



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR &  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Henry L. Gardner

**SUBJECT: ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

**DATE:** January 20, 2015

### INFORMATION

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Sawicki as the new Director of Economic & Workforce Development for the City of Oakland, effective February 23, 2015.

Mark has more than 30 years of experience in both the private and public sector. Most recently, he was the Community & Economic Development Director at the City of Vallejo, directing the city's Economic Development, Real Estate Asset Management, Planning and Building divisions, as well as the Successor Agency to the city's former Redevelopment Agency. He oversaw the continuing redevelopment and reuse of the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard, downtown and waterfront revitalization efforts, as well as business attraction and retention. Prior to his position in Vallejo, Mark served as the Economic Development & Housing Manager for the City of San Carlos, where he developed and implemented the Economic Development Strategy, developed a marketing and branding campaign for the city, and led negotiations on large development projects including transit-oriented, mixed-use projects in the downtown.

Mark previously worked in the private sector as a managing consultant at Seifel Consulting in San Francisco, providing real estate, economic and redevelopment advisory services to over 14 cities, counties and redevelopment agencies across California. In his earlier career, he was Chief Financial Officer and co-founder of a startup business that grew to over 100 employees, and was an asset manager for a \$275 million national portfolio of real estate investments.

Mark holds a Masters in Public Policy from the Goldman School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley and a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from New York University. He served four years on the City of Berkeley Housing Advisory Commission and was a visiting instructor in public policy at Mills College in Oakland. The Department of Economic & Workforce Development includes approximately 50 staff across four divisions: Project Implementation, Economic Development, Workforce Development, and Cultural Arts and Marketing.

Please join me in congratulating Mark on his appointment.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY L. GARDNER  
Interim City Administrator