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JOHN MASON SELECTED AS THE NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR GREENBELT

GREENBELT, MD—This week, the City of Greenbelt City Council welcomed John Mason as the new Economic Development Manager. A 25-year economic development veteran, Mason is no stranger to the DC Metropolitan area and brings a wealth of experience in economic development from county, state, and local levels.

"Given the loss of retail and restaurants in our city and the ongoing recovery from COVID-19's impacts on our local economy, it was crucial to fill this position swiftly with someone who has a strong background in economic development, is well-acquainted with the area, and can effectively help our local business recovery while driving our growth and increasing our competitiveness," said Josue Salmeron, city manager. "Throughout the interview process, we encountered many impressive candidates, but John distinguished himself with his expertise, experience, and genuine enthusiasm for what he could contribute to Greenbelt."

Mayor Emmett V. Jordan expressed enthusiasm about the new hiring decision, stating, 'Hiring a new economic manager was a key component of our planning framework for FY25. We are thrilled that John has chosen to join Greenbelt, where he will play a vital role in enhancing our business and workforce development programs for current and future residents."

As a 25-year economic development career professional and 20-plus member of The Maryland Economic Development Association (MEDA), John has functioned in various leadership capacities within State, County, and Local government, helping attract new significant business investment, assisting locally established businesses with growth and expansion projects, and working with aspiring entrepreneurs and startup companies to fulfill the dream of owning and operating a successful enterprise.

Originally from Norfolk, Virginia, John has lived and worked in Maryland for the past thirty-plus years, spending ten years in Bowie (PGC), Maryland, and nearly a decade before his current residence in Hanover, Maryland.

John earned a bachelor's degree (BS) in Business Administration/Marketing from Southeastern University in Washington, D.C., and a master's degree in business administration (MBA) from Wilmington University in Wilmington, Delaware.

As a former standout college athlete, John is an avid golfer who enjoys competitive tennis and cycling. He is also active within his church, serving in community outreach ministries.

John is a self-proclaimed technology buff who loves test-driving and implementing the newest technological innovations to serve clients better.

"Economic development is truly a team sport. It truly takes seamless partnerships between public, private, and non-profit economic-development professionals, commercial real estate brokerage and development community, and so much more", said Mason. "I feel blessed to lead the economic development initiatives for a city with such a vibrant history, and

I am very excited to continue building upon the incredible accomplishments of the City of Greenbelt."

About Greenbelt

The City of Greenbelt is a diverse, welcoming community of 25,000 residents and 600 businesses outside Washington, D.C. It is widely known as an affordable public cooperative community founded in the New Deal era. Greenbelt prioritizes being environmentally friendly and has abundant parks, trails, and lakes to enjoy. The city has a national historic landmark district. It is home to the nation's first space flight complex, the NASA Goddard Flight Center, and the future home of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). For more information on the city, go to www.GreenbeltMD.gov.