



*Satpal Singh Sidhu*  
*Whatcom County Executive*



RE: Letter of Introduction

Dear Employer,

I am pleased to introduce Public Works Director Jon Hutchings. Jon has served the people of Whatcom County in various Public Works leadership positions for over fifteen years, serving three County Executives and a Mayor of Bellingham. Most recently, in his seven and a half years as Director of Whatcom County Public Works, Mr. Hutchings has been directly responsible for all Public Works activities under the jurisdiction of our County government. These including assessing, planning, engineering, constructing, and maintaining roads, bridges, dykes and levees, pits and quarries, facilities, and other structures relating to our transportation and flood control systems. His duties also included acquiring, maintaining and replacing the county's heavy equipment and fleet vehicles, along with procuring all of the consumables and supplies necessary to operate successfully. Lastly, he was responsible for administering and coordinating storm water, surface water, and water resource-related activities for the County. Jon's responsibilities included preparing for and responding to floods, snow and ice storms, and other emergencies and disasters, including a leadership role at our Emergency Operations Center during COVID. Jon worked closely with our County's Division of Emergency Management during these events and managed the County's relationship with FEMA during recovery from presidentially-declared natural disasters.

To deliver these services, Jon competently led a staff of 175 full-time employees and numerous temporary appointments, and oversaw the financial integrity of annual budgets ranging between \$50M and \$80M. Jon and his team successfully oversaw the completion of many important transportation and flood control capital projects for Whatcom County. The most prominent of these resolved very complex and long-standing engineering, environmental, and financial challenges. Our Birch-Bay Drive Flood Control and Pedestrian Facility, Swift Creek Asbestos Sediment Management Facilities, and Lummi Island Ferry Replacement are examples.

Finally, I would like to call attention to Mr. Hutchings' work to advance meaningful changes within our County organization. Jon envisioned the Public Works Department positioned to successfully deliver services twenty years in the future and engaged his employees to identify, prioritize and address barriers to achieving that success.

It has been a pleasure working with Jon and I am very confident that he will serve your organization well.

Sincerely,

Satpal Sidhu  
County Executive

Tyler Schroeder  
Deputy Executive