

Date: June 17, 2024

To: Citizens of Amarillo

Dear Citizens of Amarillo,

Greetings! It is with much excitement that I accept the position of City Manager for the great city of Amarillo. This community is thriving, energized and dynamic, an excellent place to live, work and play. But most importantly, Amarillo is a city where many call their home. I am honored to have been entrusted with its care. This is a responsibility I do not take lightly; one I intend to treat with much respect and attention.

My first day will be Monday, August 12, 2024. But in the meantime, I will be fulfilling my professional obligations to the community of Paris, Texas, where I am currently serving as their City Manager. I leave behind a community of outstanding citizens, council members and employees with whom I've had the privilege of working alongside with. My wish is to do all I can to help them prepare for the transition of leadership that will follow my departure. On top of this, my greatest focus will be preparing my family for the move ahead. All the while, with the assistance of the Amarillo management team, I will be reviewing and learning what I can about current Amarillo operations. In summary, the next two months are going to be very busy for me!

Many of you may be curious about my vision for your community, so allow me to briefly speak about this. My desire is to have an effective and efficient team of outstanding city employees who faithfully and responsibly carry out your vision for Amarillo as relayed through your elected officials (the City Council). To accomplish this, it will be my expectation that my team and I will serve in a respectful, civil and open manner. With limited resources and competing priorities, I cannot promise a satisfactory response to every request, but it will be my goal to do our best each time to serve you, your neighbors, and visitors to our community.

With regards to the Amarillo City Council, I am thankful to them for selecting me out of a group of highly qualified candidates and eager to begin serving them as their new City Manager. Throughout the interview process, I got to visit with each member of the Council, and it was clear to me that their goal is to do their very best to serve the citizens of Amarillo—making the best decisions they can for the good of the community as a whole. Theirs is a tough (and sometimes impossible) task as you simply cannot make everyone happy. Over the years, I've come to appreciate that serving as a council member is filled with many stressful and complex decisions—knowing that everything they do will impact the community they love in different ways. My job is to help shoulder this burden with them. While I cannot make policy decisions for them, I will do everything I can to provide them with the information and counsel they need to reach an informed decision on every matter before them.

Before closing this letter, I would like to take a moment to thank the many hard-working employees with the City of Amarillo. Most of them are your friends, family, and neighbors. They themselves have families, hopes, goals and dreams just like you. They too call Amarillo home and care about the work we do as public servants for our community. Recognizing this, another important responsibility I bear is to be a servant leader for this great team. While I have certain expectations of them as my ambassadors within the community, in return, I have a responsibility to them—one that I look forward to carrying out.

While I may not have an opportunity to meet every one of you individually, please know I am still working hard to serve all of you. I look forward to moving to Amarillo soon and getting to work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grayson Path', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Grayson Path  
City Manager – Coming Soon