



CITY OF TOPEKA

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NEWS RELEASE

City Manager Jim Colson resigns effective Oct. 7

After more than four years serving the City of Topeka, City Manager Jim Colson on Tuesday announced his resignation. Colson's resignation becomes effective at 5 p.m. Oct. 7, 2016.

His departure renders his existing contract, which was to have extended to Aug. 27, 2019, null and void.

"I've spent four years apart from my wife and family," Colson said. "While I've enjoyed my time here and what we've been able to accomplish, it's time for me to return to Arizona."

Colson started with the City on Aug. 27, 2012. His starting salary was \$170,000. His current salary is \$175,134. As is normal practice, he will receive payment for unused accrued vacation for 380 hours, worth \$31,920.

Colson is the only Topeka employee who serves at the pleasure of the Governing Body. As such, the 10-member body will determine a transition plan for the position, including appointing an interim city manager and the process by which a permanent city manager is selected.

Colson's tenure with the City has been marked by significant strides forward, including but not limited to the following:

- Overhaul of the City's finances
- Launch of open data portals
- Selection by Bloomberg Philanthropies as a What Works Cities
- Creation of several neighborhood initiatives, including forming the Department of Neighborhood Relations and its Special Structures Unit
- Assembly of an all-star staff
- Initiation of community policing efforts

Tuesday, September 20, 2016