



City of Talent

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TALENT CITY MANAGER ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

Talent City Manager Jordan Rooklyn announced her resignation from the City Manager and Urban Renewal Executive Director roles last Friday. Her last day with the City will be September 7th.

Jordan has been serving as the City Manager for Talent since August 2021, during a time when Talent was focused on recovering from the Almeda Fire. Under her tenure, Talent has seen 70% of lost homes actively rebuilding or fully rebuilt, 207 units of affordable housing in the construction pipeline, and a return to full staffing levels. The City has also established five-year goals, is reassessing revenue streams to ensure effective city services and established a multi-year capital improvement plan that focuses on streets and infrastructure.

The decision to step down comes as a personal one, as she cited the need to focus on family and health after committing the last two years to Talent's recovery. Her announcement was met with both expressions of understanding and appreciation for her contributions, as well as expressions of disappointment from those who admired her leadership.

The Talent City Council will discuss next steps for the recruitment and hiring process of a new City Manager at their August 2nd council meeting. Jordan will be working closely with the Council to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities.

[See page 2 for statements from City Manager Jordan Rooklyn and Mayor Ayers-Flood](#)

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Statement from City Manager Jordan Rooklyn

As I reflect on the last two years in this role, one word keeps resonating: gratitude. I am grateful for a dedicated and professional staff who care about the community; for a Council with a clear vision who shows up to do the work; and for a community who cares for each other and the environment. These aspects – and so many more – make Talent the incredible place it is.

I am deeply proud of what we have accomplished together, and I am confident in Talent's trajectory. As I transition to my next chapter, I look forward to staying connected and supporting from the sidelines – as a volunteer, neighbor, and friend.

Statement from Mayor Darby Ayers-Flood

Jordan's resignation is felt by everyone for the loss of her leadership, and with a deep understanding of her current priorities. Jordan has been an amazing leader within our community, her accomplishments in Talent's recovery are remarkable. She has led incredible progress on many fronts, literally out of the most devastating fire disaster in Talent's history. She and city staff have engaged in cooperative agreements with neighboring cities, have strengthened regional partnerships, worked at the state and federal levels to secure critical resources and stabilize Talent post-fire.

Before this difficult decision, Jordan had turned her focus to Talent's future. She accomplished goal setting that better provides for capital improvements and the city's operational objectives over the next 5 years, aligning them with our community values.

Jordan's particularly compassionate, kind and competent leadership came at the right time in Talent's recovery. We are confident that the values and principles Jordan imparted will help to guide Talent's future. It is a demonstration of her best intention for Talent that she has chosen this more stable point in time to realign her life and work. We are truly grateful for her service.

With these great strides, may we unify to continue this positive momentum to attract great applicants for this role. We are incredibly fortunate to have worked with Jordan, as the City Council begins the recruitment process for our next City Manager.