



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

# R-18

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER

December 4, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Confirm the appointment of Suzanne Frick to the position of Assistant City Manager effective December 10, 2007. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

Section 301 of the City Charter provides the authority for the City Manager to appoint an Assistant City Manager with the confirmation of the City Council. I am pleased to announce that I have appointed Suzanne Frick as Assistant City Manager effective December 10, 2007.

As you are aware, the Assistant City Manager provides a uniquely important role in supporting both the City Manager and various functions of the City Manager's Office. The Assistant City Manager must also be able to fully perform the duties of the City Manager in the absence or incapacity of the City Manager. In my view, Suzanne Frick is highly qualified to fulfill the duties of the Assistant City Manager. Suzanne has over 26 years of experience in the public sector having served the City of Anaheim and the City of Santa Monica before joining the City of Long Beach in 2005 as the Director of Planning and Building. Throughout her service, Suzanne has demonstrated her excellent problem-solving, communications and leadership skills, distinguishing herself by initiating an important culture change for the Planning and Building Department. In 2006, the Department held multiple community meetings and visited with many community and business organizations to hear their concerns about the City's permit process. This extensive outreach culminated in a re-vamp of the permit process and a shift to a more customer-focused environment.

Throughout her career, Suzanne has developed a reputation for being an innovative problem-solver who is not afraid to take on and resolve complicated issues. She is highly regarded by management and staff throughout the organization.

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Suzanne earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara and completed a Master's Program in Urban Planning at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. I am confident that Suzanne Frick will serve the City of Long Beach with distinction and professionalism for many years to come.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on December 4, 2007, to ensure a smooth transition.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

*Christine J. Shuppen*

*for*

PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER

PHW:TB