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Friday Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2006

Human Resources, Whatcom County  
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 107  
Bellingham WA 98225-4038

**Subject: Application for Assistant Director, Planning and Development Services**

Attached is my completed six-page application, requested attachment pages and generic resume.

As you will find in checking with my references, many of whom are local, I have a reputation for being bright, hard-working, and able to communicate complex subjects at public meetings. I have met your Director at only a couple of Birch Bay Steering Committee meetings, and believe that we would work together well in a complementary manner. My background is Engineering and his in Planning, so I could help strengthen the Development Services side of his portfolio, whilst sharing in the night-time community meetings that necessarily go with such a position.

Although I only came to this area a few months ago, I find that my background experience in land use combined with transportation planning (“concurrency”) has meant my input has been valued at public meetings I have taken part in where I live in the Birch Bay GMA. Additionally, my technical experience strengths with databases, GIS/CAD, and I.T. in general could also benefit PDS, just by being practically knowledgeable to direct staff effort through what to ask and when.

Specifically, my knowledge of databases, GIS, CAD, Imagery along with modern communications infrastructure – wired and wireless - will add to knowledge needed in Whatcom in this millennium.

As a seasoned professional, I also believe I bring a wealth of experience from a national planning background with NEPA, as well as an international perspective from my New Zealand roots. As a former university educator, I can mentor as well as direct, as well as prepare compelling visuals to aid with the message PDS wish to bring to Council or to public meetings.

This area is so much like my home town of New Plymouth on New Zealand’s west coast except we have surf, not bay. After several decades of hauling my family around the globe following the vagaries of oil pricing and wars blockading supply. I am ready to put down roots in a community. My address above is a small rental cottage, but we already put down the down-payment on land at Latitude 49, and will close on it soon.

So my wife Diane and I are committed to putting down roots and staying, making the last career change from global oil company (Mobil 1985-1998) national federal contractor (Computer Science Corp 1998-2005) to the local level: living on the edge in Birch Bay.

Robert D. Andrew