



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

DATE: May 20, 2024

SUBJECT: **Executive Management Team Appointments**

I am pleased to announce the following appointments to the Executive Leadership Team: Jon Fortune as Deputy City Manager, effective June 10, 2024; and Genesis D. Gavino, Special Assistant to the City Manager, effective June 3, 2024.

As Deputy City Manager, Jon Fortune will serve and function as the Chief Operating Officer, assuming critical responsibilities in the absence of the City Manager and will oversee the management and direction of city departments and organization-wide initiatives to help ensure the necessary alignment.

Jon brings more than 30 years of municipal government management experience to the City of Austin and is known as a forward-thinking leader and consensus builder. Throughout his career, he has navigated complex landscapes, driven change, and fostered cooperation and unity among diverse stakeholders. His experience has been defined by a commitment to transformative change, adept financial management and planning, and skillful crisis resolution.

Jon comes to Austin having served as Deputy City Manager and Assistant City Manager for Public Safety for the City of Dallas from 2017-2024, and Assistant City Manager for the City of Denton from 2000-2017. Other professional roles include serving as Director of Management and Budget, Chief Finance Officer, and Management Services Administrator also at the City of Denton from 1991-2000.

Jon is a credentialed manager with the International City Management Association (ICMA), and his diverse experience includes leadership and oversight of all aspects of municipal operations: public safety, emergency management, finance & budget, economic development, planning and development services, and utility & transportation operations.

Jon earned his Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of North Texas, a Bachelor's degree in Public Affairs and Administration from the University of Oklahoma and has completed the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University.

As Special Assistant to the City Manager, Genesis D. Gavino will play a pivotal role in driving organizational change and advancing the prosperity of Austin through strategic initiatives and partnerships. This position provides an opportunity to drive forward-thinking strategies that enhance the city's ability to withstand and adapt to various challenges while leveraging the strengths of anchor institutions to catalyze positive change. Genesis' focus will be on developing and implementing efforts that ensure the long-term sustainability and vitality of the City.

Genesis brings over a decade of progressive experience in local government, most recently serving as Chief of Staff and Resilience Officer for the City of Dallas. As Chief of Staff, she navigated complex organizational structures and drove impactful change by spearheading initiatives focused on enhancing operational efficiency, fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders, and ensuring strategic alignment with overarching goals.

Since 2020 she has led the implementation of Dallas's Broadband and Digital Equity Strategic Plan and is credited with piloting and integrating the City's first Digital Navigators Program, coordinating a cross-departmental team to provide community wi-fi in equity priority areas. Additionally, she served as Resilience Officer tasked with the implementation of the Resilient Dallas Strategy since 2019, responsible for developing strategic recommendations and action plans to foster alignment and synergy across departments and city-wide initiatives.

Genesis holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration with a focus on management and operations from Washington State University; a Master's degree in Public Administration and certificate in nonprofit management from the University of Washington; and is a Ph.D. Candidate in Public Administration and Public Policy at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Please join me in welcoming Jon and Genesis to the City of Austin team. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly.

T.C. Broadnax
City Manager



cc: CMO Executive Team
Department Directors