## Declaration in Honor of Chief Deputy City Attorney David Gehr's Service to the City of Boulder

June 15, 2021

After over 30 years of service to the City of Boulder, David Gehr will be retiring on June 30, 2021.

After joining the City Attorney's Office as an entry level attorney in 1990, David's role in the office grew in scope and responsibility including positions of Assistant and Senior Assistant City Attorney, Deputy City Attorney and Chief Deputy City Attorney. David also served as Interim City Attorney in 2010 and Interim Planning Director in 2017.

Over the years, David advised and provided leadership to the city on a variety of important initiatives and projects, including:

The exploration of alternatives to fund the Library, The Longs Garden conservation easement acquisition, the Valmont Butte cleanup efforts, the development of the St. Julian Hotel and Parking Project, election reform efforts, and the community culture and safety tax, to name a few.

Provided legal counsel to many planning initiatives in the city including numerous Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan updates, the Alpine-Balsam Vision and Area Plans, North Boulder Subcommunity Plan, the Transit Village Area plan, numerous planning efforts in the Boulder Valley Regional Center, and supporting intergovernmental agreements and implementation plans.

Participation in numerous projects that support city goals to provide affordable housing in the community and to provide shelter and services to persons experiencing homelessness.

Provided guidance to efforts supporting downtown Boulder and the Hill, most recently with the Hill Hotel Redevelopment.

Attended numerous meetings, drafted countless contracts and ordinances, and worked to find equitable outcomes for many problems and disputes.

Served as legal advisor to the Landmarks Board and Planning Board.

Project lead on the city's climate municipalization efforts and subsequent partnership with Public Service Company.

Showed leadership and humor by volunteering to host the annual employee Vision and Values Award ceremony.

Helped build and enjoyed working with departments that are full of wonderful and talented professionals.

During his decades of service, David is proud of the solid and fair legal advice that he provided to city councils, boards and commissions, especially the planning boards and landmarks boards, and city managers and staff. David has also provided advice and counsel to colleagues in all areas of the city on a wide host of topics.

David is widely recognized by leaders in the community as a person of character and skill. Boulder City Attorney Tom Carr hailed him as a man of honor and integrity. Deputy City Manager Chris Meschuk said "David makes the difference in making the work place a nice place to work. He always provides history, humor, sage advice, perspective, and forgiveness in all interactions."

Mayor Sam Weaver says "David's exemplary service has enriched the city by his many years of late nights, collaboration, and work with the community. It is clear, that as a resident and employee, he always kept the needs of the community at heart." Interim City Attorney Sandra Llanes says "David is the best kind of attorney, a guy who wants to make sure all ideas are heard and to be fair."

David himself is modest, placing the credit for his success with the community, council, and the organization. "Our job is to give voice to our community and the council. Surround yourself with good people and trust them. Listen, communicate, and trust the process."

The City Council of the City of Boulder, Colorado, declares June 30, 2021, Chief Deputy City Attorney David Gehr Day and we urge all members of our community to wish David well in his retirement. Sam Weaver, Mayor