



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Subject: City Hires Community and Economic Development Director**

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MARTINEZ – City Manager, Brad Kilger, announced today the hiring of Christina Ratcliffe as the new Community and Economic Development Director for the City of Martinez. She was the top candidate from a pool of 32 applicants that applied for the position. Ratcliffe will start with the City on July 5, 2017.

Ratcliffe has over 20 years of community and economic development experience in both the public and private sectors. She has worked for several Bay Area cities including Benicia, Orinda, Alameda and Berkeley. In the private sector, she was a senior manager for PMC, a planning, environmental and municipal services consulting firm that specializes in land development and environmental services and the preparation of customized development projects for public and private sector clients. She has extensive experience managing the preparation of General and Specific Plans and overseeing the adoption and implementation of complex mixed-use development projects.

Ratcliffe is a graduate of San Francisco State University with a Bachelor's degree in Urban Studies. She did her Master's work at UC Berkeley's Department of City and Regional Planning. She is a member of the California Association for Local Economic Development and the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Ratcliffe believes she has benefited greatly from working in both the public and private sectors, as it has provided her with the opportunity to apply her planning skills and knowledge in a wide variety of contexts. She looks forward to the opportunity to work with the City Council, staff and the community to assist Martinez in meeting the City's community and economic development objectives.

City Manager, Brad Kilger, noted "the City is very fortunate to get someone with Ms. Ratcliffe's background. Her experience in working with similar sized communities, particularly in the field of downtown revitalization, will be an asset to Martinez as we pursue accomplishment of our community and economic development goals. We look forward to having Christina on board."

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