

Introduced by: Councilmember Small

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2023-21

**ESTABLISHING THE CITY COUNCIL'S
GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is a vibrant progressive community of 2.4 square miles with a population of approximately 17,000 residents; and

WHEREAS, the city of Takoma Park is a municipality chartered under the laws of the state of Maryland and is organized as a “council-manager” form of governance with a voting Mayor and Council (“City Council”) that confers operational authority to a city manager; and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park has a long and strong tradition of embracing and valuing diversity and respecting the civil and human rights of all residents and staff regardless of their race, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, gender or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has passed several policies upholding the City’s progressive values, such as Resolution 2017-28 committing the City Council to apply a racial equity lens systematically and deliberately in decision-making, Resolution 2020-6 outlining the City’s approach to responding to the climate emergency, and Resolution 2019-47 adopting a housing and economic development strategic plan; and

WHEREAS, the City is a sanctuary city and one of the first municipalities in Maryland to adopt rent stabilization laws; and

WHEREAS, in resolution 2023-13, the City Council established its overarching goals and priorities for Fiscal Year 2024 that reflect the special character of our community, these are:

- advancing towards a city of belonging, with a culturally and economically diverse population where every resident has a voice, and marshaling our human capital and financial resources towards our goals;
- working toward an environmentally sustainable community;
- striving for fiscal sustainability in our city government and services, with transparency in decision making;
- delivering an engaged, responsive and service-oriented city government, services and operations;

- seeking community development for an improved and equitable quality of life in housing, transportation and other areas, and preparing for development while maintaining our special character and economic and racial diversity;

WHEREAS, the City Council priorities identify specific strategies outlined to achieve these goals, including strategies directly related to how city government advances communications with all residents, improves service delivery, and furthers the city's commitment to a community of belonging; and

WHEREAS, there is a vacancy in the permanent position of city manager, and the City Council, as a component of its faithful stewardship of the City, have conferred operational authority to an Interim/Acting City Manager who has faithfully discharged his duties; and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park is embarking on a national search for a permanent city manager with the recognition that such search is a special alchemy because the position is both exciting and challenging due to expansive City programming, long term fiscal challenges, and a dynamic and active populace committed to local and global democratic principles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, establishes the following goals and priorities for a successful manager of the City who will:

- Respect and work collaboratively with the City Council and city staff to achieve community goals and priorities;
- Be community focused and embrace Takoma Park's unique culture;
- Manage day-to-day city operations to ensure the future success of the community as a whole,
- Be an empowering staff leader and effective team builder, and serve as a fiscally prudent financial manager for the long term;
- Engage staff, City Council, other elected officials and members of the community, understand the importance of consensus and healthy debate, and of transparency in decision-making;
- Be innovative, grounded in best practices, and foster new ideas to solve challenging problems; and
- Collaborate with government, private, nonprofit, community, and educational partners to achieve our community goals.

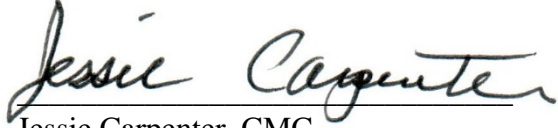
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that while not exhaustive, these are among the stated goals in the hiring for this position, and shall guide the City Council in its search for a permanent City Manager.

ADOPTED this 2nd day of August, 2023

AYE: Searcy, Fulcher, Dyballa, Gibson, Seamens, Honzak, Small
NAY: None

ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessie Carpenter". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk