

## **City of Amarillo, TX City Manager Finalists**



**Matthew Allen**

Matt Allen's 28-year city government career includes a variety of City Manager's Office roles and two appointments in chief administrative officer positions. Most of his career has been spent helping expand the economies and influence of full-service cities that serve as regional centers of rural areas. His track record of working effectively with elected leaders, collaborating with public and private sector partners, and assembling and developing high-performance municipal teams has garnered local, state, and national awards and recognition.

As the current City Manager for the City of Garden City, Kansas, Matt leads an organization that has helped double the community's appraised value from approximately \$1 billion to \$2 billion through new growth and development. During that same time the community has increased its retail pull factor from 1.21 to 1.66, now capturing a trade area that extends into eastern Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and the Texas panhandle. Further economic development accomplishments during his tenure include partnering with Finney County to develop the community's first publicly owned, price certain, and "ready to develop" industrial site. This ultimately developed into a fully connected 800-acre industrial park which now is home to Bonanza BioEnergy, Dairy Farmers of America, empirical Foods, Inc., and TP&L.

Matt's passion for developing leadership capacity, and helping communities address daunting challenges and accomplishing big goals extends beyond his city management work. He served on the Kansas Health Foundation Board of Directors and has performed strategic retreats as a consultant for other communities and non-profit organizations. His other personal interests revolve around a life-long love of sports and music. He still enjoys playing and watching many sports and spending time outdoors. Matt has played a variety of musical instruments throughout his life, but his latest interest is guitar. He likes to sing and has put these musical interests to use in his church's praise and worship team, community musical theater productions, and fronting a start-up band which to date has played no "paying" gigs.

Matt and his wife Missy have two adult children, Megan and Aaron.



## **Grayson Path**

Since April of 2020, Grayson Path has served as Paris, TX City Manager. Prior to this position, Grayson was the City Administrator of Nebraska City, NE. He received a Master of Public Administration degree from Arkansas State University and has worked for three great communities as Chief Executive Officer.

His career includes working on hundreds of millions of dollars in capital improvement projects, including roadways, facilities, treatment plants and utilities. Additionally, he has been responsible for the development and implementation of significantly sized budgets, tackled important community plans such as Comprehensive Development Plans, Revitalization Plans, Housing Assessments, Economic Development Programs and City Council Strategic Plans and has led a wide array of departments such as emergency-based Police, Fire, and EMS, to infrastructure-based Public Works, Utilities, and Engineering, to operation and community-based Finance, Library, Parks and Community Development. His proudest accomplishments are the partnerships formed among many entities within the communities served and the outstanding teams of city workers that he has had the privilege to develop and supervise. Grayson understands the importance of empowering staff, thorough communication at all levels, and giving his employer (the city council) the information they need to make informed decisions as they lead the community.

Grayson enjoys building coalitions and working with caring and industrious people within the communities he serves. According to Path, those individuals, and the mentors in his life, have helped mold him into the honest, hardworking, open-minded, quick learning, determined, experienced, and strong-willed man he has become. “I would like nothing more than to have the opportunity to continue working with such people in Amarillo and to serve them with the skills I have learned and experience I have gained.”

Grayson, and his wife, Katie, have two young children.