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RELEASE Immediate

CITY MANAGER APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR

And Names Conference Center Consultant

Monterey, CA – City Manager Fred Meurer has appointed Kim Bui-Burton as Director of the newly created Community Services Department. The new department combines the Public Facilities Department with the Recreation & Community Services Department and may also include the Library, contingent on approval by the Library Board and City Council.

Bui-Burton currently serves as Director of the Monterey Public Library. She is recognized for her work on the national and regional levels in heritage tourism, private-public economic revitalization and successful multi-agency collaboration, through the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the US Cultural & Heritage Tourism Summit, and efforts with the California Tourism Industry Association, California Cultural and Heritage Tourism Council, and Historic Monterey.

Bui-Burton will oversee a department that encompasses the Monterey Conference Center, the Harbor and Marina, City parking facilities, the Monterey Sports Center, Community Centers and all Recreation programs.

City Manager Meurer also has retained former MCCVB interim CEO Bob Cowdrey on a contractual basis as Conference Center Consultant effective Aug. 1st.

NEWS RELEASE

Cowdrey will perform a number of important tasks related to the Monterey Conference Center over the next three months, including an operational audit, an evaluation of potential renovation / expansion plans for the facility, and a study of possible privatization options. Cowdrey brings over 35 years of experience in the hospitality industry, including over 20 years as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing for the Pebble Beach Company.

“These appointments enable the City to move forward in tough economic times with skilled and highly respected executives for the future,” said Meurer. “Kim and Bob will make an excellent team, and I look forward to working with them as we address key issues facing the City.”

“I am excited by the opportunity to work with staff and City partners to find new ways to sustain and develop services for the community,” said Bui-Burton.

“It’s great to return to Monterey, where my career in the hospitality industry began, and now to be a part of creating the future of the Conference Center,” said Cowdrey.

During the transition, Recreation & Community Services Director Kay Russo will continue to lead that department until her retirement later this year.

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