



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Print and Broadcast Media

FROM: Carolynn Petru, Acting City Manager
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DATE: January 28, 2015

SUBJECT: RANCHO PALOS VERDES' NEW CITY MANAGER

The Rancho Palos Verdes City Council is very pleased to announce the selection of Mr. Douglas Willmore as its next City Manager. Mr. Willmore comes to Rancho Palos Verdes from the City of Bell, where he has served as City Manager since June 2012. Prior to that time, he was the City Manager for the City of El Segundo. Before coming to California, Mr. Willmore served as Chief Administrative Officer for Salt Lake County, Utah and, early in his career, worked as a Private Sector Development Officer with the United States Agency for International Development in Belize.

Mr. Willmore also has considerable private industry experience as the Chief Executive Officer of Reference Pathology Services in Salt Lake City, Utah, a Senior Consultant with London Perret Roche in Edison, New Jersey, and Chief Executive Officer for Summit West in Salt Lake City, Utah. His private sector experience is distinguished by transforming troubled or financially distressed business into successful enterprises.

During his time at Bell, which was previously rocked by an unprecedented scandal in 2010 involving former elected and appointed officials, Mr. Willmore was responsible for implementing significant changes to enhance transparency and accountability, institute better governance, and restore Bell's fiscal health. The City of Bell was virtually insolvent in June 2012 with a General Fund balance of less than \$200,000 and a crushing debt load of almost \$150 million. Under Mr. Willmore's leadership, Bell's General Fund reserve balance is now \$22.5 million (with reserves of almost 200%), and the city's debt has been reduced to \$79 million.



While working for El Segundo, Mr. Willmore exposed a significant tax inequity from a major taxpayer in the city, which eventually resulted in bringing the community an additional \$200 million in new tax revenue. In February 2014, he received the prestigious Cal-ICMA Hall of Fame Ethics Award for his efforts. The award is given to a City Manager every year who has "served in the local government profession with dignity, honor, and integrity" in the face of great challenge.

Mayor Jim Knight stated "The City Council is extremely impressed with Mr. Willmore's background, financial acumen, and high ethical standards. He is clearly a skilled and respected professional city administrator who will bring a tremendous amount of value, transparency, and innovation to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes."

Mr. Willmore holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Utah and a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from George Mason University. He is a member of the International City Managers Association and is a past adjunct Professor in University of Utah's MPA Program in Public Budgeting and Finance

Mr. Willmore's contract is scheduled to be considered by the City Council on February 3, 2015. His annual salary will be \$215,000. Mr. Willmore will begin his duties with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes effective March 1, 2015.

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