

# Cover Letter for Motivate (Bike-Share) Job Application

Efrem Rensi

Hello, Motivate!

I was originally applying for the Site Planning Position (in San Francisco), but apparently the position got filled while I was working on my application, because I no longer see it listed! I guess I'm now applying for the "Operations Supervisor (Part-Time) - Bay Area Bike Share" position. Actually I am open to any work you might have in SF Bay Area locations that can use my skills. Read on...

This is a departure from the kind of work I've been seeking, but I'd like to try something different. I have an applied-mathematics and scientific computing background. I graduated from UC Davis with a M.S. in math (ABD from a PhD program) in June 2014, and since then I've been marketing myself as a software developer. I have Python programming skills and some full-stack web development and Business Analytics experience, as well as familiarity with GIS data. I've been a cyclist most of my life, and lived exclusively by bike as a graduate student, so I'm enthusiastic about promoting cycling in the general community via Bay Area Bike Share.

One thing I don't usually emphasize in my IT job applications is that during most of my time as a graduate student at UCD, I was a member of the Davis Bike Collective (<http://davisbikecollective.org/>). I volunteered regular shifts as a mechanic for several years (2008-2013), and helped organize the space. Davis Bike Collective is a community bike resource and provides a shop for people to come work on their own bikes, as well as a clearinghouse for donated bikes/parts. It is all-volunteer run and supported by donations from the community. While I was there, we maintained a fleet of bikes in our "bike-brary" for visitors to Davis. My involvement with the collective was a big part of my social life as a grad student and I miss being involved in that kind of effort. After several months of seeking software dev, algorithm-development, and data analyst jobs, I recently thought to look into work that might utilize my knowledge of urban cycling and bike mechanicy as well. I've been cycling for transportation for most of my life, and I'm a bay area native (from Oakland).

I have analytical skills, and I can write code if need be. I don't have a lot of management experience, but I think I have the propensity to do so because I led classroom sessions for many years, and was responsible for operations of Bike Forth (Davis Bike Collective's open-shop space) for years; I know how to break down tasks and delegate work, and I can work well with others in a cooperative environment. I think I might be a good fit for many possible positions at Bay Area Bike Share, from field mechanic, to operations. I'd be particularly interested in gathering data or maintaining your open data-sets if that kind of work is available. If you have a position that might be better suited for my skills than Site Planner, I'm very interested. The intersection of cycling, operations, and analytics is intriguing to me. I'd even be willing to relocate for the right position, but for now I'm particularly interested in the SF Bay Area.

I really look forward to hearing from somebody there! I'm not only interested in the position I applied for, but anything I can do in your entire operation. I have skills that apply to basically any job there, and I like your mission. I'm ultimately seeking full-time work, but part-time work is fine, as I have plenty of side-projects to work on.

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