



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Murrieta Celebrates National Friends of Libraries Week and Receives Grant

Murrieta, CA: The Murrieta Public Library announces it was recently awarded a grant totaling _____ as one of the

Since the founding of the Friends of the Murrieta Library in 1996, the Friends have been dedicated to supporting the Library by fundraising, promoting the Library, and volunteering - in the Library, in the community, and in Friends' projects; and

the work of the Friends highlights on an ongoing basis the fact that our library is the cornerstone of the community providing opportunities for all to engage in the joy of life-long learning and connect with the thoughts and ideas of others from ages past to the present; and

Friends operates two used bookstores in Murrieta, the Town Square Bookstore attached to the Murrieta Public Library and the Corner Bookstore is on the Eastside of Murrieta; and

the Friends understand the critical importance of well-funded libraries and advocate to ensure that our library gets the resources it needs to provide a wide variety of services to all ages including access to print and electronic materials, along with expert assistance in research, readers' advisory, and children's services; and

the Friends raised over \$1,100,000 to support the Library that enables our library to move from good to great -- providing the resources for additional programming, much-needed equipment, support for children's summer reading, and special events throughout the year; and

The Friends' gift of their time and commitment to the Library sets an example for all in how volunteerism leads to positive civic engagement and the betterment of our community.

strong knowledge base in external operations such as planning, public works, capital projects, water and wastewater, community services, economic development, emergency preparedness, and public engagement. She recently completed overseeing the \$19.1 million Del Mar Civic Center on-time and on-budget, as well as being the project manager on their current utility undergrounding project.

While her breadth and depth of knowledge in an impressive number of areas is a great plus, it was comments from our interview panels, which included a panel of three City Executive Team members that reinforced that her experience and professionalism make her a perfect fit for us. Comments such as "a very personable utility player," "all-star," "strong people skills," "well prepared," and "team focused and credible" expressed many of the reasons that she was selected from a strong candidate

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pool of over 90 applicants. Her desire to mentor and develop employees and build teams, solid soft skills, and a strong work ethic left a deep impression on all of those who interviewed her, including both Ivan and me.

Prior to Del Mar Kristen was with the City of Poway for ten years where she served in a variety of positions including Assistant to the City Manager, Interim City Clerk, Water Conservation Manager and Utilities Administrator. Kristen also served with the City of Citrus Heights as a Senior Management Analyst and the City of Claremont as a Management Analyst. She began her career as an Administrative Associate with the City of Glendale. As is evident with her career path she has built a career based on her passion for public service.

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About Murrieta

Murrieta's more than 115,000 residents live in one of the safest cities in the U.S., with top-ranked schools, 52 parks, and a dynamic business environment. Central to all of Southern California, Murrieta is truly the gem of the valley. With a median age of 36 and an average household income of \$122,207, Murrieta boasts a well-educated population and a strong labor force. Ranked the fiscally healthiest full-service city in Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, and Los Angeles counties, Murrieta's future is undoubtedly bright.