



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CITY MANAGER LEAVING CITY OF FIFE, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
APPOINTED AT JULY 13 COUNCIL MEETING**

Fife, WA – Fife City Manager Hyun Kim announced his departure from the city at the July 13 Fife City Council meeting. His resignation is effective July 23, 2021. Deputy City Manager Russ Blount was appointed interim city manager by Fife City Councilmembers at the July 13 city council meeting. Blount will assume city manager duties on July 23, 2021. Kim will remain in a consulting capacity on an as-needed basis to the city through Aug. 17, 2021.

Kim has accepted a position as city administrator for the City of Gillette, Wyoming, beginning Sept. 1. Kim previously worked for municipalities in Wyoming.

Kim was appointed Fife's city manager in September 2017 after former City Manager Subir Mukerjee retired.

"It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you and this premiere staff that you have here assembled before you. That goes from our line employees all the way to our directors," Kim said, addressing councilmembers at Tuesday's council meeting.

"I will always find an opportunity to repay this community for the opportunities that the city has afforded me and my family. I don't know how you're going to collect on that, but I will look for an opportunity one day when I'm back in the Puget Sound," Kim added.

Kim led the city's day-to-day operations and assisted the city council in shaping policy issues. Kim came to Fife from Boulder City, Nevada, where he was that city's finance director. Previously, Kim served as the town administrator for Afton, Wyoming.

"It's been a pleasure to get to know you the last four years," Councilmember Doug Fagundes told Kim at Tuesday's council meeting. "You've done a great job of assembling an amazing staff. And we've always had an amazing staff, but with the additions and the placements, I think we're set up to be left in very good hands and I appreciate that."

Mayor Kim Roscoe noted that councilmembers were unified in their support of the transition. Councilmembers unanimously appointed longtime Fife staff member Russ Blount as the interim city manager at Tuesday's meeting. "We are confident in the transition plan that has been put in place," Mayor Roscoe said.

As interim city manager, Blount will oversee day-to-day city operations. Blount has been with the City of Fife for nearly 20 years and was the city's public works director prior to becoming its deputy city manager.

"Thank you for this opportunity," said Blount at Tuesday's meeting. "I have confidence in myself but also confidence in the staff, and confidence in you, and collectively we will decide what's best for the City of Fife."

City Councilmembers will be deliberating in the coming weeks about the next steps for the city's leadership.

The City of Fife uses a council-manager form of government. The Fife City Council consists of seven members, elected to four-year terms. Councilmembers are responsible for establishing policy, voting appropriations, developing the city's vision and mission, as well as passing local ordinances, resolutions and proclamations. Councilmembers appoint the city manager, who carries out decisions made by councilmembers, oversees city staff members and runs the daily operations of the city.

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