Legal First, Middle Initial and Last Name. No nicknames or titles.)

### I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOLLOWING:

1. My name is: Robert T. Wu

2. I am a registered voter in the City of Gaithersburg.

3. I now reside at: 328 Grand Street, Gaithersburg 20878

(Address, City & Zip Code)

Home Telephone: 732-977-3262

Business Telephone: 202-512-4517

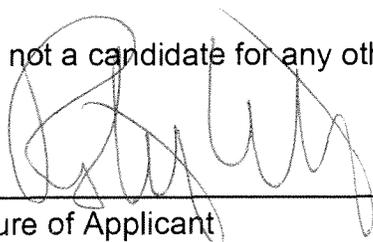
4. I have attached a Financial Disclosure Statement and a letter of interest detailing why I am interested in the position and my priorities for the City of Gaithersburg.

5. I consent to the public release of my name, this Application, Financial Disclosure Statement and letter of interest.

### I DO FURTHER CERTIFY:

1. I meet the qualifications for the above stated office, as set forth in Sections 4 of the City Charter.

2. I am not a candidate for any other elected office in the City of Gaithersburg.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

9/30/2014  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of this Application

**THIS APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL MEMBER SHALL BE FILED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY ON OR BEFORE 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2014.**

## Statement of Priorities and Vision for the City

My wife and I moved to Gaithersburg in 2012, after living in Silver Spring for a few years, and Cheverly, Maryland for a year before that. In fact, walking backwards in time, I have lived in many places throughout my life; many of those years spent growing up on the North Shore of Long Island, in New York, but equally as many years spent moving around, first for school and then while serving with the U.S. Army. I have lived in cities large and small, and what this has given me is perspective on what I like, and dislike, about where I live. We chose Gaithersburg because it represents much of what we like in a city: livable spaces, access to transportation, good restaurants, and things to do, as well as a strong sense of community. We also like what we see the city becoming, and this drives my vision and priorities for the city.

What I love best about Gaithersburg, and what drives my vision and priorities for the city, can be summed up in three overarching principles: sustainable growth, responsible governance, and community.

Sustainable growth in my mind means measured, deliberate, and smart growth. Growth that preserves Gaithersburg's diversity, its small-town feel, and abundant green spaces/recreation opportunities, while fostering new, vibrant, and diverse communities, access to affordable and efficient transportation options, and attracting good jobs, both small business and corporate jobs, alike. As you look around Gaithersburg today, there is evidence everywhere of such growth, from the Parklands and Spectrum, to the RIO, Kentlands and the Crown, Gaithersburg is growing at an astounding pace.

However, even while embracing growth, the city need not, and should not, succumb to the eminently avoidable fate of being consumed by the slowly and northwardly creeping urban sprawl. Gaithersburg should strive to maintain its small-town feel. Effective governance, planning and leadership is absolutely essential to achieving the proper balance needed to achieve sustainable growth.

As for priorities, I would like to see revitalization of the Olde Town area. As communities grow around Gaithersburg, town centers are forming with them. While it is great that these centers of community life are growing and thriving, I think that cities need one defined downtown, serving as the center of governance and city life, but also providing for robust community and commercial life. Olde Town Gaithersburg has the potential to be more than what it is, and I would see it as a priority to explore options for sustainable growth in that area. A priority of mine would also be to preserve diversity in the community. While the growth of high-end residential centers is great, it should not be at the expense of established communities. I would look to ensure that future growth maintains the proper balance of prioritizing established areas of Gaithersburg with new, growing areas. Finally, I would like to see the I-270/Watkins Mill exchange become a reality, as well as the commuter corridor. Efficient transportation is essential for sustainable growth, and an area where government obviously plays a huge part.

Responsible governance means to me ethical, conservative governance that is responsive and responsible to the people. Public officials should be held to the highest standards, and must hold themselves to those standards. Even the appearance of impropriety has a damaging impact on public trust, and the ability to effectively govern. After all, government is rightly of the people, by the people and for the people. Governance should also be conservative, not in the politically-loaded sense, but in a way that is risk-adverse and fiscally sound. My vision for Gaithersburg is much as the city is now, debt-free and pay-as-you-go, while providing responsive services, and also constraining tax growth. There is, or should be, no other way to responsibly govern. Finally, government must be responsive and responsible to the people. This is achieved through maintaining transparency and openness with all that the government does, including finding effective methods for receiving input from and responding to the community.

My priorities would be to maintain the highest ethical standards, and govern in a way that is open, responsive and embraces conservative principles (as defined above). Maintaining a debt free city is of the utmost importance and a priority for me. Providing responsive services is also very important, and my priority would be to do so efficiently, and cost effectively, that is, within the city's means.

My final vision for Gaithersburg is to embrace community, that ephemeral concept, which is all-too-often lost these days where you might not even know your neighbor. Community is, of course, first and foremost the product of social interaction; of people with common goals, and common interests coming together. Yet, government plays an important role in community. It creates opportunities for civic involvement. Government plans, facilitates, and funds community events. It plans for sustainable growth that allows for the development of community. Every facet of government, all its responsibilities and functions, should be done with community in mind.

My priorities in this area would be to focus on community involvement in government; ensuring that as many people who want to can be involved in some aspect of city life. I would also look to funding and supporting more community events, and fostering the growth of community activities, including educational and recreational activities.



**CITY OF GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL MEMBER**

**NAME:** Robert T. Wu

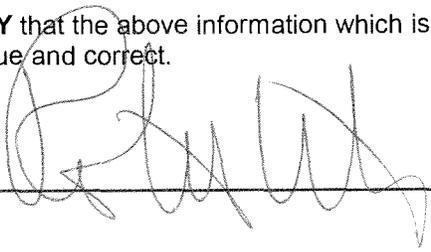
**ELECTED OFFICE SEEKING:** Council Member

This Financial Disclosure Statement covers the period of time from January 1, 2014 through October 6, 2014.

Please list the gifts\* exceeding Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) in value or a combination of transfers from any person or entity exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) in value which you received. If you have **NOT** received any gifts, please print **NONE RECEIVED**.

Date Received	Name & Address Of Donor	Description of Gift	Approximate Retail Value (at time of receipt)
N/A	NONE RECEIVED	N/A	N/A

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the above information which is provided in compliance with Chapter 7A of the City Code ("Ethics Code") is true and correct.

**SIGNATURE:**  **DATE:** 9/30/2014

\*The term "gift" is defined in Chapter 7A of the City Code ("Ethics Code"), Sections 7A-1.3(c) and 7A-4(h) and does not include campaign contributions.



**CITY OF GAITHERSBURG, MARYLAND  
INTEREST OR EMPLOYMENT DISCLOSURE  
APPLICANTS FOR COUNCIL MEMBER**

**NAME:** Robert T. Wu

**ELECTED OFFICE SEEKING:** Council Member

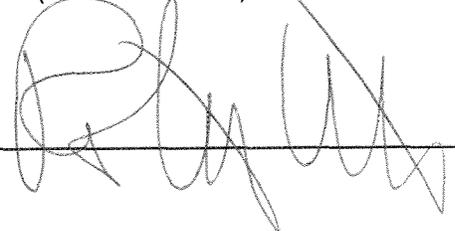
This Interest or Employment Disclosure Statement must be filed by October 6, 2014.

I have the following interests that may create a conflict of interest under Chapter 7A of the City Code ("Ethics Code") Section 7A-4.

I currently serve as the Homeowners Association President for the Watkins Mill Town Center  
HOA (Parklands).

I am employed by:  
U.S. Government Accountability Office; U.S. Army Reserves.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that the above information which is provided in compliance with Chapter 7A of the City Code ("Ethics Code") is true and correct.

**SIGNATURE:**  **DATE:** 9/30/2014