

DATE ISSUED: November 15, 2000

REPORT NO. 00-261

ATTENTION: Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: Appointment of Assistant City Manager

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

I am pleased to announce that P. Lamont Ewell has been appointed as San Diego's new Assistant City Manager. Lamont was selected from a group of highly-qualified applicants generated through a national search.

Lamont currently holds the position of City Manager of Durham, North Carolina, a city with 170,000 residents. The Durham-Raleigh-Chapel Hill region was recently named the "Best Place to Live in the South" by Money Magazine. Durham is adjacent to Research Triangle Park, and, like San Diego, combines science, in the form of medical research, outstanding universities, and a high quality of life to propel its economy. Previously, Lamont was the acting City Manager and Assistant City Manager of Oakland after rising through the ranks from the position of Fire Chief. He holds a Master's Degree in General Administration from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

His achievements and professional affiliations include: a member of the board of directors of the North Carolina Museum of Life Sciences, trustee for the University of North Carolina Board of Governors for the School of Science and Mathematics, member of the Durham County Youth Coordinating Board, director of the Campaign Cabinet of the United Way of Greater Durham, past president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and member of the National Forum of Black Public Administrators. During his service to the City of Oakland, the Oakland Shrine named Lamont that city's Employee of the Year.

Lamont is married to Mary Ewell and has two grown children: a son, Justin, who is with the U.S. Army and stationed in Fort Lee, Virginia, and a daughter Jamila, who is pursuing graduate studies in public health with a focus in epidemiology.

As the new Assistant City Manager, Lamont will serve as the City Manager in my absence and will work with me to form a partnership with the Mayor and City Council based on shared values, trust, reliability, and a strong work ethic, to meet the expectations of all of San Diego's

residents.

The process for selecting the new Assistant City Manager included an extensive national search conducted by a professional recruiting firm. After an initial screening of over 100 candidates by Hughes, Perry & Associates, nine candidates were invited to interview with two diverse panels of San Diego citizens. After interviews, the panel provided three highly-qualified finalists from which I selected Lamont. He will join the City of San Diego on January 2, 2001.

I would also like to recognize George Loveland, Deputy City Manager for Public Works, who has done an outstanding job of filling the Acting Assistant City Manager position since Penny Culbreth-Graft left the City in February 2000. I am very appreciative of George's work in handling the duties of Assistant City Manager during the recruitment process.

Respectfully submitted

Michael T. Uberuaga
City Manager