



SENT TO COUNCIL:

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City Manager's Office

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Joseph Horwedel

**SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF  
BUILDING OFFICIAL**

**DATE:** June 6, 2011

Approved

Date

6/7/11

## INFORMATION

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Chu Chang as the Chief Building Official for the City of San José. Chu comes to San Jose after working in Redwood City as the Director of Building, Infrastructure and Transportation overseeing all private development as well as the Capital Improvement Budget and transportation services. He started in Redwood City in 1993 and worked in the private sector prior to joining that city. Chu has a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and is a registered Civil Engineer in Texas and California. He has implemented sustainability in both public and private development in Redwood City and is LEED AP.

The Chief Building Official for the City of San Jose manages plan check and inspections for all private development within the City. In 2010 the Building Division issued over 23,000 building permits with a combined improvement valuation of over \$850 million. The Building Division also served thousands of customers in the Permit Center and conducted nearly 80,000 inspections that year. This work is conducted in close coordination with the other development partners of Public Works, the Fire Department and the Planning Division.

Chu was selected through a recruitment and evaluation process that emphasized the candidates' demonstrated knowledge of the entire development process, delivery of quality services to customers, and experience operating in a dynamic environment. The process included both customer and staff in the assessment of potential candidates. Chu was the prime candidate with each of those groups because of his broad experience and his philosophy in leading a Building program. Chu will start with the City on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

I also want to thank Kathryn Sedwick for her service as the Acting Chief Building Official following the retirement of Ed Tolentino. Her leadership, professionalism, and tireless energy as the Acting Chief Building Official for the past 5 months allowed the Building Division to continue to perform at a high level. Kathryn carried the pressures of two jobs with great humor.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
**Subject: Appointment of Chief Building Official**  
June 6, 2011  
Page 2

Her customary calmness and passion to do the right thing kept the Division's operations running at full speed and not losing stride.

Please join me in welcoming Chu to the City on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

/s/  
JOSEPH HORWEDEL, DIRECTOR  
Planning, Building and Code Enforcement

For additional information, please contact Joseph Horwedel at (408) 535-7900.