

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 18, 2018

Press Contacts:

Alfred Lott, City Manager

alott@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3030 or

Una Cooper, Communications Manager

ucooper@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3032

Bowie Selects La Plata Town Manager Daniel Mears as Assistant City Manager

After an exhaustive search, the City of Bowie has selected a new Assistant City Manager to replace John Fitzwater, who retired earlier this month after 28 years in the position. Daniel Mears, who is currently the Town Manager of La Plata, Maryland, will join the City's management team on February 19, 2018.

Mr. Mears is a 20-year veteran of municipal government, with management expertise in many of the areas he will oversee in Bowie. La Plata, a town of 9,000 residents in Charles County, has grown in size and complexity over the last several years. During his ten years there, Daniel Mears has standardized operations and managed other challenges associated with rapid growth. He has introduced new fiscal and management practices and overseen the formulation of the town's first Recreation Plan and the first Transportation Plan. He has also been successful in taking advantage of grant opportunities, in expanding the use of technology in various aspects of municipal government, and in involving residents and other stakeholders in their government.

Prior to his time in La Plata, Mears was Assistant City Manager/Economic Developer for Hazelwood, Missouri and City Manager of Ellisville, Missouri. He is a graduate of Shippensburg University and holds a Master of Public Policy Administration from the University of Missouri. Since 2007, he has been recognized as a Credentialed Manager by the International City Management Association.

The Assistant City Manager is the second in charge of the City. He serves in the City Manager's absence and the role is critical to successfully managing the seven departments that make up the City of Bowie government.

City Manager Alfred Lott, who has been at the helm of Bowie's government since December 2016, said, "I was very fortunate to have Assistant City Manager John Fitzwater here when I arrived. I am grateful for the support and guidance he provided, but after 28 years, I think he has earned a bit of relaxation."

"Daniel Mears will be an excellent replacement for John. He is experienced in many facets of municipal government and he has tackled complex issues and been a problem solver throughout his career. I look forward to having him join our management team."

###