



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Nov. 2, 2015

Contact:

Phil Pitchford

Communications Officer

951-826-5975

ppitchford@riversideca.gov

Ted White Brings Strong Background in Planning, Customer Service to Riverside

New City Planner aims to use technology to make planning process more user friendly

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Ted White, an 18-year veteran of the Anaheim Planning Department who streamlined the development review process there and developed an award-winning customer service program, joins the City of Riverside today (11/2) as City Planner.

White most recently worked as Principal Planner in Anaheim, overseeing current planning, planning information and historic preservation. In Riverside, he will oversee all aspects of the planning function and report to Rafael Guzman, Director of Community & Economic Development.

“Ted White has a proven record as an innovator and as a leader in making the development review process more user-friendly,” Guzman said. “I look forward to him helping us become an even more customer-centered organization.”

White is expected to play a major role in Riverside in the further development of community-based planning, which melds the community’s goals for its surrounding neighborhood with the land use entitlement and development process followed by land owners who wish to develop their property.

White also will further expand the use of technology in the planning function to simplify the process for users. Riverside’s ePlan Review process allows users to submit plans and complete the plan check process online. The next step is to empower users to complete nearly all planning-related tasks online, so that projects can advance without the applicant needing to come to City Hall.

“I am honored to join an organization that is seeking to be innovative and forward-thinking in the area of land use planning,” White said. “I look forward to working with the staff to maximize our level of customer service and strengthen the relationship between land use planning and economic development.”

White has previously served as a member of a regulatory relief task force in Anaheim, which recommended 17 ways in which the city could make it easier for people to do business there. The task

force was credited with updating or eliminating outdated zoning requirements, reducing the regulatory burden on business and helping new businesses open more quickly and efficiently.

White received his B.A. in History from UCLA and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach. He was recognized with the "Spirit of Planning Award" from the Planning Directors Association of Orange County and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and the American Planning Association.

White's salary will be \$154,974.