



# MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

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## **Mayor Jacobs Names Jenny Holden Director of Community Development**

*KNOXVILLE, Tenn.*—Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs has named Jenny Holden to serve as Director of Community Development as Dwight Van de Vate continues to serve in the Interim Chief of Staff role alongside Director of Finance Chris Caldwell.

Holden—a fifteen-year county employee—previously was the Senior Program Manager for Knox County Community Development, serving in both the housing and homeland security programs and managing federal funds focused on preventing housing insecurity and promoting community safety. Her responsibilities also included overseeing programs providing equipment, services and training for Knox County emergency responders through federal grant funds as well as local funds for fire and rescue services.

“Jenny brings a strong work ethic, extensive professional skills and a great reputation to her new position,” said Mayor Jacobs. “She represents the best in emerging leadership in Knox County and I’m excited to see the success she will bring as she advances in her career.”

Holden has a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Tusculum University and is currently enrolled in the Certified Public Manager Program through the University of Tennessee’s Naifeh Center for Effective Leadership.

In 2019, the Emergency Management Association of Tennessee awarded Holden the organization’s Achievement Award in recognition of her contributions in improving emergency management and response activities. She also served as project leader on a school-based Active Shooter/Stop the Bleed program that the Tennessee County Services Association recognized as a “success story” at their 2018 annual conference.

Since 2012, Holden has managed the Tennessee Homeland Security District 2 Office; it administers federal funds benefitting Knox and the surrounding 15 counties that make up District 2 through Department of Homeland Security Grants.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to further serve the citizens of Knox County,” said Holden. “It’s an honor to follow Dwight Van de Vate in this role and I look forward to continuing to work alongside the dedicated employees of Knox County Community Development.

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