



NEWS RELEASE

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Vienna Public Works Director Steps Down

It's been 12 years since Michael Gallagher signed on with the Town of Vienna in the position of civil engineer, after which he rose through the ranks to eventually become Director of Public Works, a position he's held since 2015. Citing family reasons, Gallagher recently announced that he and his family are relocating to Blacksburg, Va.

"Vienna is a really great place and holds a special place in my heart," Gallagher said as he reflected on his years of service. "I'm really going to miss everyone here."

During his tenure, Gallagher helped facilitate a water and sewer rate study to inform the pricing structure needed to support a long-term plan to improve the Town's water and sewer infrastructure. The study determined that a modest price increase would ensure the Town would have the resources to meet the long-term goal of replacing aging water pipes and sewer liners in disrepair. The plan also addresses long-term needs associated with growth.

Gallagher also led the initiative to establish a good process for prioritizing and implementing sidewalk projects, which included soliciting feedback from residents to inform final proposals submitted for Town Council approval. Other accomplishments included implementing technical upgrades that made street signal systems more responsive to facilitate better traffic flow and accommodate pedestrians.

The accomplishment of which Gallagher says he's most proud is the staffing legacy he leaves behind.

"I'm more proud of the team that I've assembled than any mechanics that I built," he said as he reflected on the leadership training he provided his staff. "Helping people grow personally and professionally with leadership skills has been truly rewarding."

Gallagher's last day with the Town was Aug. 5, 2022. Deputy Director Christine Horner will serve as acting public works director until a successor is named.

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