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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 25, 2018

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NR#0125008

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City of Abilene Announces Director of Planning & Development Services

ABILENE, Texas - The City of Abilene is pleased to announce that Taurus Freeman has been named the new Director of Planning & Development Services.

City Manager Robert Hanna announced Freeman's appointment during the City Council meeting on Thursday. "It was an easy decision to make Taurus Interim. During that time, he has done a good job and has continued to grow in confidence," said Hanna. "The development community has received him well and we are very excited to name him as permanent Director."

Taurus L. Freeman has a background in municipal and county government that spans almost 20 years in the field of community development in two states. Previously, he served as a Senior Plan Analyst for the City of Houston, and also served as the Director of Planning & Development Services for the City of Griffin, Georgia. Freeman's professional development includes: Community Development Director and Planning Manager for the City of Villa Rica, Planner I of Long-Range and Planner II of Short-Range for Henry County, and the Assistant City Planner and Housing Official for the City of Nacogdoches. Freeman has also served on a variety of board of directors in Texas and Georgia.

Freeman is a native of Lufkin, Texas. He holds a Bachelor's of Art degree in Communications and a Bachelor's in Business Administration in Management from Southern Arkansas University and holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration in Government and Policy from Grand Canyon University. Freeman also has a Certificate of Local Government Management from the University of Georgia and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Philosophy in Public Administration from Walden University. Freeman has three children, Kameron, junior at the University of North Texas, studying Business Management; Takyra, sophomore at the University of Arkansas - Little Rock for Civil Engineering; and Tione, a sixth grader Bethel Middle School in Benton, Arkansas.

"I am extremely excited to serve the citizens of Abilene in my new capacity, and I am honored to lead the department and its talented staff," said Freeman. I look forward to working with stakeholders across the city to strengthen our neighborhoods, further implement the Master Plan and continue to build a prosperous future for Abilene."

Freeman will begin serving as Director of Planning & Development Services effective immediately.

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