

Memorandum

TO: City Council
FROM: Krista Billerbeck , Natural resources manager
DATE: February 17, 2026
SUBJECT: Appointments to the environmental quality committee
ITEM NUMBER: 10.a
SECTION: GENERAL BUSINESS

REQUESTED MOTION

Appoint Shivam Vashishtha as a regular member to the Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) for a three year term expiring January 31, 2029 and appoint Whitney Olsen as a student member for a term expiring May 2028.

INTRODUCTION

The city council is being asked to appoint Shivam Vashishtha as a regular member and Whitney Olsen as a student member to the Environmental Quality Committee.

DISCUSSION

The EQC received applications for recent vacancies on the committee and reviewed applications for regular and student members. The committee thought Vashishtha and Olsen would be great additions to the group and provide unique perspectives. Vashishtha is particularly interested in energy and sustainability. Olsen is currently a sophomore at Mounds View High School and is interested in waste and recycling.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend the city council appoint Shivam Vashishtha to the EQC through January 31, 2029 and Whitney Olsen as a student member through her graduation in May 2028.

ATTACHMENTS

[Colton Borg EQC Application.pdf](#)
[Mark Smith EQC Application.pdf](#)
[Shivam Vashishtha EQC Application.pdf](#)
[Whitney Olsen EQC Application.pdf](#)