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# News Release

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## **Steve Badgett Named Interim Assistant City Manager in Riverside**

*Deputy General Manager/COO of Riverside Public Utilities has served City for 24 years*

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Steve Badgett, a key member of the Riverside Public Utilities management team for nearly 15 years, has been named Interim Assistant City Manager for the City of Riverside, effective Dec. 22. Badgett will fill the role of Assistant City Manager Belinda Graham, who is retiring Dec. 25.

A 24-year RPU veteran, Badgett has been Deputy General Manager, the second-highest position in the utility, since 2000 and has been Chief Operating Officer, supervising 600 employees, for about a year. A 40-year veteran of the utility industry, Badgett served as RPU’s Interim General Manager for four months prior to the hiring of General Manager Girish Balachandran about a year ago.

Badgett had been planning to retire on Dec. 19, but agreed to fill the Interim Assistant City Manager role at the request of City Manager Scott Barber. Barber, who is retiring Dec. 30, said Badgett’s knowledge of the city and his executive leadership skills make him especially valuable during the pending transition period.

“Steve Badgett’s management expertise and knowledge of Riverside make him an excellent choice to provide continued strong leadership in the City Manager’s Office,” Barber said. “Riverside is very fortunate to have someone of Steve’s caliber who is willing to step in and assume such an important role.”

Badgett initially will work with Barber, then team with the city’s Interim City Manager, whom the City Council is expected to name soon, and Assistant City Manager Deanna Lorson to form the City’s executive leadership team.

“I look forward to ensuring the City of Riverside continues to maintain a tradition of excellence in the executive leadership team,” Badgett said. “Riverside has been a very big part of my professional life, and I am honored to be able to provide steady leadership during the upcoming transition.”

At RPU, Badgett has been a member of utility’s executive leadership team for many years, guiding the development of the utility’s strategy and policies. He also is responsible for power delivery, supervising 225 employees who engineer, build, maintain and operate the city’s electric, streetlight and telecommunications systems.

Prior to being named Deputy General Manager in 2000, Badgett served as the utility’s Principal Electrical Engineer/Engineering Manager and, before that, Senior Electrical Engineer, Capital Projects. He began his career at Memphis Light, Gas and Water in Memphis, Tenn.

In addition to a number of leadership roles on regional, state and national utility-related boards, Badgett also is very active in Riverside’s business and professional community. He has chaired the Leadership Steering Committee for the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and has been a member of the Board of Advisors to the Department of Electrical Engineering at UC Riverside. He is a 2006 graduate of Leadership Riverside.

Badgett’s salary as Interim Assistant City Manager will be \$241,584.