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News Release

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Share! #Durham hires Andre Pettigrew as new director for the Office of Economic & Workforce Development:
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Durham Economic & Workforce Development Director Announced

DURHAM, N.C. – Andre N. Pettigrew has been named director of the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development by City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield.

Pettigrew has over 20 years of senior leadership experience in economic development within the public and private sectors. He has successfully developed and implemented economic development strategies that have facilitated economic growth by attracting new investment, business opportunities, and jobs. Prior to joining the City, Pettigrew was an independent consultant working with organizations interested in business and investment opportunities within the emerging clean energy and sustainability sectors. His clients included the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

Pettigrew also served as executive director for Climate Prosperity Project, Inc., a non-partisan civic initiative to accelerate the growth of the clean economy through a coalition of regional chambers, economic development organizations, and business partners. As executive director of the Office of Economic Development for the City and County of Denver, he implemented financing, management, and technical assistance programs targeted at neighborhood small business entrepreneurs. Through Denver's Revolving Loan Program, he worked in partnership with local banks to provide low-cost financing and working capital to emerging small businesses to create jobs. He additionally worked in conjunction with neighborhood business associations and their members to support their marketing strategies to revitalize their neighborhoods.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to join the City of Durham to help shape the future of its economic growth and expand opportunities throughout the community. It's critical to leverage the current economic momentum and target resources toward areas in the community with the greatest needs," Pettigrew said. "Durham is experiencing a period of unprecedented economic growth. That growth and emerging opportunities, such as jobs, investment and business, need to be more broadly shared throughout the community. This will require a shared vision and strategy to drive economic opportunities in Durham."

Pettigrew is a graduate of the State and Local Government Senior Executive Program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and completed a Mel King Fellowship with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Community Innovators Lab. He also holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Some of his professional affiliations include serving as a Goodman Fellow with the Leadership Triangle Regional Leadership Program, member of the KB Home National Sustainability Advisory Board, member of the Research Triangle Clean Tech Cluster Talent Development Committee, and a founding board member of the Greenhouse Scholars.

Pettigrew succeeds Kevin Dick, who resigned in April 2016 to take a position as the City of Charlotte's economic development director. Pettigrew's appointment is effective May 15, 2017.

About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the [Office of Economic and Workforce Development](#) helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.

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