

CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

City appoints new building commissioner

7/27/2006 3:09:03 PM

Chief Administrative Officer William Harrell today announced that Art Dahlberg of Alexandria has been appointed as the City's new building commissioner. He assumes his new position in mid-September.

"We are pleased to have an incoming building commissioner with the expertise and background of Mr. Dahlberg," said Harrell. "As the Mayor's Interagency Task Force on Community Infrastructure recommends ways that the City can more efficiently undertake its permitting process and similar measures, we look forward to the valuable role that Mr. Dahlberg will play in bringing these measures to fruition.

"This is a critical position as it relates to the level of growth and development in the city. Mr. Dahlberg not only is technologically savvy, but he also has the creativity to make things happen," Harrell said.

Since 1997, Dahlberg served as Alexandria City's director of code enforcement where he managed an 80-member staff that handled building and fire code enforcement activities. As department head, he developed and implemented programs that include hazard assessment, vacant building registration, blighted properties programs, third-party plan review, and computer-based pre-emergency analysis.

Previously, Dahlberg served in a series of increasingly responsible positions involving code review and enforcement. From 1992 to 1997, he was director of code administration in Fairfax City with responsibilities similar to those in Alexandria. From 1988 to 1992, he was an assistant branch chief of the Department of Environmental Management in Fairfax County where he supervised the review of construction plans and established enforcement procedural guidelines. From 1985 to 1988, he served as a structural engineer who reviewed commercial building plans in Fairfax County.

Dahlberg has a B.S. in civil engineering from Kansas State University in addition to undergraduate studies in architecture, engineering and history. He holds several state and national certifications in building inspection, plan review, fire safety and building maintenance.

Dahlberg replaces Building Commissioner Claude Cooper, who retired after 14 years of service.

Contact: Linwood Norman, 646-0434

