

FINANCE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT AFTER THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE
Manhattan Beach Finance Director announces that he will retire July 5th

Manhattan Beach, CA (June 4, 2024) – Today the City of Manhattan Beach announced the retirement of Finance Director, Steve Charelian, after a distinguished career spanning 35 years of dedicated public service.

"It has been an honor to serve as the Finance Director for the beautiful City of Manhattan Beach," said Charelian. "The Finance Department has a strong, talented, and dedicated team who provide outstanding customer service. I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together, and I am confident that the City is well-positioned for continued success built on a solid foundation of prudent financial management."

"Steve's commitment to excellence and fiscal responsibility has paved the way for our City to achieve important financial goals," said Mayor Joe Franklin. "On behalf of my City Council colleagues I would like to sincerely thank Steve for his many years of public service. You helped keep Manhattan Beach on the right track financially, and for that we are very grateful."

Steve Charelian began his career with the City thirty-five years ago, serving in a leadership role in the Finance Department for 11 years, before being appointed as Finance Director in 2018. Director Charelian led the department through the COVID-19 pandemic, efforts to adjust the City's transient occupancy tax, the passage of the Storm Drain Measure in 2023, the implementation of a new financial system, issuance of pension obligation bonds, and reaffirmation of the City's AAA rating.

Reflecting on Director Charelian's retirement, City Manager Bruce Moe stated, "Steve has been an integral part of our City's administration. His commitment, expertise, and integrity have greatly contributed to our community's well-being. In his 35 years with the City of Manhattan Beach, Steve has been instrumental in shaping financial policy and the fiscal health of our City. We will miss his presence, and are deeply grateful for his remarkable service. We wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement."

Finance Director Charelian's retirement will be effective July 5. He plans to spend more time with his family and pursue personal interests, including raising his two young children in Manhattan Beach. Options for an Interim Finance Director are being evaluated and a search for a permanent Director will follow. The recruitment will focus on finding a candidate who possesses strong leadership and interpersonal skills and can continue the legacy of financial stewardship that the City of Manhattan Beach values.