

Office of the City Manager

March 17, 2015

To:

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:

Christine Daniel, City Manager/

Subject:

Director of Information Technology

After 16 years of service to Berkeley, Donna Lasala, Information Technology (IT) Director, has announced that she will be leaving the City effective August 4, 2015.

Donna's service to the City organization and the entire Berkeley community has been exemplary. Her leadership in the areas of open government, transparency, efficiency and staff development has enabled the organization to achieve a higher quality of service to the community. Several notable examples include the 311 call center, the IT Master Plan, the open data portal, Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) implementation and of course the critical importance of thorough business analysis for any systems change project. In her eight years as IT Director, Donna has strengthened not only the IT Department, but the entire City organization.

Technology has changed significantly during Donna's tenure with the City and she has promoted, supported and enabled technological improvements throughout the organization so that our workforce has the tools to keep up with the changing world around us. We now understand that investing in our IT infrastructure is truly as important as investments in traditional capital infrastructure like streets and storm drains, largely due to Donna's leadership in this area.

For the last several years, in addition to her work with the City, Donna has taught a number of graduate courses at the Presidio Graduate School. The City has benefited from the many fine interns and graduate students who have volunteered their time on City projects under Donna's guidance. Her excellent work as an instructor and mentor for these students is another testament to her commitment to public service. Donna is leaving City government to complete her graduate studies and we know she will continue to inform and inspire students in her future academic career, much as she has informed and inspired City staff. Please join me in thanking Donna and wishing her well on her future career.

cc: Dee Williams-Ridley, Deputy City Manager

Department Directors

Matthai Chakko, Public Information Officer