



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

## News from: City of Oakland

### IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 4, 2016

## Stephen Baiter Appointed as Executive Director for the Oakland Workforce Development Board

*Oakland, CA* — Mayor Libby Schaaf and City Administrator Sabrina Landreth today announced the appointment of Stephen Baiter as the City of Oakland’s new Executive Director for the Oakland Workforce Development Board.

“Stephen is a proven local leader, with a passion for creating and sustaining innovative partnerships among business, education, labor and community-based organizations to develop the skills and competitiveness of our local workforce and enhance the economic vitality of our city and region,” said Mayor Schaaf. “We are thrilled to have him join the Oakland team at this time when income inequality and affordability are such critical issues.” Stephen will begin work on October 24, 2016.

Stephen will serve as the Mayor’s liaison to the 20-member Workforce Development Board she appointed earlier this year to shape the City’s vision, goals and strategies for implementing the recently enacted federal Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA). He will oversee a staff of six in the workforce development division within the City’s Department of Economic and Workforce Development, administering program services including business engagement, industry sector access points, a comprehensive one-stop career center for adult and dislocated workers, neighborhood job centers and in-school and out-of-school youth training and supportive services. Stephen will also lead the City’s efforts to seek, advocate for, and leverage additional funding sources for workforce development, through government grants, philanthropy and private sector partners.

Stephen served the last seven years as the Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County, managing a \$10 million budget and a system that included more than 40 staff members, plus another 50 partner organization staff members and contractors, including oversight of the Contra Costa Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Before that, he managed the operations of four One-Stop Career Centers in Contra Costa County, was the Director of Youth Programs at JobTrain in Silicon Valley for 10 years and also spent time helping adults with psychiatric and substance abuse issues build career and technical skills to help them achieve self-sufficiency.

“Stephen brings to Oakland his deep experience with successfully managing complex workforce programs, as well as an extensive collaborative network at the local, State and Federal level,” said City Administrator Landreth. “He is passionate about creating opportunities for job seekers and workers who historically have not proportionately benefitted from periods of broader economic prosperity, at a time when these issues are critical to Oakland.”

“I am honored and excited to assume this opportunity with the City of Oakland, which comes at a unique point in time for the workforce system, as it builds a new foundation under WIOA,” said Stephen Baiter. “I look forward to working with the entire Oakland community to help ensure that the City’s workforce development efforts fulfill their promise to its residents and businesses.”

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