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Subject: Appointment of General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

Greetings Mayor and Council,

Today we are announcing the appointment of Gil Kelley as the City of Vancouver's Chief Planner and General Manager of the newly created Department of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability. His start date is September 15, 2016.

Below is the news release that will be going out shortly.

Best
Sadhu

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City of Vancouver
 News Release
 August 2, 2016

City appoints Gil Kelley as the General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

Today, the City is announcing that Gil Kelley will serve as Vancouver's new Chief Planner and General Manager of the newly created Department of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability.

Gil has been appointed by City Council to fulfill statutory responsibilities of the Director of Planning under the Vancouver Charter and will lead the City's work on all city planning visioning, policy, urban design, and major development negotiations. He will be a voting member of the Development Permit Board and a member of the Corporate Management Team.

The newly created department of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability will also have the City's Sustainability Group integrated within its mandate, which will support the effective implementation of the City's Greenest City Action Plan (GCAP), Renewable City Strategy and green building initiatives.

"Vancouver is known throughout the world as a leader in urban planning and design, and being a sustainable, liveable and inclusive city," says Mayor Gregor Robertson. "As Chief Planner now responsible for Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability, Gil will help take Vancouver to the next level in becoming a greener, more affordable and inclusive city. Gil's extensive experience in cities like San Francisco and Portland is highly valuable at a time when Vancouver is facing an affordability challenge like never before, and we are thrilled to have him join our team at City Hall."

"Vancouver's chief planner has long been one of most challenging and important positions in our city. Vancouver has a global reputation for world class urban planning," said City Manager Sadhu Johnston. "Gil will be charged with rejuvenating that legacy and ensuring that Vancouver is a livable, green, equitable and more affordable community as we continue to grow and evolve. Gil's experience supporting affordability will be a great addition to the City's efforts to be a more affordable city."

Gil assumes leadership of the City's efforts to address public policy issues related to land use and city planning. Gil will be charged with charting a course for a proactive planning program for Vancouver, including:

- Supporting work underway to update the City's 10-year Affordable Housing Strategy;
- Implementing policy work completed on the removal of the Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts, False Creek Flats, Northeast False Creek and South False Creek plans;
- Renewing the planning and urban design framework for Vancouver's City Core; including transit-oriented development with a focus on the Broadway corridor;
- Completing recommendations on the City's new Heritage Action Plan;
- Implementing the city's climate adaptation plan, zero emission new buildings strategy, greenest city action plan and 100% renewable strategy;
- Supporting key Council priorities, including housing affordability, City of Reconciliation, the Health City Strategy, and working with the Vancouver Economic Commission and other partners to optimize and grow Vancouver's nation leading economy

With extensive experience in city planning work, Gil was recently Director of City-wide Planning for the City of San Francisco. In that role, Gil's projects have included preparation of a new City-wide Transportation Plan, development of policies and strategies to advance affordable housing preservation and development, a waterfront plan that includes a long-term strategy for addressing sea level rise and public access, several plans for developing or redevelopment of major transit corridors, and alternative strategies to best accommodate introduction of California High-speed Rail into San Francisco.

Gil also created and has overseen a new community development function focused primarily on stabilization strategies for neighbourhoods in extreme tension (gentrification and displacement), as well as underserved communities. During his tenure with the City of San Francisco, Gil's urban design studio focused on radically improving the City's public realm through both tactical urbanism and permanent designs for streets, plazas and social spaces.

Gil also spent ten years as the Director of Planning for the City of Portland where he was appointed by the mayor to coordinate key development initiatives and to oversee the city's planning functions. Major projects under Gil's tenure include the River Renaissance Initiative, Mayor's Urban Design Initiative, City-wide Permit Improvement Project, Comprehensive Plan and Centre City Plan Update Frameworks, Industrial Lands Policy, and the Airport Master Plan.

Gil's first Director of Planning role was with the City of Berkeley in California where he directed most of the City's community development functions including the Economic Development Office, Redevelopment Agency, Planning Department, Building Department ("Codes and Inspections"), and a consolidated Permit Centre.

Gil is an alumnus of the prestigious Loeb Fellowship program at Harvard University Graduate School of Design and held an appointment as Practitioner-in-Residence on the faculty of Portland State University's Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning for several years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political economy from the Evergreen State College in Washington and is a graduate candidate for a Master of Science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Urban Studies and Planning. Gil has also received a certificate in Advanced Environmental Studies from Harvard University.

Gil has contributed to several published reports, studies and books, including a book *Urban Manufacturing* tentatively scheduled for release later this year.

"I am pleased and honoured to be taking the helm of Planning in Vancouver, one of the most vibrant, livable and sustainable cities in the world," says Gil Kelley, Chief Planner and General Manager of Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability for the City of Vancouver. "It's a good moment in the city's history to 'double down' on the those qualities and aspirations and take them to the next level, as Vancouver grows and prospers."

Gil will start in his position on September 15, 2016.

In addition to the role that will be filled by Gil Kelley, the City recently appointed Kaye Matheny Krishna as the new General Manager, for the Development Services, Building and Licensing Department. Kaye assume leadership of the City's efforts to transform its permitting and licensing processes and improve service and turnaround times for applicants.

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