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City Attorney Robin Clauson to Retire in December

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – Newport Beach City Attorney Robin Clauson has announced her plans to retire at the end of the year.

“After much discussion with my family, we have agreed that the timing is right for me to retire and spend more time with my daughter before she enters her high school years,” Clauson said. “It has been an honor to serve this exceptional organization and a privilege to work here for nearly two decades.”

Clauson began her career with the City of Newport Beach in 1989 as the assistant city attorney. She was appointed city attorney four years ago and has led the city’s legal team and worked with special counsel through successful litigation over growth in the Irvine Business Complex and the drafting and defense of regulations relating to group homes. She provided election advice that guided three ballot initiatives and advised the city on its new General Plan and the recent adoption of the North Newport Center Development Agreement. Clauson has directed a full range of legal projects including those related to ordinance updates and tidelands issues.

"I have worked with Robin for 13 years; 10 on the Planning Commission and three on the City Council," said Mayor Ed Selich. "She is one of the hardest working, most loyal city employees I have known. She gave solid legal advice to both the Planning Commission and City Council. Her services will be missed. I wish her only the best in her future endeavors."

Clauson initially planned to retire and leave her post by the end of the summer. After further discussion with the City Council and city manager, she has agreed to remain with the organization during the recruitment and transition process for the new city attorney. Her official retirement date is December 26.

“We appreciate Robin’s willingness to defer her retirement date as we search for her successor and to be available even after her retirement to ensure an orderly transition of duties and responsibilities,” explained Selich. “This is particularly helpful due to the volume and importance of on-going litigation and projects.”

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