



Office of the City Manager

March 7, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: *DWR* Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Re: Deputy City Manager Update

After a thorough, nationwide search, I am pleased to announce the appointment of David A. White, an experienced local government professional who is currently the Fairfield City Manager, for the second Deputy City Manager position. Alongside last month's appointment of Deputy City Manager Paul Buddenhagen, this step completes the City's leadership structure for the first time in more than five years.

Mr. White comes to us at an important time. City staff are moving forward on a number of key City-wide initiatives: multiple capital projects affecting roads, parks and other infrastructure through Measure T1; the creation of affordable housing using Measure O; the Berkeley Way Project; identifying priorities for Measure P; the overhaul of our financial software systems; creating a new public facing website and much more. That additional work is on top of a baseline where City departments are working to fortify our disaster preparedness, champion social equity, improve our financial health, and building a talented workforce.

Alongside Mr. Buddenhagen, Mr. White and our senior executive team, I will be working to ensure that we use this structure to achieve our organization's high goals with greater efficiency and effectiveness.

The following departments and units will report to Mr. Buddenhagen:

- Health, Housing and Community Services;
- Parks, Recreation & Waterfront;
- Planning;
- Public Works;
- Police Review Commission;
- Administrative Hearings; and
- Assistant to the City Manager overseeing Neighborhood Services, 2020 Vision, Code Enforcement, and Animal Services.

The following departments and units will report to Mr. White:

- Budget;
- City Clerk;
- Economic Development;
- Finance;
- Human Resources;
- Information Technology; and
- Special Projects.

I will oversee the two Deputy City Managers, City Attorney, Fire, Police, Communications, and Administration.

Mr. White has been the City Manager for the City of Fairfield for the past five years. In his previous 10 years with the City of Fairfield, Mr. White held a variety of roles in the organization. He was well-regarded for his collaborative approach to solving complex issues, financial acumen, community engagement, accessibility, and dedication to public service.

During his tenure, he was successful in securing community support to extend a sales and use tax vital to the city's General Fund, oversaw a robust capital improvement program, worked collaboratively to secure adoption and implement a comprehensive strategy to address homelessness and community revitalization initiatives, and prudently managed resources to emerge from the Great Recession in a strong financial position while increasing service levels.

Mr. White completed his undergraduate education at the University of California, Los Angeles and graduate education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He holds a Bachelor's degree in psychology and anthropology and a Master's degree in city planning. He has lived in the East Bay for the past twenty years and regularly spends time with his wife and daughter in Berkeley.

"Berkeley is an extraordinary place and I'm excited to join a community that I love and an organization that's committed to improving the quality of life for everyone," he said.

David will start his new position on May 13, 2019. Please be sure to extend a warm welcome to him upon his arrival.

cc: Jenny Wong, City Auditor
Department Directors
Assistants to the City Manager