

Application Related Information

Application: Application Not Verified
Grad Program Applying To: MPA

Iteration Name: 202410_GR_G
Program Name: MPA

Recommendation Information

Recommended By: Rob LaFontaine
Recommenders Institution: Intercity Transit
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Planning Manager
Contact Name: Andrew Goffeney
Recommendation Waiver Choice: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 04/02/2023 06:33 PM
Recommendation Type: General
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000108981032

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.
Recommender Form: MPA Letter of Recommendation/Form
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

How long have you known applicant:

less than 1 year

Time since last contact with applicant:

20 minutes

Applicant ability as self-directed learner: Very good; in his employment with Intercity Transit Drew successfully manages a hybrid format of hours worked that includes both time in the office as well as time working independently from his home office.

Applicant as productive member of group: Excellent; Drew joined our Planning team at Intercity Transit and immediately engaged and presented himself vigorously and politely. It is my observation that he was received naturally and without reservation by his co-workers.

Relationship with Applicant:		Applicant most significant strengths:	When I think of Drew Goffeney, I can't help but feel encouraged and optimistic about our future. Drew has a natural demeanor that invites positivity. As a hiring manager I strive to seek after two key attributes, a positive attitude and capacity to learn; Drew Goffeney excels in both. Drew's positive attitude is infectious, and his background, skills and knowledge are broad; in my assessment Drew's most significant and relevant strength is own potential to be exceptional in whatever he seeks to pursue.
	Co-worker; Supervisor		
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Very Good	Responsibility/reliability:	Excellent
Communication Skills - Oral:	Very Good	Communication skills - written:	Above Average
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Very Good	Ability to work independently:	Very Good
Ability to handle stress:	Excellent	Ability to think critically:	Very Good
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Very Good	Ability to think creatively:	Unable to Judge
Openness to feedback:	Excellent	Potential for leadership:	Excellent
Ability to work in a team:	Excellent	Personal/professional reflection:	Very Good

Description Information

Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radius.com>

Other Information

Created Time: 01/22/2023 11:55 AM

Modified Time: 04/02/2023 06:33 PM

Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified By: Josephine Bernier



March 31, 2023

The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia, WA 98505

RE: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION – DREW GOFFENEY – MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to prepare this letter of recommendation on behalf of Drew Goffeney, of whom I know personally, to supplement his graduate studies application of admission to The Evergreen State College.

As the Planning Manager at Intercity Transit I am Drew's direct supervisor. Following a competitive recruitment Drew was hired in September 2022 as an Associate Planner—a position intended for professionals who are new or have reduced practical experience in the discipline of transit planning or urban planning. In both his written submission, as well as two interviews, Drew presented himself very well. He successfully highlighted how his varied background, including service in the US Army, collectively came together to build a broad set of customer service and problem-solving skills.

Drew has a genuine interest in public policy and public services. At the time of hire with Intercity Transit Drew was assisting the Route Facilities staff at King County Metro as a veteran fellow; Drew was using ArcGIS to study bus stop accessibility. During his interviews Drew referenced how his work with King County Metro felt meaningful and only furthered his desire to work in local government, and we're glad to have him on the Intercity Transit team.

Drew has a warm and infectious personality. Admittedly I have not known Drew for a very long time, but for those familiar with statistics will appreciate how reliable a small sample can be! Despite only having known Drew for a matter of months, he feels like an old friend. Drew has a wonderful temperament and attitude that he brings to the workplace each day. The Planning team at Intercity Transit is relatively small—only five full-time employees at present—and our relationships as co-workers often resemble close friendships; group texting on work matters regularly overflows and blends into collegial sharing of family events, travel and weekend activities. Drew is very relatable and authentic, and his entry on the Planning team has been very natural; now the responsibility is mine to ensure we keep him adequately challenged and happily employed!

As an Associate Planner at Intercity Transit Drew's work responsibilities can be quite diverse. Within the walls of a public transit agency the Planners are the architects of the system. Serving as internal subject matter experts Planners follow the laws, regulations and best practices within the transit industry for service design, service delivery, and supporting technology. Upon hire Drew inherited an active bus stop enhancement construction project; requiring him to coordinate between the contractor and multiple internal divisions. The responsibility was his to shepherd the construction at over 120 bus stops while ensuring the provision of accessible public transit service each week. He performed wonderfully! Drew has also worked to familiarize himself with certain software programs at Intercity Transit used to record and communicate detours and disruptions to bus service, as well as make adjustments to onboard audible

announcements. I recently assigned Drew a large and complex project—building a robust bus stop management tool. This project has been deferred for quite some time and will require significant effort to structure and organize the layers of data. I am excited to pull this much needed project off the shelf and let him advance it into a useful tool for Intercity Transit staff and public alike.

As an introductory employee Drew has exceed expectations. As Drew prepares himself to further his education he will be well supported by his employer. As an Associate Planner Drew is a full-time exempt employee and will need to balance the time demands of family, employment and education. That said, Drew has my endorsement as he pursues graduate school; and I suspect Drew and I will work together to find meaningful opportunities to overlap Intercity Transit work projects with relevant coursework and research.

Drew is an asset and a friend to his work-family at Intercity Transit; and I am excited for Drew to have this opportunity for additional education, as well as the pursuit of a recognized professional credential. Please feel welcome to contact me if there is anything further I can provide or clarify regarding my assessment and recommendation of Drew Goffeney.

Respectfully,



Rob LaFontaine, MPA
Planning Manager
Intercity Transit