



City of Ketchum

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Planning and Building Director to Focus on KURA

KETCHUM, Idaho – Suzanne Frick, longtime city of Ketchum employee, shifts focus to the Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency (KURA).

In 2020, then City Administrator Suzanne Frick, agreed to fill the position as director of the Ketchum Planning and Building Department and Executive Director of the KURA. She had over 30 years of experience working in planning and building departments and redevelopment agencies.

Effective Jan. 1, she will begin to work solely for the Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency with all efforts and attention on the First and Washington Redevelopment Project and other KURA initiatives.

This pivot does not come as a surprise. When asked to fill the position of the Planning and Building Director, Frick did so with the intention it would be a limited term until a solid team could be established in the Planning and Building Department.

“Suzanne has been a tremendous asset to the city of Ketchum,” said Mayor Neil Bradshaw. “I am so thankful she agreed to stay on as Planning and Building Director to help guide several large projects into development. Her dedication to the community continues as she’s agreed to lead the KURA’s upcoming legacy project to completion.”

In 2014, Frick was hired by then Mayor Nina Jonas and the City Council as city administrator. In 2020, Frick was ready to retire and was asked to take on the position of Planning and Building Director. Jade Riley assumed the city administrator position.

“Ketchum is a wonderful community with similar housing and development challenges as other resort communities in the west. It’s tough, but rewarding, to work on development and planning projects in Ketchum. The Planning and Building Department staff are hardworking, talented individuals dedicated to implementing the community’s vision. I am fortunate to have been part of the team. I look forward to working more closely with the KURA to implement their vision and projects.”

Frick’s current role as Executive Director of the KURA, and her 30 years of experience in planning and redevelopment, make her the perfect candidate to bring KURA projects to fruition.

The process for selecting a developer for the First and Washington mixed-use project is underway. The project will include income-restricted workforce housing, commercial or community space, and potentially public parking. Details on the project can be found at ketchumura.org.

Now that the KURA project is proceeding, Frick has agreed to stay on with reduced hours to shepherd this important project through a process she knows so well, expediting the production of much needed affordable housing.

In addition to the First and Washington project, the KURA will also partner with the city to develop housing on other publicly-owned properties.

The city of Ketchum is now seeking a Director of Planning & Building, an Associate Planner (a new position budgeted for fiscal year 2023) and a Planning Technician. Details on all job opportunities can be found at ketchumidaho.org/jobs.

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About the City of Ketchum

The City of Ketchum is located in the Wood River Valley in south central Idaho. Founded in 1880 during the mining boom, Ketchum is now regarded as one of the most popular destinations for winter and summer visitors due to its world-class skiing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking, restaurants, art galleries and shopping. In 2018, Ketchum was awarded designation by the International Dark-Sky Association as a Dark Sky Community and is included in the Nation's first International Dark Sky Reserve, one of only 13 in the world. The City of Ketchum hosts the famous annual Wagon Days Parade, held on Labor Day weekend, and numerous other year-round attractions. Ketchum is home to more than 10,000 full- and part-time residents. For more information about the City of Ketchum, visit www.ketchumidaho.org.