



Executive Director

Our mission at Futurewise is to promote healthy communities and cities while protecting farmland, forests, and shorelines for this and future generations.

Creating a **better future**

for Washington



The choices we make today about housing, transportation and development are critical to the future of every person living and working in Washington. Fortunately, there is an organization that is working hard to ensure that the right choices are made for a better future for Washington - Futurewise.

About Futurewise

Futurewise is the only statewide group in Washington dedicated to ensuring that our state and local governments manage growth responsibly. Founded in 1990, Futurewise (formerly 1000 Friends of Washington) has established an impressive track record on growth management issues as the state's primary advocate for smart growth policies. Over the last 17 years, Futurewise has protected more than a million acres of farm and forestland from destructive overdevelopment, helped make our communities more attractive for children and families, and has improved Washington's transportation choices.

Our organizing and advocacy, public education and legal programs, and the technical support that we provide local groups have become the foundation of good growth management in Washington.

Futurewise is also a leader in the environmental community, bringing groups together with common concerns to leverage our collective voices. We are not afraid to tackle the tough issues, and work to open a dialogue with diverse groups to solve many of our region's problems.



Our goal is to protect Washington for all of its citizens by ensuring that growth happens in a way that is beneficial to everyone. **We concentrate our efforts in three main areas:**

Building Healthy, Attractive Communities

Futurewise advocates for investment in attractive livable communities where there are parks, libraries, schools and other amenities that children, seniors and families can walk and bicycle to. We work towards providing a range of housing options for people of all ages, where people know and enjoy their neighbors, and don't have to spend their lives in cars.

Saving Open Spaces and Natural Places

Futurewise is working across Washington to improve protections for working farms, rural areas, rivers, wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. We are working to protect Washington's natural places from poorly planned over-development and to focus new development into existing urban areas. Washington's natural beauty must be part of our future.

Improving Transportation Choices

Washington and the central Puget Sound region in particular are struggling with tremendous traffic problems, and are making major investments in transportation infrastructure. Futurewise is working to make sure that existing funds are spent wisely, and that additional efforts are focused on the smartest, most effective investments. We are working to ensure that public transportation options and mass transit are on the horizon for our ever increasing population and commuter demands.

Current Priorities

The way we develop land has an incredible impact on our future in Washington. Destructive, poorly planned development is fueling many of our biggest problems: disappearing farm and forestland, loss of habitat, air and water pollution, traffic, struggling schools, health problems like obesity and asthma, increasing tax burdens, and even global warming.

Our goal is to protect the future of Washington for all of its citizens by ensuring that growth happens in a way that is beneficial to everyone. With more than 300 residents arriving each day and 2 million more residents expected by 2025, there is tremendous pressure on Washington State.

As we make important decisions about development, transportation, and housing, the stakes have never been higher.

We are working to address the root causes of our most critical environmental issues. By reducing irresponsible sprawl development we are protecting water quality, reducing air pollution, protecting farmland and critical wildlife habitat, and creating a better quality of life. Through all of our work we look to engage citizens in decision-making processes and to broaden our base of support among the public. In addition to our policy aims, we see our work as an opportunity to develop activist leadership and to reach out to new partners and build lasting relationships with them.

We believe that Washington residents deserve healthy cities, towns and suburbs, homes that are both affordable and close to jobs and activities, fewer hours in traffic; air and water of the highest quality; locally grown food; opportunities to enjoy recreation and natural areas; and a landscape that will be protected for generations to come. Our work is designed to achieve these outcomes.

This year, Futurewise is working on several ambitious efforts to ensure that our state, and our communities are making sound decisions that address growth and development in a proactive, livable way. ***Our priorities for the year include four campaigns:***

1. Reducing Global Warming through Responsible Land Use. We are developing an exciting campaign to achieve state level reforms that help reduce the carbon dioxide pollution generated by sprawl development and the traffic it generates. It is not possible to achieve major reductions in global warming pollutants if we continue to make essentially irreversible investments in energy intensive sprawling development patterns.

2. Community Protection. We are continuing to make dramatic improvements in Washington's land protections, as counties and cities across the state undertake the first ever major updates to their comprehensive plans and development regulations. We are working in over twenty counties during the next year.

3. Great Cities. We are launching an expanded program to make cities more attractive, sustainable places for more people to live. Our new Urban Strategies Director is organizing a proactive agenda aimed at improving transportation choices, supporting infill development, tackling affordability problems, and supporting parks and open space.

4. Farmland Protection. Futurewise protects more farmland than any other organization in Washington. Our advocacy and legal programs are tackling local, state, and federal decisions to achieve two goals: to save farmland from irresponsible development and to help make farming more economically viable.



About The Position

Futurewise is looking for an energetic, talented and experienced leader to direct one of Washington's leading public interest groups. The Executive Director is responsible for the overall direction and management of Futurewise. Along with the Board of Directors, he/she will work to achieve the mission, vision and strategic goals of the organization.

The Director will interact with community leaders, elected officials, environmental coalitions, businesses and other decision makers. He/She will lead the organization's financial management and fundraising initiatives with a particular focus on major giving. He/She will direct the policy directions and ensure that resources are allocated to ensure success.

The Executive Director will manage a team of 11 and provide leadership to a seasoned and knowledgeable Board of Directors. He/She will seek opportunities to further strengthen the capacity of the organization, empower staff to be successful, encourage a team approach, and create an environment that retains and attracts the best people.

Key Responsibilities:

- Fundraising & Financial Management
- Policy Development & Implementation
- Strategic Planning
- Staff Management
- Board Relations
- Program Development
- External Relations



Our Requirements

This position requires substantial advocacy, fundraising, and management experience, and a commitment to progressive growth management, environmental protection, affordable housing, and transportation reform.

Futurewise is seeking a dynamic Executive Director who is able to effectively represent the organization in the media, at speaking engagements, and to funders.

The candidate should also have knowledge of and interest in land use and growth management issues. He/She will be able to exercise sound political judgement and have knowledge of the political process.

He/she should possess strong negotiating skills, the ability to make bold decisions, and provide leadership within the environmental community. The candidate should have a minimum of five years of relevant experience and proven capabilities in leadership, fundraising, and communications.

Requirements and Qualifications:

- Substantial fundraising experience.
- Extensive advocacy experience.
- Substantial Director level management experience.
- Broad experience working with elected officials and the media.
- Strong communications skills, both oral and written.

Application Process:

Please submit all of the following no later than October 22nd.

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Writing sample
- Minimum of three references

Please apply by email to:
edsearch@futurewise.org

www.futurewise.org