

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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City Manager to Retire

BIG BEAR LAKE, CA – After four years serving at the helm of city administration, Michael Perry is looking to embark on a new venture in the coming months. As of March 4, he will officially retire as City Manager from the City of Big Bear Lake.

Perry began working for the City in March of 1989 as a consultant and was hired on as General Manager of the Department of Water & Power (DWP) in September of that same year. During his twelve-year tenure at DWP, he oversaw a \$7,000,000 budget and was able to successfully remove the building moratorium that the State of California had imposed upon the City by upgrading its deteriorated water system. In November 2001, Perry assumed the position of City Manager and began to work on several issues the City was facing: balancing the City's budget and subsequently dealing with the effects of the State budget crisis, ending in the State taking \$1.3 million dollars from the City; completing the City's new Development Code; completing the Road/Infrastructure Master Plan and securing a grant and donation to build Boulder Bay Park.

Perry oversaw a budget of approximately \$10.5 million and staff of 122 employees. In his role as City Manager, Perry was able to develop the Healthy Urban Forest Initiative (HUPI); respond to the Old Fire and valley-wide evacuation; improve the customer and business friendly attitude of the City; foster valley-wide cooperation through joint board meetings and coordinated projects; establish the Events Resource Office through a joint

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cooperative effort between the City, Big Bear Chamber of Commerce, Big Bear Lake Resort Association and San Bernardino County; establish Big Bear's Annual Cinco de Mayo Fiesta; expand the Valley's 4th of July Celebration and begin the process of establishing a local college campus for our children.

Mayor Bill Jahn stated, "Michael will be sorely missed. We have valued his knowledge and insight over these last few years. His public stewardship and commitment to our local community is unsurmounted." Perry has offered to serve the city as a part-time consultant, should the need arise. For now, he is looking forward to spending more time with his family and pursuing a new career as a consultant.

The City Council is expected to announce Perry's retirement and the recruitment effort to find a replacement at their meeting on January 9. It is anticipated they will begin seeking an employment firm to conduct an avid search over the next 90 days.

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

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