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Bob Peterson named Commission's new Deputy Director



SEATTLE, Wash.—The Washington State Housing Finance Commission has named Bob Peterson as the Commission's new deputy director.

Peterson, currently the manager of tax-credit programs in the Commission's Multifamily Housing & Community Facilities division, will start his new position in mid-April after more than 20 years of leadership at the Commission.

"I am extremely happy to be promoted to the position of deputy director at the Commission," Peterson said. "I am proud of what we have accomplished during my tenure in both the Homeownership and Multifamily Housing divisions.

"I have loved not only assisting families through our programs, but also partnering with other public funders and housing providers to tackle affordable housing and homelessness across our state," he added. "I am excited for the opportunity to pursue the current and future challenges before us in my new role."

As deputy director, Peterson will be responsible for the administrative integrity of the Commission, a self-supporting state agency since 1983 with an annual budget of more than \$23 million and a staff of 75. The deputy also directs and manages business services and has a major role in strategic planning and implementing the Commission's racial-equity values.

To this role, Peterson brings a wealth of experience in affordable housing finance and a wealth of insight into Washington's housing and economic needs and opportunities. He initially joined the Commission's Homeownership division in 2000 from the banking industry, later taking a hiatus to work at the Pierce County Housing Authority before returning to the Commission in 2006. He now manages federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit programs, which build or preserve thousands of affordable apartments across the state each year.

"We cast a broad net in our nationwide search for a new deputy, and it confirmed that Bob was the right choice for this critical position," said Steve Walker, executive director of the Commission. "With his experience, empathy and deep knowledge of housing in our state, he has my confidence and that of his colleagues to help lead the Commission into our next era."

Peterson received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Washington State University and an executive development certificate from the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business.

He replaces former deputy director Paul Edwards, who retired in November 2021 after more than 20 years at the Commission. In addition to working at the Commission, Peterson also serves as the chair of the Affordable Housing Advisory Council of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines. He lives on his farm near Bonney Lake, Wash.

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The [Washington State Housing Finance Commission](#) is a publicly accountable, self-supporting team that brings private investment dollars to benefit families and achieve public goals throughout Washington.