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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Director of Finance brings long resume to position *Former Assistant City Manager in Fort Worth*

MURPHY (March 16, 2017) The City of Murphy has announced the hiring of a highly-experienced financial services professional with a 25-year track record as the new Director of Finance. Karen Montgomery starts her position with Murphy on Monday, March 27.

“Karen has a virtually ideal set of skills and experience that can serve Murphy quite well,” said City Manager Mike Castro, PhD. “Her career track seems to be tailor-made for our needs. She brings a new perspective to the position, and at the same time, has a deep public sector background that gives her a solid footing in municipal government.”

Montgomery has executive-level financial staff experience at the highest echelons of city and county governments, non-profit organizations and post-secondary education.

She is the current Chief Financial Officer for Ability Connection Texas, a statewide non-profit headquartered in Dallas that serves children and adults with special needs. Prior to that, she was Vice President of Finance and Administration at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in the state capital. This position was preceded by a similar post at Fort Worth’s Texas Wesleyan University.

Before joining the university, Montgomery was an Assistant City Manager in Fort Worth, where she was responsible for budget, financial services, human resources, equipment services and information technology departments. After Fort Worth established the position of Chief Financial Officer, Montgomery was chosen to serve as that position’s first appointee.

She was Director of Finance in Douglas County and CFO for El Paso County in Colorado, as well as Deputy Executive Director of the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System and Director of Finance for the City of Norman, OK.

She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Colorado at Denver and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting from the University of Oklahoma. She is a Certified Public Accountant, a graduate of the University of Virginia’s Advanced Leadership Institute and of the University of Wisconsin’s Advanced Government Finance Institute. She has previously earned Credentialed Manager designation through the International City Management Association.

“We’re looking forward to bringing Karen’s experience in budgeting, investment management and public administration to the Murphy staff,” said Castro. “She will be an integral part of our management team.”

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Note: A photo file accompanies this release.

ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.