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MARK SAWICKI APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

City Manager Daniel E. Keen announced today that Mark Sawicki has been appointed to the position of Community & Economic Development Director, effective October 7, 2013.

Mr. Sawicki has over 25 years of experience in economic development, in both the public and private sector. Early in his career he served as an asset manager for 9 years with Lehman Brothers, Inc., overseeing a \$275 million investment portfolio that included office, industrial, warehouse, affordable housing, senior, retirement and resort properties. He then co-founded a financial consulting firm in New York which eventually grew to more than 100 employees. He was a managing consultant with Seifel Consulting in San Francisco for 4 years, providing real estate, economic and redevelopment advisory services to more than 14 California cities and 7 private and nonprofit developers.

For the last 6 years, Mr. Sawicki has been the Economic Development and Housing Manager for the City of San Carlos, California. In that role, he has spearheaded a number of high profile development projects, including redevelopment of a 3-acre downtown transit-oriented mixed-use project, and he has led the City's efforts to assemble gateway parcels for a 6-acre office and hotel development site. Mr. Sawicki also directed the City's business retention, expansion and attraction efforts, including outreach visits to key businesses and development of a branding awareness campaign. He was a key participant in the development review process for strategic projects and in the preparation of San Carlos' new General Plan and Zoning Code.

Mr. Sawicki earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance, cum laude, from New York University in 1985, and a Masters in Public Policy from the University of California, Berkeley in 2003. He also possesses a Certificate in Real Estate Investment Analysis from New York University.

In announcing the appointment, City Manager Keen highlighted Mr. Sawicki's strong background: "Mark's experience in the economic development arena really stood out during our selection process. He has real experience in analyzing and assisting in development in the private sector, along with public sector work implementing economic development strategies for a city. This is a perfect combination for Vallejo right now, given our need for revenue growth. Mark had some great successes in San Carlos, and I'm excited to bring him to the City of Vallejo team."

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