

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Jill Nixon](#); [Jake Logan](#); Executive; [Cathy Halka](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application
Date: Monday, December 30, 2024 3:13:20 PM

Advisory Group Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Advisory Groups

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public advisory group, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All advisory group members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title	Mr.
First Name	Andy
Last Name	Leveto
Today's Date	12/30/2024
Street Address	██████████
City	██████████
Zip	98225
Do you live in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	██████████
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	████████████████████

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Parks and Recreation Commission

Group

2. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying?

Yes

3. Which Council district do you live in?

District 1

4. Have you ever been a member of this Advisory Group

No

5. Do you or your spouse have a financial interest in or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that does business with Whatcom County?

No

6. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county?

No

You may attach a resume or detailed summary of experience, qualifications, & interest in response to the following questions

Field not completed.

7. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

Professionally, I am a software engineer working at a small healthcare technology company. I help make tools for patients, caregivers, and researchers to unlock the power of health data. I have a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Admittedly, this is not particularly relevant to serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission, though my occupation requires that I am well-organized and tech-savvy.

Outside of work, I am a regular volunteer and participant in the local outdoor community. My experience in this area includes:

Trail maintenance on Miranda and The Ridge trails on Galbraith Mountain, through the Whatcom Mountain Bike Coalition's Trail Adoption Program (2020-present). I help organize and plan volunteer events on Galbraith's most popular north side access trail. These volunteer trail days are typically held twice a year and are attended by 8-15 people. We perform regular trail maintenance, consisting of raking/clearing drainages, cutting back overgrown brush, removing/re-routing user-built trail braids, and reinforcing or rebuilding switchbacks on a steep hillside.

WMBC Trail Ambassador (2023-present). This new program is designed to represent the WMBC on the trails greeting riders, sharing etiquette tips, and providing help where needed. I am an ambassador in the Chuckanut area. I try to ride the trails at least monthly and report any maintenance issues on Trailforks and to parks staff (city, county, or state parks).

OpenStreetMap contributor (2022-present). OpenStreetMap is a free online map updated and maintained by a community of volunteers – like Wikipedia, but for maps. It is used by many outdoor apps including Alltrails, Strava, Gaia GPS, and CalTopo. I have contributed over 200 edits, focusing on trails and bike infrastructure in Bellingham and Whatcom County.

Team Captain of a local amateur bike racing team (2020-2024). In this role, I led a group of 10 members who compete in local and regional bike races and volunteer locally, including trail maintenance (described above), and helping with other community-focused events (e.g. course design/setup/teardown for Cascade Cross's cyclocross race at Cornwall Park, on-course bike sweep for the Tour de Whatcom). I was also responsible for internal affairs of the team including recruitment and leading meetings.

8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.

In short, I want to serve on this commission because I love parks and trails, especially the types of parks and trails that are managed by Whatcom County.

I am particularly excited about "backcountry" style trails, for example those found in Chuckanut Mountain Park (my favorite trails are Raptor Ridge and Lower Salal, aka Hush Hush). I regularly hike, run, and bike these trails from my home in Bellingham. As a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, I would advocate for further development of similar trails in other areas, most notably the continued development of trail networks in Lookout Mountain Forest Preserve and Lake Whatcom Park.

As a bikepacker and through-rider of long-distance trails around the state and country, I have seen firsthand how important trail connectivity is for both a high-quality recreational experience and as an economic boost for small towns. Because of this, I would also be an advocate for trail connections between County Parks and public lands managed by other agencies, and for connecting long-distance trails through smaller communities in Whatcom County. For example, formally connecting Lake Whatcom Park to DNR's Olsen Creek and Mirror Lake parcels and eventually to Acme, or connecting Bellingham to Maple Falls and Glacier by way of many towns along the Bay to Baker trail.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Brent Hartwig: [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Andy Leveto

Place Signed / Submitted

Bellingham, WA

(Section Break)

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