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Business Development Manager Named

Village Manager Carl Swenson Thursday announced the appointment of Loretta Daly as Business Development Manager, a position created this year to strengthen relationships with the local business community.

Daly, who was the executive director of the Oak Park River Forest Chamber of Commerce for six years, brings a long list of strengths to the job, Swenson said, including in-depth knowledge of the community and its business environment. She will assume her new duties on Monday.

“We are very fortunate to have a professional of Loretta’s experience and expertise joining our Development Services Department,” he said. “Her years with the Chamber and strong marketing background will add a new level of skills and contacts to the Village’s economic development efforts.”

Development Services Director Michael Chen said Daly was chosen from more than two dozen applicants. Her knowledge of the Oak Park market and its business community made her the obvious choice for the job, he said.

“The quality of the candidates was outstanding, but Loretta had skills no one else could match,” Chen explained. “She knows the market, she knows the players and, as a life-long Oak Parker, she has a real commitment to the community. We could not have asked for a better qualified, more knowledgeable person for this new position.”

As Business Development Manager, Daly will serve as a Village Hall liaison with the business community. Her duties will include working with current businesses to help them expand, as well as market available properties to prospective tenants.

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Business Development Manager
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Said Daly of her appointment, “This is a position that speaks directly to so many different aspects of my professional and personal experiences. From my years with the Chamber, I am well known and involved in the community. I understand the issues and I have an historical perspective that will lend context to my efforts on behalf of businesses and the Village.

“I also am a native Oak Parker, born and raised here,” she added. “This gives me a sense of what is needed to guide development strategies toward creating a balance between maintaining the best of our past while nurturing opportunities for the future.”

Daly joins a team of development professionals that, in addition to Chen, includes three Redevelopment Managers and a Parking Development Manager.

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