



APPLICATION FOR DURHAM CITY COUNCIL WARD-3 VACANCY

For residency verification, link to [City of Durham's Ward 3 Map](#)

ETHNIC BACKGROUND

Black/African American



Gender

Female

Are you at least 21 years of age?

Yes



Name of any City of Durham Board/Commission/Committee that you are serving on at the present time:

Durham Crisis Intervention (CIT) Leadership Team

Date Term Expires: Not Applicable

NAME: Anita A. Daniels-kenney

SPOUSE'S NAME: Not applicable

HOME ADDRESS 102 Nuttree Way

Durham

NC

27713

HOME PHONE NO: (919) 403-0985

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL ADDRESS actualitiesltd@gmail.com

OCCUPATION

President & CEO - actualities limited

PLACE OF BUSINESS: Durham, NC

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 116 E. Corporation Street

Durham

NC

27701

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

BUSINESS PHONE: (919) 564-9360

Do you live within the corporate city limits?

Yes



Are you a registered voter in Durham County?

Yes



EDUCATION:

Graduate Certificate - California University of Pennsylvania

Master's Degree - UNC-Chapel Hill

Bachelor's Degree - East Carolina University

Based on your qualifications and experiences, briefly describe why your service on the Durham City Council would be beneficial to the City of Durham

I believe my service on the Durham City Council would be beneficial because I have served the citizens of North Carolina for over 30 years in a variety of capacities. I am a trained social worker who works directly with individuals AND the systems that serve them. An individual who can bring a global perspective coupled with first-hand knowledge can only enhance and enrich Council dialogues and allow us as a body to make more informed decisions on behalf of the citizens of Durham.

Additionally, I have lived in Wake, Orange, and Durham counties. I have always been active in the communities where I reside and established relationships with elected, appointed, university, business, medical, educational, governmental, and non-profit leaders, including fortune 500 companies and/or subsidiaries in the Triangle communities (which includes the Research Triangle Park). These life experiences in each community give me perspective about their personalities and how we might negotiate more effectively with them.

I am a dedicated and thoughtful team player, often intentionally choosing to work behind the scenes because my ultimate goal is to serve. I am a woman of integrity, and I strive for fairness and equality as a leader and as a professional. I do my homework, and I am willing to make tough decisions when those decisions are unpopular but in the best interests of the people assigned to my care. Many will submit an application for the vacant Ward 3 seat, but I sincerely believe I have the knowledge, expertise, and positive working relationships that will benefit the City Council most during this unique time in Durham's and our nation's history.

Other information you consider pertinent: (i.e., Civic memberships, related experience, etc.)

Governor Cooper Appointee - NC Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board (2020-23)
 Durham City-County First Responders Crisis Intervention Leadership Team (CIT), 2013-present.
 Co-Chair, Durham Stepping Up Initiative, 2017-present (to provide Mental Health & Substance Use services for citizens involved in the criminal justice system)
 Durham Democratic Party - Assist secretaries (Kathy Hall and Susan Sewell) as a teller at County Convention and special elections (2019-2020)
 Member, Durham County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, 2014-2019 (to address Raise the Age and decrease the number of youth involved in the criminal justice system)
 President, Durham (NC) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, 2014-2018; (The organization provides funding and programs for persons of African descent; we provided a hot meal for displaced residents from McDougald Terrace at one of the hotels, and delivered new winter coats for students at Global Scholars Academy; also coordinated Women's Pay Equity forum with the Durham Women's Commission and the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement; monthly workshops, funding, and supplies for residents at Families Moving Forward; and a new initiative: Healthy Homestead, Heir Property, and Black Wealth)
 Member, Project Lead! High Expectations National Committee, The Links, Incorporated, 2019-present (to address the Opioid crisis and other addictions locally and nationally)
 Member, Internal Audit Committee, Durham Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., 2014-2016.
 Member, Durham Open Space and Trails Commission, 2012-2014.
 Chairman, St. Joseph's Historic Foundation, Board of Directors, 2003-04.
 Member, Women in Action for the Prevention of Violence and Its Causes, Inc., 2001-02.
 Co-chair, United Way Community Assessment Committee for Health and Human Services - Durham, 2000-02.
 Member, Durham City/County Crime Cabinet, 1999-01.
 Vice Chairman, Durham's Partnership for Children, 1998-99.
 Chairman, Board of Directors, Orange County Partnership for Young Children, 1996-98.
 Commencement Speaker, UNC-Chapel Hill, School of Social Work, 1996.
 Member, Orange County Public Private Partnership, 1993-95.

PROPERTY TAX LISTING MUST BE CURRENT. CITY AND COUNTY TAXES MUST NOT REFLECT ANY DELINQUENCY AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION.

APPLICATION WILL BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC UPON REQUEST

DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATION: THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020 AT 5:00 p.m.

DISCLAIMER: By submitting your application for the Ward 3 Vacancy, you understand that the application and attached materials are considered public and can be posted on the City's website.

Date: August 16, 2020

Applicant's Signature



Return Application to:
 City Clerk's Office City of Durham
 101 City Hall Plaza - Suite 2700
 Durham, NC 27701
 Phone: (919) 560-4166
 Fax: (919) 560-4835
 Email To: city.clerk@durhamnc.gov

Please complete the WARD Vacancy Questionnaire below.



CITY CLERK
CITY OF DURHAM

DURHAM CITY COUNCIL WARD 3 VACANCY CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Candidate Name:

Anita A. Daniels-kenney

Complete questions in the space provided below or on separate sheet of paper. Return your completed questionnaire to the City Clerk's Office via email to city.clerk@durhamnc.gov

1. Why do you want to serve on City Council and what strengths would you bring to Council? (Limit answer to 400 words or less)

I want to serve on the City Council because I will bring a unique perspective to the Council that does not exist at the current time. The variety of professional and volunteer positions I have held have prepared me for this next level of community and civic engagement. Ward 3 has been vacant since Council member (now Representative) Vernetta Alston transitioned to the State. I am known for rolling up my sleeves and getting to work as well as displaying a willingness to listen to citizens' ideas and share my knowledge with anyone I encounter. My experiences as a United Way executive allowed me to interact effectively with elected officials and Fortune 500 company CEOs. My training as a child raised by my grandparents and a single mother coupled with my education as a social worker taught me how to treat anyone I meet with dignity and respect and provide information about community resources to everyone eligible to receive them. As a former City and County employee, I bring knowledge of local government operations including the Capital Improvement Program and contracts/amendments. I have solid working relationships with City and County employees and collegial relationships with members of the City Council, Durham Board of County Commissioners, and our Durham delegation at the state level. I believe Durham citizens and particularly those in Ward 3 who have not had a voice at the Council level since March deserve to be represented by a leader with a proven track record. I am that leader.

2. What is your time availability to serve on City Council, including serving on Council Subcommittees, and making yourself available for public gatherings? (Limit answer to 400 words or less)

Being a small minority woman business owner allows me to manage my personal schedule. I have the flexibility to schedule and attend meetings, appointments, and volunteer assignments with minimal conflicts. I also understand the importance of scheduling family and personal wealth time to maintain my physical/spiritual health and well-being. As a practice, I block Fridays on my calendar to attend training, community events, conferences, and travel as needed/required. If that needs to be a different day of the week, I can make that adjustment.

3. Describe your perspective on each of the following issues (Limit answers to 300 words or less):

a. Housing

While I appreciate the value of my home has increased significantly since I purchased it, I am very concerned for citizens who make the salary I made when I moved to Durham. Housing does not feel affordable anymore in Durham, and some of our citizens cannot afford to purchase a home while others are unable to afford a one bedroom apartment. I am disappointed to see the level of gentrification occurring across the City. It appears we are pricing out the citizens who were born and raised in our great Bull City. I also want to support our citizens' ability to move out of public housing. My mother, brother, and I moved to public housing when I was 12. We moved out when I was 16. I want our citizens to have the luxury afforded my family -- to move on to home ownership and not be priced out of the communities in which they have resided for years and years.

b. Public safety and policing strategies:

I serve as a licensed certified forensic evaluator for Durham County courts. I also serve on the Durham Crisis Intervention Leadership Team, which has trained nearly 1200 first responders over 12 years. I think CIT training should be required for all first responders. I want some of the set aside funds to be allocated to conversing with our young citizens who are awaiting trial for shooting/killing other young citizens. Until we understand both the mindset and how to intervene, we will see minor if any change. I also believe it is difficult for citizens with limited resources to be pushed out of the neighborhoods they have called home for so many years. Lastly, if opioids are a crisis/epidemic, so is crack cocaine, and it should be treated as such.

c. Development and Land Use

Durham has a Planning Commission and a City-County Planning Department. In addition to its own due diligence, I believe the City Council should rely on forecasts/recommendations that align with land use, development, and control. As we develop, we have to also consider the impact on our infrastructure to accommodate the growth. While we manage the COVID-19 pandemic, now might be a good time to reassess our long and short-term development plans.

d. Inclusion and race equity:

Durham's citizen demographics have had a noticeable shift, and many entities have made efforts to be inclusive of other races especially Hispanics and LatinX. Opportunities for increased inclusion and racial equity [particularly among women including African-American women] still remain. I have observed elected leaders focus on the citizens who yell the loudest or bring the largest group to meetings. But we must also listen and search for the 'still small voice' of those citizens who do not have access to a computer to send emails or feel uncomfortable standing before large crowds to voice their concerns. The City Council, all Commissions/Boards, and City staff should be required to attend racial equity and inclusion training annually.

e. Economic Development:

My heart is overjoyed by the number of new entrepreneurs in Durham, many as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and loss of jobs. As our City recovers, we must develop economic strategies to support those citizens most affected by job loss and/or reduced income. We also cannot over-burden already strapped citizens. We also must provide opportunities to prepare citizens who may need additional training and/or education to compete for the jobs we are creating through our economic arm. As we continue to increase our standard of living in Durham, we must also ensure all citizens who choose to reside here have the resources to improve their skills, thereby increasing the number of current citizens who can fill vacant positions and contribute to the economy and tax base.

f. Open space and trails and environmental policy:

I served on the Open Space and Trails Commission and the members' commitment to environmental policy and making recommendations to both the City and County are noteworthy. I hope the Commission will make recommendations to extend their creative efforts to include some of the public housing communities. I also hope we can educate more citizens about the value of recycling including which items are required to be recycled. And educate pre-K and elementary school children about the importance of using trash receptacles, recycling, and saving our planet. We have a landfill at our Solid Waste transfer station. I would like to explore Landfill Gas Energy as a renewable energy source.

g. Public Infrastructure and City services:

We have a talented group of staff who serve our citizens. I am not sure we allow our staff to utilize all of their skills. We have supervisors, directors, assistant directors, deputy directors, and I question if we have become slightly top heavy. I listen more than I speak [the nature of my work], so I also hear some supervisors can benefit from training [as promoted] to learn how to effectively lead a team without micromanaging but focusing more on the quality/quantity of their work products, professionalism, and commitment to excellence. I wonder if we can redirect revenue by using smaller buses for transportation. We can also patch holes more quickly, particularly in areas where there is significant construction. Too many potholes!

4. What are your top three priorities for the City over the next 5 years?

Inclusion and Racial Equity - Decrease the number of shootings by increasing financial opportunities for young Black men who have little if any hope of rising out of poverty and/or living to be 30 years old.

Economic Development - Increase educational opportunities for citizens to make a liveable wage working one job instead of two or three to make ends meet; as we recruit new businesses, be intentional about preparing Durham citizens for fill vacancies in their anticipated workforce. Many citizens do not make our average \$65,000 salary.

Housing - Create more true 'affordable' housing for citizens who make too much to qualify for additional support and too little to be positioned financially to purchase a home or pay for rent at some of our apartments.

5. If appointed, what do you envision being your sources of information and reaching an informed decision?

Citizens

Staff (including reports/documents/proposed budgets)

Community Leaders (Universities, Hospitals, Business, Non-profit, Religious)

Commissions/Boards, including those to which I may be assigned if selected

News (TV, Internet newspapers)

Relevant Research Articles (including information about how cities with similar demographics are successfully addressing those matters)

City Council, Commissioners, Elected/Appointed Leaders and Legislative officials

Training - Institute of Government

6. Detail your current civic engagement and other related experience.

Governor Cooper Appointee - NC Addictions Specialist Professional Practice Board
NC Licensed Certified Forensic Evaluator-Durham County Courts
Durham City-County First Responders Crisis Intervention Leadership Team
Co-Chair, Durham Stepping Up Initiative
Durham Democratic Party - Assist secretaries (Kathy Hall & Susan Sewell) as a teller for County Convention and special elections (2019-2020).
Immediate Past President/Executive Team, Durham (NC) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, 2014-2022.
Former Executive Director, Vice President, and Assistant Vice President for United Ways in the Triangle;
Former Director - Durham Youth Coordinating Board
Former Director/Ex-officio member, Lyon Park Advisory Board (Council required)
Former Contracts Administrator- Solid Waste Management
Former Member, Open Space and Trails Commission



7. Other pertinent information:

I have lived in Ward 3 since I purchased my home in May 1999. Of the three Triangle communities, Durham is the most diverse, which is why I established my business here in 2002 and remained in the same community. I am prepared to represent the citizens in my Ward, hear the diverse opinions of the Council, work collaboratively and ethically with all Members and make logical, informed decisions on behalf of Durham citizens. After reviewing my civic service and professional career [as much as this application allowed me to share], I ask you to select me to join you as the Ward 3 representative to the City Council. I am adept, and I trust you are confident I will bring a unique set of skills and experiences to an already powerful Council. I would be honored to serve with you. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please stay safe!



DATE CLERK'S OFFICE RECEIVED APPLICATION