



**The City of Ferndale, Washington is seeking an
experienced municipal management
professional with outstanding leadership skills
to serve as
Community Development Director**

Ferndale, the “City of Opportunity,” is located in the northwest corner of Washington State in Whatcom County, along the Nooksack River and on the Interstate 5 corridor.

The City is home to nearly 15,000 residents and is primed for rapid residential and commercial development.

Ferndale is located about halfway between Seattle and Vancouver, B.C. This close proximity to major cities is complemented by the serenity and pristine nature of the area’s surroundings.

Western Washington University, Whatcom Community College, Northwest Indian College, and Bellingham Technical College are located within 20 minutes of the City and offer accessible higher education opportunities.

The community enjoys more than 120 acres of park land and facilities within City limits as well as major lakes, streams, and forested areas within the vicinity. World record holding Mount Baker Ski Area is an hour east.



Visit us at www.cityofferndale.org

The Position is Open Until Filled

The City

Ferndale was incorporated March 19, 1907 and operates under a Mayor-Council form of government. With a population of nearly 15,000 residents, the City provides a full range of municipal services, including police, planning, building, streets, parks, and utilities. The annual budget for 2021 is approximately \$30 million and the City employs 78 FTEs. Ferndale is a high-growth community and the City's population is expected to grow to about 19,000 residents in the next 10 years.



The Department

The Ferndale Community Development Department is responsible for current and long-range planning within the City of Ferndale, and includes oversight of the City's Planning and Building Divisions, development review and permitting, critical areas and shoreline management, SEPA environmental regulations, general civil enforcement, and more. The Department also leads economic

development initiatives within the City.



Current projects in the Department include: Shoreline Master Program Review, Housing Infill, Mixed-Use Development Text Modifications, and preparation for Updates

to the Comprehensive Plan.

The Position

The Community Development Director reports directly to the City Administrator. They are responsible for overall leadership and management of the City's Community Development Department and

Ferndale At-A-Glance

Population:

14,600

City Employees:

78 FTE

2021 Budget:

\$30,076,853

Building Permits

Issued in 2020:

490

Department Staff:

Building Official,
Assistant Planner, Code
Compliance Officer,
Planning/Engineering
Support Specialist,
Building Inspector, GIS
Technician, Permit
Specialist, Public Works/
Community Dev. Clerk



Why Apply?

This is an excellent opportunity for a talented Community Development professional to lead a well-managed department and make a difference in a rapidly-growing community that takes pride in its history and quality of life. Ferndale is a well-managed city with stable, progressive leadership.

The Ideal Candidate

The City of Ferndale is seeking a Community Development Director who is a forward thinker, capable of leading the Community Development Department through a period in which the City is rapidly growing in population, is primed for major commercial development, and is transitioning from a community of rural character into a small city. The successful individual must have proven experience and knowledge in the application of applicable state and federal laws, codes, ordinances, policies and procedures in planning and land use management and operations.

The individual must be able to prepare a variety of planning-related presentations, and be familiar with and able to prepare municipal department budgets as well as grant applications.

The ideal candidate must have strong interpersonal skills as well as a collaborative management style, good judgment and political awareness in working with elected officials, citizens, and staff. This person must be able to effectively address difficult situations and have a strong customer service commitment.

This position serves on the City's management team, participating in the development and success of collective goals of the City, and engages in the decision-making process and supports the decisions made.

The candidate must be able to pass a comprehensive background check, including a criminal background check.

Compensation

The salary range for this position is \$95,000-\$115,000/year.

Starting salary is dependent upon experience and qualifications.

The City also includes an excellent benefit package including:

Vacation Leave starting at 25 days per year, accruing on a per-pay-period basis

Holidays—Fourteen (14) per year

Sick Leave—Fifteen (15) days per year, accruing on a per-pay-period basis

Medical, Dental, and Vision Insurance

Employer-provided deferred compensation

Basic Life Insurance plus Option for Additional Coverage

Employee Assistance Program

Retirement through Washington State Retirement Systems

Experience & Education

The Community Development Director will have: (additional requirements listed on official job description)

- A Bachelor's Degree in planning or closely related field.
- At least five years of increasingly responsible practical planning experience, preferably with a municipality or other government entity.



City of Ferndale

Community Development Director

The Position is Open Until Filled

HOW TO APPLY

To be eligible for consideration, a City employment application, resume and cover letter must be received at the address listed below.

A complete packet of application materials is available [here](#).

City of Ferndale
City Clerk/Human Resources
P.O. Box 936
Ferndale, WA 98248

By Email: Send an electronic application packet to susanduncan@cityofferndale.org

