

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT INFORMATION:

City of Salida, Colorado
Dan Shore, Mayor
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RELEASE DATE:

May 28, 2023

SALIDA CITY ADMINISTRATOR ANNOUNCES DEPARTURE

Drew Nelson informs City of Salida of intention to leave position

CITY OF SALIDA, CO — On May 26, 2023, the Salida City Council was provided a letter by City Administrator Drew Nelson stating his intention to leave the position no later than August 1, 2023. Nelson has been in his position since October of 2018. This notice was intended to provide an orderly and smooth transition of leadership for the City ahead of the 2023 general election.

Nelson indicated in his letter that this transition commenced in October of 2022 with the hiring of a highly skilled Assistant City Administrator, Christy Doon. Nelson and Doon will be working collaboratively with Mayor Dan Shore to create an orderly hand-off of duties moving forward, and there will be no reduction in services provided to the community.

“Mr. Nelson shared with me and the City Council a variety of personal and professional reasons for his desire to leave his position,” said Mayor Shore. “It is Drew’s prerogative as a professional to seek out new and different challenges, and we do not begrudge him that. We have been fortunate to have the benefit of Drew’s leadership for the past four and a half years, during which the City has experienced a dramatic rebuilding of City staff and forward progress on a myriad of projects. As he seeks new challenges, we wish him all the best”.

In his letter, Nelson stated, “I am grateful for the opportunity that you have provided me to work with outstanding elected officials and staff. We have collectively collaborated on establishing the City of Salida as a top-performing organization. As the longest tenured Administrator in Salida’s modern history, I can testify that the accomplishments of the City have been significant and will endure long after my departure. The incredible staff at the City is now positioned for long-term success and stability, and it has been one of the highlights of my career to witness this transformation.”

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The City of Salida, CO, is the statutory seat of Chaffee County with a population of approximately 5,700 residents. Salida is a family-friendly community ideally situated in central Colorado - known by many as the “Heart of the Rockies,” both for its geographic location and the abundance of arts, cultural and recreational amenities found here. The city is dedicated to maintaining a safe, fiscally responsible and forward-thinking government where residents, businesses and visitors can thrive. Explore more about Salida at www.cityofsalida.com.



448 E First Street, Suite 112
Salida, Colorado 81201

May 26, 2023

Salida City Council
Attn: Mayor Dan Shore
448 E. First Street, Suite 112
Salida, CO 81201

Dear Mayor Shore and Salida City Council,

It has been my distinct pleasure and honor to represent you, our employees, and this community as your City Administrator for the past four and a half years. During this period we have successfully navigated many challenges, provided outstanding municipal services, implemented award-winning programs, and developed an amazing and professional organizational team. You all should take pride in the fact that the City of Salida is now recognized as a stable, successful organization.

As you are aware, I have recently embarked on a search for new employment opportunities elsewhere in order to seek out different personal and professional challenges. As such, please accept this letter as formal notice that I intend to leave my position as City Administrator no later than August 1, 2023. This transition process commenced in October of 2022 with the hiring of a highly skilled Assistant City Administrator in Christy Doon, and she and I will be working together to create an orderly hand-off of duties moving forward. It is my desire that this 60-day notice will provide the City with ample time to create an orderly and smooth transition of leadership ahead of the 2023 general election.

I am grateful for the opportunity that you have provided me to work with outstanding elected officials and staff. We have collectively collaborated on establishing the City of Salida as a top-performing organization. As the longest tenured Administrator in Salida's modern history, I can testify that the accomplishments of the City have been significant and will endure long after my departure. The incredible staff at the City is now positioned for long-term success and stability, and it has been one of the highlights of my career to witness this transformation.

Thank you again for the privilege of serving Salida as City Administrator, and I wish you, our team, and this wonderful community a bright and productive future.

Sincerely,

Drew Nelson, City Administrator
City of Salida

