



News Release

Contact: Raul Mendez, City Manager

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Announcement of Lea Simvoulakis as Incoming Hughson Community Development Director

"Ms. Simvoulakis was the top candidate in the City's recent recruitment for a Community Development Director. Her education, experience and potential separated her from a very qualified field. I am looking forward to her joining our management team at the start of the new year." – Hughson City Manager Raul Mendez.

The City of Hughson's recruitment process for the Community Development Director position attracted applications from fifteen professionals from across the state. Seven of the fifteen candidates were interviewed and ranked by an expert panel. Ms. Simvoulakis was one of two finalists invited back to the selection interview with the City Manager. Ms. Simvoulakis was offered and accepted the Community Development Director position with the City of Hughson and will soon become the newest member of the City's leadership team.

Ms. Simvoulakis has worked with the City of San José since 2014 and has very strong technical skills in the areas of land use and planning. Prior to then, she held several positions, while completing her education in the Southern California area, with local municipalities and legal firms. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Dual Master's Degrees in Urban Planning and Public Administration from the University of Southern California (USC), and a Juris Doctorate in Law from Southwestern Law School. Ms. Simvoulakis is married to her husband Jon Sonnenberg and they have one child named Michael who is 15 months old.



Ms. Simvoulakis will begin with the City of Hughson on January 2, 2019. She will lead and oversee key functional areas of the City including planning, building, code enforcement, public

works, utilities, and parks and recreation. She will also work closely with the Mayor, City Council and City Attorney as needed on a variety of City projects and initiatives.

The Hughson City Council meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Meetings of the Hughson City Council 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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