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CITY OF DOWNEY



PRESS RELEASE

City Appoints Arlene Salazar as New Parks & Recreation Director

Downey, CA, March 4, 2013: The City of Downey has appointed Arlene Salazar as the new Director for the Parks & Recreation Department. Mrs. Salazar served as the Interim Director of Parks & Recreation for the past year and was officially appointed on January 22, 2013.

Mrs. Salazar has worked for the City of Downey since 2007, when she was hired as the Social Services Manager. Prior to her employment with the City of Downey, she worked for the cities of Chino for seven years and Norwalk for twelve years. She uses her vast years of professional experience to improve daily operations and to manage over 230 employees represented in the department. Under the Department of Parks & Recreation, Mrs. Salazar oversees the Rio Hondo Golf Club, Downey Civic Theatre, Park Programming, Sports Field Rentals, Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, McCaughan Gym, Downey Cemetery, Transit Operations, Aquatics, Summer Concerts, and community wide events hosted by the City of Downey.

"We are delighted to have Mrs. Salazar on board as our new Parks & Recreation Director and are excited for the future of the department. Her experience, knowledge, and dedication to the field is quite remarkable and we are confident that with her talent she will accomplish wonderful things for Parks & Recreation," said Mayor Mario A. Guerra.

Mrs. Salazar attended Cerritos Community College, California State University Los Angeles and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Azusa Pacific University. She is a first generation Nicaraguan and Mexican American and enjoys traveling with her two sons and husband on her off time.

"Our City is fortunate to have Ms. Salazar leading one of the City's most important departments, overseeing numerous divisions. She is passionate about improving the overall quality of live for our community and her commitment is reflected in her many years of dedicated service," commented City Manager Gilbert A. Livas.

Under Mrs. Salazar's leadership, the department is currently preparing for the first Parks & Recreation Master Plan in collaboration with California State Polytechnic University Pomona.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE