



**CITY OF BOULDER
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

MEETING DATE: May 18, 2021

AGENDA TITLE

Consideration of a Motion to Appoint Sandra Llanes as Interim City Attorney and Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract.

PRESENTERS

Council Member Rachel Friend
Council Member Bob Yates
Jen Sprinkle, Director, Human Resources

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

City Attorney Tom Carr's last day with the city is June 11, 2021. Although the recruitment process is going well, it is unlikely that council will appoint a new city attorney before June 11. To provide for continuity, the City Attorney Recruitment Committee recommends that Sandra Llanes be appointed as interim city attorney upon Tom's departure. Ms. Llanes' contract provides for her to begin in her role on May 24, 2021. This will allow for some overlap before Tom's departure.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Suggested Motion Language:

Staff requests council consideration of this matter and action in the form of the following motion:

Motion to appoint Sandra Llanes as interim city attorney and to authorize the city manager to enter into a contract.

BACKGROUND

Section 12 of the Boulder Home Rule Charter requires the council to appoint a city attorney. The incumbent city attorney has informed council that his last day with the city will be June 11, 2021. Council has begun a recruitment process. Because of unanticipated issues, the process will not result in a new city attorney beginning work before June 11. There is therefore a need for the appointment of an interim city attorney. The City Attorney Recruitment Committee, which consists of Rachel Friend and Bob Yates, recommends that council appoint Deputy City Attorney Sandra Llanes to be the interim city attorney.

Ms. Llanes graduated from the University of Colorado Law School in 1998. She clerked for the Honorable Daniel A. Barker of the Arizona Superior Court, and subsequently was a Deputy County Attorney for the Maricopa County Attorney's Office. She joined the Boulder City Attorney's office in 2002. Since joining the City Attorney's office, she has served in various roles including as a prosecutor and as an advisor to several city departments and boards. In her current role, she serves on the office management team and supervises the prosecution division. She has also been the office lead on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff has prepared a contract for Ms. Llanes. The committee recommends that the council authorize the city manager to enter into a contract with Ms. Llanes.