



Loveland Downtown Partnership (LDP)

PRESS RELEASE

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Loveland Downtown Partnership names new executive director

LOVELAND, CO – The LDP, along with the Downtown Development Authority and the Business Alliance is proud to announce that Sean Hawkins begins work as the new executive director on August 20th. Hawkins, is wrapping up his employment as the Economic Development Manager for the City of Yakima, WA, where he has worked since 2012, and will soon be packing to move his family to Loveland, CO.

"I'm thrilled for the opportunity to work with the community to make downtown Loveland more vibrant, authentic and an attractive place for new investment. I look forward to getting started", Hawkins said.

Before his time in Yakima, WA, as the ED manger, he was the Project Manager/Regional Vice President of Block by Block, in Louisville, KY from 2009 to 2012, an Executive Director for the Committee for Downtown Yakima, WA from 2007-2009; Director of Visitor Experience/Community Development for Harrison County Convention and Visitors Bureau, IN from 2002-2007, and Program Assistant for Missoula Downtown Association, MT from 2000-2001. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Montana, Missoula, MT and a Bachelor of Arts, Marketing from the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

"The Downtown District is poised to move to the next level for projects and development", said Mindy McCloughan, LDP board chair. "Sean brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to assist with the leadership needed at this time."

Hawkins initial contract runs through August 20th, 2019. The contract requires Hawkins to reside in Larimer County with a strong preference for residency within Loveland city limits.

"This is a historic time for our downtown. I believe that Sean will be an asset as he leads our community onward and upwards", said Clay Caldwell, DDA board member and owner of Mo'Betta Hospitality Group.

According to Andrew Gorgey of Peckham & McKenney, Inc., who conducted the national search, there were 30 applicants from Colorado and 11 other states.

"This was a very competitive process," Gorgey said. "Sean was part of a strong field, which included several impressive local candidates. His specific expertise and experience fit best with the LDP's and DDA's identified preferences and organizational priorities."

The Downtown District's mission is "To create a vibrant Downtown that provides" a safe, dynamic environment to gather, live, educate, shop, work and play." With an office located downtown, the Downtown District brings the separate entities of the Loveland Downtown Partnership and the Downtown Development Authority into a cohesive, dynamic and easily accessible collaboration. The Downtown District focuses on bringing to fruition the establishment and ongoing support of an economically vibrant residential and business community in Loveland's downtown.

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