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PRESS RELEASE

New Cache County Development Services Director to Begin Service

After a thorough search and hiring process, the Cache County Development Services Department will soon have a new director. Cache County Executive David Zook last week appointed Stephen Nelson to fulfill the role and that appointment was confirmed by the County Council. Mr. Nelson comes to Cache County having recently served as the Planning Director for Hurricane, Utah. Prior to that, Mr. Nelson served as the Planning Director for Nibley, Utah. Mr. Nelson has a Master of Public Administration degree from Villanova University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Utah State University. He also holds an American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification.

“I’m excited that Stephen will be joining our team and helping us to deal with the rapid growth our community has been experiencing,” said County Executive David Zook. “His experience addressing development in two of the state’s fastest growing cities has prepared him well to help us face the challenges that often accompany growth.”

Mr. Nelson has valuable experience with topics currently faced by Cache County, including housing, transportation, trails, economic development, agriculture, open space and water. In a letter regarding the position, Stephen wrote, “I love the planning field, and I believe I bring many strengths that can help in this position and the organization, including my skills as a planner, manager, and my ability to work with the public and elected officials. I have spent my career doing everything I can to make the cities I have worked for better places for all those who live there. I am excited to bring my skills to bear in Cache County.”

In recognition of his dedicated work, Mr. Nelson has received several awards, including the 2020 Hurricane City Department of the Year, the 2021 Hurricane City Department Head of the Year, and the 2021 The Meritorious Planner Award through the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Mr. Nelson plans to move his family back to Cache Valley as he begins his service at the beginning of June. The Development Services Department includes several divisions and programs, including Building Inspection, Geographic Information Systems, Code Enforcement, Planning, Countywide Planning, and Countywide Trails Planning. The division heads over each of those functions will report to Mr. Nelson. Mr. Nelson will report to the County Executive.

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