

**Cindy Uken**

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**From:** City of Rancho Mirage <no-reply@ranchomirageca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 12, 2018 6:28 PM  
**To:** Cindy Uken  
**Subject:** Rancho Mirage City Manager Randy Bynder Announces His Retirement

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Rancho Mirage City Manager  
Randy Bynder Announces His Retirement**

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**RANCHO MIRAGE, CA (April 12, 2018)** - Rancho Mirage City Manager Randy Bynder announced that he plans to retire after 32 years with the City of Rancho Mirage. His retirement date is set for May 18, 2018.

Randy informed City staff today that, "Although, two months ago, I informed each council member of my plan to retire this year, I was not able to give them an exact date since I needed time to discuss the matter with my wife Lynne, my daughter Candace and my aging mother. In addition to looking forward to spending more time with my wife and daughter, I am pleased and relieved that I will now be able to visit my mother more often and for longer periods of time. I will miss each and every one of you!"

Mayor Charles Townsend stated, "I will miss Randy very much. He is a tireless public servant, competent administrator and a friend." Mayor Pro Tem Richard Kite commented, "I am very disappointed I won't be working with Randy as City Manager during my term as Mayor this year, but I know he is leaving the City with top notch directors and a staff that is highly professional, dedicated

and diligent, as he has been with the City for the past 32 years. I am also extremely proud of Randy's efforts to help set aside 8 square miles within the City for the Bighorn Sheep Habitat Preserve."

"Losing Randy is like losing a right arm," says Council Member Dana Hobart. "He always opted for doing the right thing rather than opting for expediency. He will be missed, big time!" Council Member Iris Smotrich, remarked that, "Under Randy's leadership, public amenities such as the Dog Park, the Rancho Mirage Community Park, the City's Amphitheater and the construction of our first-class Observatory were all planned, constructed and opened in a very expeditious and timely manner. This could not have been possible without someone like Randy at the helm."

City Attorney Steve Quintanilla added, "I have worked with about 15 city managers during my 25 year plus career as legal counsel for various cities, and I must confess, Randy has been one of the best."

Randy has a Master's Degree from the UCLA School of Architecture and Urban Planning. Randy began his career with the City of Rancho Mirage as Assistant Planner in April 1986. Thereafter, he was quickly promoted to Associate Planner, Senior Planner, Planning Manager and then Community Development Director in 2006. Randy took over the top spot at city hall when former City Manager Pat Pratt retired in 2012. Council Member Ted Weill announced that, "Upon the retirement of Pat, Randy was the obvious choice to succeed him. This was based on my personal experience working with Randy as both Chairman of the Planning Commission and council member."

Randy's proudest achievements include being part of the City team overseeing the approval of the original Ritz-Carlton Hotel in 1989 and the Leeds Hotel (currently the Westin) in 1990. He also supervised the overhaul of the City's General Plan in 1995 and 2005, and facilitated the planning process for The River, Desert European Motors and more than half of the 186 residential neighborhoods in the City.

Randy was also a major contributor to drafting and incorporating one of the first "Community Design Elements" in a general plan (throughout the state), which raised the bar on architectural detail, and set the foundation for the installation of the beautiful landscaping by private developers along many of the City's landscaped parkways and medians that frame the City's major corridors.

Randy feels this is the right time to hand over the reins. "I leave the City knowing I have assembled the most talented and competent staff team in the Coachella Valley, who have all contributed to assisting the City Council with making the City of Rancho Mirage one of the best run cities in the State."

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