

# City of Big Bear Lake

Civic and Performing Arts Center  
39707 Big Bear Boulevard, Big Bear Lake CA 92315



**For Immediate Release**

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## **New City Manager to Begin Post July 24**

BIG BEAR LAKE, CA – Following an extensive recruitment over the last five months, Big Bear Lake City Council is expected to announce the selection of Jeff Mathieu as City Manager at their next regular meeting scheduled for July 10.

Beginning his post July 24, Mathieu comes to the City with expertise in the areas of resource management, economic development and fiscal analysis. Most recently serving as Director of Resource Management for the City of Santa Monica, he also carried titles at that City of Airport Director and Harbor Master. While at Santa Monica, he was head of the City's most complex agency, overseeing redevelopment, housing and aviation. He expanded the Redevelopment Agency tax increment annual revenue flow from \$2.3 to nearly \$54.2 million per year. In addition, he managed City staff efforts to lease and develop various retail, restaurant and entertainment venues at the historic Santa Monica Pier, including the creation of Pacific Park in 1995. Mathieu also helped to expand the farmers market program, culminating in a popular community Main Street Farmers Market held every Sunday.

Mathieu holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Open-Space Management from California State University, Long Beach. He has also pursued graduate coursework in business administration.

Mayor Bill Jahn stated, "Mathieu's areas of expertise and prominent background make him the ideal candidate to govern the City's administration and handle future projects down the pipeline."

Over the next several weeks, Mathieu is preparing to leave his current home in Rancho Palos Verdes to become a lakeside resident in Big Bear. When asked what factors appealed to Mathieu in making the move, he noted "the incredible hospitality on the mountaintop, solid financial practices of the City and abundance of natural resources within the Big Bear Valley." He prides himself on being a strong manager of people, projects and programs that return the greatest investment back to residents, business owners and taxpayers in the community.

The new appointment comes on the heels of past City Manager, Michael Perry, retiring last March. In the interim, Kathleen Smith has served in the position, helping to balance the City's budget and oversee administrative services. "Smith has been a vital asset in seeing us through this transitional period. Throughout this process, she has proven to be resourceful and dependable," stated Mayor Bill Jahn, "The rest of the Council and myself are grateful for her diligence and dedication to our community."

*The City of Big Bear Lake is a four-season resort located in the heart of the San Bernardino National Forest, approximately 30 miles northeast of San Bernardino. The City serves a population of 6,500 residents and covers a 6.95 square mile area on the west end of Big Bear Lake's south shore. Recreation is offered year-round, including skiing, boating, fishing, camping, hiking, golf and fine dining. Visit us at [www.citybigbearlake.com](http://www.citybigbearlake.com)*

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