

Communication Services
5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, Colorado 80166-0001
Phone: 303-795-4630
Fax: 303-738-7894
www.co.arapahoe.co.us

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Contact:

ANDREA RASIZER

Communication Services Director

Direct: 303-795-4284

Mobile: 303-882-1909

E-mail: arasizer@co.arapahoe.co.us

Arapahoe County names Janet Kennedy as new finance director

LITTLETON, CO --- Arapahoe County has named Janet Kennedy as its new finance director, effective immediately.

After conducting a nationwide search, the Board of County Commissioners selected Kennedy, a Certified Public Accountant and the County's current Accounting Manager, as the new Finance Director.

Kennedy began her career with Arapahoe County in September 1998 as a Capital Projects Accountant and steadily moved up through the organization. In addition to her role as manager of the accounting division, she also served as the Assistant Project Manager in charge of the 2002 implementation of the County's new finance system, and most recently served as the Acting Finance Director.

"Janet's experience, her financial expertise, her strong leadership and exceptional management skills demonstrate why she has risen through ranks in our organization, and why she was chosen as our new finance director," said Commissioner Susan Beckman, who serves as Board Chair. "Janet has proven herself time and time again, and we know she is up to the task of helping to guide the County's budget and finances, especially during these economic times. We are excited to promote Janet, and look forward to working with her in her new role."

As the new Director of Finance, Kennedy will oversee a 24-member staff and a \$270.8 million budget. Among some of the priorities Kennedy will address during the upcoming year include: refining the new biennial budgeting process; updating the County's financial policies and procedures; developing creative ideas to promote revenue growth and control expenditures while maintaining high levels of service to County residents; and implementing the newly voter-approved open space sales and use tax.

In addition to her CPA, Kennedy also has a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Colorado and a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from the University of New Mexico.

Prior to joining Arapahoe County, Kennedy was a controller for Applied EcoSystems Inc. in Denver; a Senior CPA for Krause & Company, PC in Denver and Assistant Controller and member of the Board of Directors for Yellow Cab Cooperative Association. She is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association, Colorado Government Finance Officers Association, Colorado Society of CPA's and American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

"It's a great honor to be given this opportunity to work so closely with such talented staff and peers to preserve and improve the financial health of Arapahoe County," Kennedy added.

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