

Community Planning and Economic Development News Release

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Steve Poor Named New Director of City of Minneapolis Development Services

Friday, July 10, 2015 (Minneapolis, MN) – Today, City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Director D. Craig Taylor announced his appointment of Steve Poor as the new Director of Development Services.

“Steve has a long track record of working to improve cross-divisional collaboration within the City and is focused on identifying opportunities to better serve residents and businesses through streamlining the development review process to help make doing business in Minneapolis easier for everyone,” said Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED) Director D. Craig Taylor. “He understands how the City works and is excited to step into this new role to take our Development Services division to the next level. I am confident with his 25 plus years of cumulative experience, he will do an excellent job.”

Poor has worked for the City of Minneapolis since 1989 in a variety of positions in Zoning Administration and Planning in the Development Services division. During his tenure at the City, he has held the titles of Interim Planning Manager and Interim Director of Development Services. In 2007, Poor was promoted to Zoning Administration Manager and in April of 2014, he was asked to serve as the Development Services Interim Director. While in these positions, Poor helped create the zoning ordinance providing for an application process to request Reasonable Accommodation (compliance with the Federal Fair Housing Act as it relates to individuals with a recognized disability under the law); lead the efforts for off-premise billboard sign ordinances regulating all of the regional sports facilities; and worked on the inception and development of the City zoning enforcement program.

“Steve Poor brings years of experience to the City, a strong commitment to customer service for businesses and constituents and an ability to solve tough problems,” said Council Member Lisa Bender. “I am thrilled that he will be leading our very busy Development Services team during this time of city growth.”

“I’m very excited about this appointment,” said Council Member John Quincy. “Steve’s years of experience both with the zoning code and with working with Minneapolis residents and businesses to solve problems will be extremely valuable in his new position.”

As Director of Development Services, Poor will be responsible for directing and managing CPED's Zoning Administration; Land Use, Design and Preservation; Construction Code Services; and the Development Review Customer Service Center with the responsibility of integrating urban design principles into the City of Minneapolis' efforts on housing and economic development and protecting the safety and welfare of the public in the development of the City's built environment.

"I am very excited to take on this new role and to continue to collaborate with my fellow experienced and talented City staff to improve the Minneapolis development review process," said Steve Poor, City of Minneapolis Development Services Director.

The CPED Development Services includes a staff of approximately 100. Poor's official first day as Development Services Director will be Monday, July 13, 2015. This is the second internal appointment to a director level position by Director D. Craig Taylor. The first was David Frank as Economic Policy and Development Director in April, 2015.

"The City of Minneapolis is fortunate to have a very talented and dedicated team working within the enterprise," said CPED Director Taylor. "To keep this level of talent, management must commit to investing and developing our team. One way of doing that is by encouraging professional development and promotional opportunities from within. I am proud we were able to fill two key leadership positions from within the department. Both bring so much to the table to help us accomplish our goals."

A lifelong resident of Minneapolis, Poor has served as a prescient judge annually for the last 23 years and is also a member of the Urban Land Institute.

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