



News Release

Contact: Raul Mendez, City Manager

May 5, 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcement of Jaylen French as Incoming Hughson Community Development Director

"Mr. French exhibited the planning expertise and professional leadership skills that the City of Hughson was looking for. He is well respected in the field for his attention to detail and will bring fresh and exciting approaches to advancing the City Council's initiatives in the areas of planning and economic development" – Hughson City Manager Raul Mendez.

During the State of the City Address delivered by Mayor Matt Beekman at Samaritan Village on April 28, 2014, City Manager Raul Mendez shared with the Hughson City Council and attendees that he had selected Jaylen French to succeed Thom Clark as Community Development Director. Mr. Clark left the City of Hughson last fall to assume the duties as Public Services Director with the City of Oakdale. Jim Duval, a retired Stanislaus County Assistant Planning Director, was brought on board with the City of Hughson shortly thereafter to provide leadership and expertise on an interim basis and along with City Manager Mendez handled the recruitment for the critical management position with the organization.



Jaylen French
Hughson Community Development Director

The City of Hughson's recruitment process for the Community Development Director position attracted applications from nine qualified individuals. Eight of the nine candidates were interviewed and ranked by an expert panel. Mr. French was one of three finalists that was invited back to the selection interview with City Manager Mendez.

Mr. French had worked with the Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) since 2009 and has very strong technical skills in the area of land use and transportation planning. Prior to then, he worked for JB Anderson where he provided oversight to consultants and managed development projects. Mr. French holds a Bachelor of Science degree in City and Regional

Planning from California Polytechnic State University. Mr. French is married to his wife Maria and they have two children—Athan (3) and Ava (1).

Mr. French will begin with the City of Hughson on May 12, 2014. He will lead and oversee key functional areas of the City including planning, public works and parks and recreation. He will also work closely with the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, City Attorney and City Engineer as needed on a variety of City projects and initiatives.

The Hughson City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month and the Hughson Planning Commission meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Meetings of the Hughson City Council and Hughson Planning Commission are held at City Hall located at 7018 Pine Street, Hughson, CA. For more information, please visit the City of Hughson website at www.hughson.org or call 209.883.4054.

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