



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Dec. 2, 2011**

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### **Costa Mesa hires Rick Francis as assistant chief executive officer**

COSTA MESA, CALIF.—The City of Costa Mesa has hired Rick Francis—the chief of staff for Orange County Supervisor John Moorlach—as its assistant chief executive officer.

Francis, a Costa Mesa resident, has spent 22 years in government, the majority of the time working in the County of Orange and U.S. District Court probation departments as a counselor, officer and division director.

In December 2006, Francis was hired as Supervisor Moorlach's deputy chief of staff, and in 2009, he was promoted to chief of staff. In that nonpartisan role, Francis was the lead policy advisor for the supervisor's office, working with county, city and special district officials and Orange County residents on a variety of issues.

"As both a veteran of government and a Costa Mesa homeowner, I view as essential the difficult steps the City's taking to create a sustainable fiscal model for the long-term benefit of everyone," Francis said. "I'm excited to bring my expertise and passion to the effort."

In addition to his government work, Francis, 49, was administrative pastor at Newport Mesa Church in Costa Mesa for four years beginning in 2003.

"Costa Mesa is fortunate to get Rick, whose government expertise, effective management style, record of integrity and Costa Mesa residency make him the perfect fit for our City," said Tom Hatch, the City's chief executive officer.

Francis will begin working for the City as soon as the standard background check is completed. His annual salary will be \$144,048. He and Dina, his wife of 23 years, have three children in college.

Hatch also commended Public Services Director Peter Naghavi for his outstanding work while serving as interim assistant chief executive officer since September.

“Peter stepped up when we really needed him and did an exceptional job,” Hatch said. “We’re not surprised because Peter is such a dedicated professional, but we are thankful.”