



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED FOR STATE BUILDING CODES DIVISION

(Salem) Mary Neidig, director of the Oregon Department of Business and Consumer Services, has announced the appointment of Mark S. Long as the new administrator of the department's Building Codes Division. Long has been with the division for more than 14 years in various capacities, most recently as manager for policy and technical services. He is currently working on loan to the Department of Administrative Services as coordinator of the governor's regulatory streamlining initiative.

"We asked Mark to work on the regulatory streamlining project because of his exceptional collaboration skills, his vision, and his thorough understanding of the Oregon building codes system and its dynamics," Neidig said. "Not coincidentally, these are also the qualities we need in the administrator of the Building Codes Division."

"By appointing Mark to the BCD position, we can meet the division's needs while ensuring that the regulatory streamlining effort will have a high-level champion within DCBS who can integrate the initiative with the department's operations and its strategy in support of economic development in Oregon," Neidig said.

"I am excited about the challenges and opportunities facing the division and hope to continue our outreach efforts to our stakeholders," Long said. "BCD employees offer a tremendous resource of competence, dedication, and expertise. I look forward to working with them and with our partners to promote Oregon's economy and to provide excellent customer service within the statewide building codes system."

The Building Codes Division adopts and enforces a uniform statewide building code relating to construction, reconstruction, alteration and repair of structures, and to the installation of mechanical, plumbing, and electrical devices and equipment. The division regulates various construction industry-related activities and administers statewide and regional permitting programs and regional code consistency and dispute resolution programs. It also licenses electricians and plumbers. In addition to its West Salem headquarters, the division maintains field offices in Coquille, Pendleton, and The Dalles, and a Tri-County Service Center in Portland. Where local government jurisdictions have chosen to operate their own building codes programs, the division provides technical assistance and oversight to ensure that local programs meet state standards. More information is available on the Web, at www.oregonbcd.org or www.permitsprotect.info.

Mark Long's appointment as administrator is effective December 16, 2002.

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