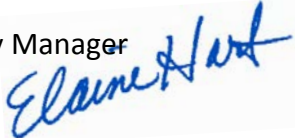




MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager 

DATE: January 9, 2017

SUBJECT: Retirement of Assistant City Manager Sue Edwards

It is with mixed emotions that I announce that Assistant City Manager Sue Edwards has decided to retire effective Friday, March 3, 2017. While we congratulate Sue on this milestone in her life and career, we are certainly sad to see her go.

Sue Edwards was appointed Assistant City Manager (ACM) for Development/Environment Services in July 2008. ACM Edwards currently oversees the Development Services group that includes the departments of Aviation, Development Services, Economic Development, Innovation Office, Planning and Zoning, Office of Real Estate Services, Sustainability Office, and Watershed Protection.

Early in her City career, Ms. Edwards served as Director of several City departments including Human Services, Austin/Travis County Health, Emergency Medical Services, and Taxation (a special assignment to facilitate creation of the Travis Central Appraisal District and related transition of personnel and property tax records from the City's Tax Department). In 1984, she was appointed Assistant City Manager over Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services, and Emergency Management.

In 1985, Ms. Edwards took a break from City employment to establish SPE Associates, a consulting firm specializing in small business development and property tax consulting. In 1994, she returned to the City as Director of Emergency Medical Services.

In 2000, she was tasked with creating, designing, and managing the first Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office, now known as the Economic Development Department. She served as Department Director until 2008. During that timeframe, she was appointed project sponsor for construction of the current City Hall, and later managed its expansion to accommodate our City's transition to 10-ONE. She also led the City in realizing its vision of a vibrant, active, mixed-use Second Street District.

During her tenure with the City, ACM Edwards negotiated and oversaw redevelopment of the Robert Mueller Municipal Airport, Seaholm Power Plant, Downtown Block 21, and the former Green Water Treatment Plant. She also led negotiations that resulted in the formation of the

Waller Creek Conservancy that is responsible for development of a string of parks and trails along Waller Creek.

Under Sue's leadership, the City created a Music and Entertainment Program, adopted the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, re-designed the permitting and development review process, and initiated a rewrite of the Land Development Code known as CodeNEXT.

I know all of you join me in expressing sincere appreciation for ACM Edwards' numerous contributions and the excellent service she has provided the City of Austin and its citizens during her career. Please join me in thanking ACM Edwards for her public service and congratulating her on this milestone in her life and career. Sue, we wish you the very best!

I will appoint an Interim Assistant City Manager prior to ACM Edwards' departure, and will keep you apprised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

cc: Executive Team and CMO Staff
Department Directors and Officers
Assistant Directors and Assistant Officers