



For Immediate Release

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Longtime community development leader retires

Fairfield, California (Tuesday, February 28, 2017)—Karl Dumas, a familiar face in Fairfield on the redevelopment and community development fronts for more than 22 years, will be retiring from City service, as announced by Fairfield City Manager David White.

“Karl was one of the first people I met when I came to the City 13 years ago, and I’ve had the pleasure of working with him on several projects,” said White. “I’m going to miss his passion for Fairfield and his executive leadership tremendously.”

Dumas joined the City in 1995, first as a contractor and within six months he became a permanent part of the newly formed Economic Development Department. He served as the redevelopment project manager for several years, then as senior project manager and Economic Development manager. In 2015, Dumas assumed the helm of the Community Development Department where he oversees City planning, building permitting, housing programs, as well as economic development.

As a team leader, Dumas leaves behind an impressive legacy of community development accomplishments, including the recruitment of major commercial and industrial businesses; origination of the Tourism Bureau and North Texas Street Business Improvement District; and his work to improve and expand the city’s housing stock.

When asked if any accomplishments stand out, Dumas fondly recalls one of his first City projects was to help recruit retail tenants for the 15-acre, then-vacant land site across from Solano Mall. He smiles a bit saying, “It was a super, cloudy day when the skeptical corporate executives for Barnes & Noble flew out from New York, and were greeted by our brand new 80-foot tall freeway reader board

sign flashing the words “Barnes & Noble”. We had turned up the brightness on the sign that overcast day, and they never forgot how Fairfield welcomed them.”

Dumas paused and softly said, “My work in Fairfield has been enormously rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work with a diverse group of dedicated people who have the common goal of helping to improve Fairfield – a community I love!”

Mayor Harry Price said, “Karl’s understanding of developing a quality community by attracting and retaining businesses, planning, permitting, and approving smart housing projects, and ensuring a sustainable and desirable community mix is second to none. We are going to truly miss him.”

Dumas will conclude his career at the City of Fairfield in August 2017. He and his family will continue to reside in the community.