

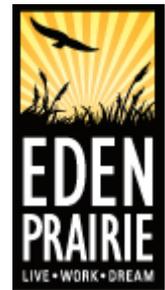
NEWS RELEASE

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EDEN PRAIRIE APPOINTS NEW PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — City Manager **Rick Getschow** has announced the appointment of **Robert Ellis** as Eden Prairie’s new **public works director**. Ellis is currently public works director in Rapid City, S.D. and will begin his Eden Prairie post July 18.

“Robert is an excellent match for Eden Prairie and the City’s leadership team,” said Getschow. “He brings the depth of experience and expertise required to successfully lead the Public Works Department into its next chapter.”

Ellis is Eden Prairie’s third public works director and succeeds **Gene Dietz**, who recently retired after leading the department for 30 years.

“I am eager to begin the next chapter in my career and honored to work with Eden Prairie City staff members who are consistently recognized for their commitment to excellence and incomparable customer service,” he said. “My family and I are excited about moving to the Best Place to Live in America and look forward to the new opportunities Minnesota has to offer.”

Ellis began his municipal public works career in Sioux Falls, S.D. where he spent eight years, starting as a traffic engineer and eventually becoming assistant city engineer. For the past four years he has been in Rapid City, first as city engineer and then as public works director, where he has led a public works team of 230 employees with a budget of \$125-million.

Ellis earned his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from the University of Wyoming, and is currently pursuing a master’s degree in public administration from the University of South Dakota. He is also a Licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) and a Certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (P.T.O.E.).

Ellis and his wife, Lisa, have seven children, and are moving to the southwest metro over the summer.

The City of Eden Prairie is a vibrant community of more than 60,000 residents located just southwest of Minneapolis. Eden Prairie has been nationally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. Since 2006, Eden Prairie has been listed among *MONEY* magazine’s 100 “Best Places to Live” in America, and in 2010 topped *MONEY*’s list as the Best Place to Live in America.

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