

City of Vacaville

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CITY ISSUES FIVE LAYOFF NOTICES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The City of Vacaville has issued layoff notices to five employees in the Community Development Department, the department which is responsible for coordinating planning, zoning and building permit activities. Two other employees in the Department will also be leaving.

A slowdown in the economy, coupled with a reduction in private development and building, led to a reduction in demand for development services and the decision to reduce staff from 22 to 15 employees. As of now, no layoffs are planned in other departments of the City.

“Economic conditions faced by the development community and a reduction in work demand has led us to this point,” said Interim City Manager Laura Kuhn. “Each of the employees affected are valued members of our team and this was not an easy decision to make.”

A total of five employees were given layoff notices. In addition, one employee will be transferred to an existing vacancy in another department, while another is working in a temporary position that will end the first week of March. The planned retirement of Community Development Director Scott Sexton is also scheduled for March. With this change, City Planner Maureen Traut-Carson will be filling the Director position on an interim basis.

Faced with a sagging economy, sluggish sales tax revenues, and a decrease in property tax revenues, the City implemented a hiring freeze. This freeze and other cost saving measures have been implemented over the last year and a half.

(More)

Union contracts give some of the employees being laid off “bumping rights,” or the ability to move into another position elsewhere in the City based on seniority, thereby “bumping” someone else down the seniority ladder. Those who received notices that have bumping rights will have 45 days to decide whether or not to apply those rights.

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