

Press Statement January 26, 2022



Misty Parker, a champion of Lewiston economic development and downtown revitalization, has been promoted to Assistant Director of Economic & Community Development. She has worked for the City of Lewiston since 2014.

In her new role, Parker will focus on attracting and retaining local businesses; undertaking new initiatives to enable Lewiston's continued growth, to include leading the City Administrator's new Economic Development Task Force; as well as overseeing the strategic direction of the economic development office.

Parker, who has enthusiastically embraced this new opportunity, notes, *"Never has there been a more transformative time to harness Lewiston's values of resilience and reinvention to bring the city to new heights. I am ecstatic to carry these values forward in this new position and explore innovative and creative ways to reimagine opportunity and grow our city. I look forward to listening, engaging with, and building strong relationships within our business and development community to galvanize Lewiston's economy and move us forward."*

In her prior role as Lewiston's Economic Development Manager, she focused on downtown redevelopment, strengthening the community through creative programs and services, developing innovative workforce development programs, and supporting Lewiston business owners to establish and expand. Most recently, Parker:

- Facilitated the collaborative development of Lewiston's Choice Neighborhood Transformation Plan: Growing Our Tree Streets;
- Secured a \$30,000,000 Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant to begin implementing transformation work in the Tree Streets Neighborhood;
- Assisted Valley Beverage in their distribution facility's third expansion, increasing their workforce, and securing their presence and growth here in Lewiston; and
- Helped create Strengthen LA and the Lewiston Construction Initiative, workforce initiatives that connect residents to careers with economic mobility, which are critical to Lewiston's economic future.

City Administrator Heather Hunter notes, *"Misty has excelled in her ability to effectively work with Lewiston's businesses and in launching new initiatives to strengthen city-wide economic opportunities. Her insight, professionalism, and innovative vision will be continued assets in her new role."*

Prior to coming to Lewiston, Parker worked on economic development and town planning in Midcoast Maine. She holds a B.S. in Environmental Studies from the University of Maine Machias and a Masters in Resource Management and Conservation from Antioch University New England.