



for Immediate Release

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## Leadership Changes at Planning and Development

Phoenix – Maricopa County is promoting a new Planning and Development Director from within the ranks of upper management. Jennifer Pokorski will take over the department of almost 100 employees on July 5 as Carol Johnson leaves for another opportunity out of state.

Pokorski is currently the director of the Ombudsman Office which helps residents resolve concerns with a variety of county departments including Planning and Development.

“I have worked with Planning and Development for years to bridge the gap between customer expectations and regulations,” said Pokorski. “I look forward to building on Carol’s efforts to reduce unnecessary burdens on our customers, streamline the building permit process and provide exceptional customer service. It is important to address concerns quickly and fairly.”

Pokorski has a master’s degree in urban and environmental planning from Arizona State University. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Prior to joining Maricopa County in 2005, Pokorski worked for several different government and non-profit organizations in Phoenix and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

“Planning and Development interacts with developers as well as home owners and it is important to have someone in this position who appreciates customer service,” Deputy County Manager Reid Spaulding said of Pokorski. “Carol has done an excellent job over the past year and we wish her well.”

Johnson leaves the department following final budget approval this week. She joined the county in May, 2017 and recently accepted the position of Land Use Director with the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

“I appreciate the opportunity I had to partner with many organizations and constituents in Maricopa County,” Johnson said. “The leadership and staff are committed to creating a positive customer experience for the people we serve.”

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