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## SACRAMENTO BUSINESS JOURNAL

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# Valley Vision hires Roseville's Burrows as managing partner

Sacramento Business Journal - by [Melanie Turner](#) Staff writer

Roseville deputy city manager and economic development director Julia Burrows has accepted a job as a managing partner for **Valley Vision**, a nonprofit focused on addressing regional concerns and promoting collaboration and action.

After 22 years, Burrows' last day with the city is today. She starts her new job Monday.

Burrows is Valley Vision's third managing partner. In her new position, Burrows will help the organization work toward making the region a clean-tech hub. She also will co-manage Valley Vision's **Green Capital Alliance** with Kristine Mazzei, a managing partner at Valley Vision and program director for the alliance.

The alliance is a public-private partnership that works to attract clean-tech businesses to the six-county region and streamline government permitting.

"This is really a dream job for me both because of the work that Valley Vision does and because of the opportunity to work regionally," Burrows said. "I think I've had a wonderful career with a city. Now I have the opportunity to connect the dots regionally."

Burrows will broaden her reach working "horizontally across many initiatives" to advance sustainability in the region, from Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson's Green Initiative to related efforts by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments and Sacramento Area Commerce & Trade Organization.

"I go full circle to what I studied at UC Davis," Burrows said.

Burrows' background is both in economic development and the environment. Besides a degree in environmental planning from the University of California Davis, Burrows has been active with the Green Capital Alliance and for the past four years she has co-chaired the Sacramento Metro Chamber's Cap to Cap clean-tech team that travels annually to Washington, D.C., to lobby federal representatives on legislation benefitting the region's green efforts.

Last year, Burrows chaired the 27-member team with Meg Arnold, chief executive officer for the nonprofit Sacramento Area Regional Technology Alliance, and representatives from Sacramento Municipal Utility District and Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

"These are the same people I lobby with," Burrows said.

Burrows also leads the city's Green Team, a 35-member group formed in 2007 to help the city create a roadmap for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Her commitment to the community extends well beyond her professional role," Roseville city manager Mike Shellito said. "She's driven by a vision for a better community and her enthusiasm doesn't waver, whether she's working on a city project, a nonprofit board, or a community effort. As sorry as I am that she will be leaving the city of Roseville, I know the entire region will benefit from her expertise on a broader scale."

Mazzei said the Green Capital Alliance has "grown beyond one person's ability to manage."

"I can't even tell you how excited I am," she said. "I feel like Julia is going to add so much capacity in our ability to plan for the clean and green economy in the Sacramento region."

**Mazzei said she also loves working with "good people."**

"She's such a wonderful person through and through," Mazzei said. "I'm just so eager to have her on our team. Our internal culture and project delivery will benefit from having such a well rounded person and committed leader."

Valley Vision CEO Bill Mueller could not immediately be reached for comment. Roseville Mayor Gina Garbolino also could not be reached.

Burrows started her career with the city after graduating from UC Davis. She started as an assistant planner. Since 1994, she's worked in the city managers office. For almost the past 10 years she's held the title deputy city manager, serving under four city managers. In 1994, Burrows added the economic development director title.

She said her one regret is not getting the chance to work under Ray Kerridge, who last week was named Roseville city manager.



Julia Burrows

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Kerridge, who resigned as Sacramento city manager March 12, replaces Shellito, who served as city manager for six months following the departure of Craig Robinson in October. Earlier this week, Shellito announced he will resign when Kerridge takes the top spot in 30 days.

Burrows confirmed that she was not a candidate for the city's top job.

"This is an opportunity for me to go and do what I love," she said. "It is not related in any way to transitions at the city."

Burrows lives in Roseville with her husband, Chris, and three children, ages 16, 14 and 9. The Valley Vision job will have more flexible hours, she said, allowing her to be home with her children more often.

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