



News Release

South Tahoe Public Utility District
1275 Meadow Crest Drive,
South Lake Tahoe CA 96150

Contact: Shelly Thomsen
sthomsen@stpubd.us
530-543-6268

South Tahoe Public Utility District announces John Thiel as General Manager

South Lake Tahoe, CA (November 5, 2018) – South Tahoe Public Utility District is pleased to announce John Thiel, P.E. as the next General Manager. Thiel, a 26 year veteran at the District, will be replacing Richard Solbrig, who retires this January after almost 15 years as General Manager.

John Thiel is a licensed Professional Civil Engineer with extensive experience with the planning, design, permitting, financing and construction of over 100 projects. In his previous role as Engineering Manager, Thiel was responsible for a 10 year, \$93-million capital improvement program. John is known for his engineering design, cost-effectiveness, and creating a culture of collaboration both within the District and with regional partner agencies.

Thiel expressed his strong desire to be a visible and proactive General Manager. “I am looking forward to working with the Board, our staff, and the community, to build a better and brighter future for not just the District, but also the community of South Lake Tahoe” says Thiel.

“The Board believes that John will be a continuation of the tradition of long term employees who have transitioned to General Manager as a result of their engineering expertise, the way they treat others, their attention to finances, their understanding and concern for our customers’ opinions, and their ability to create a collaborative and pleasant place to work,” says Board of Director Duane Wallace.

Thiel holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Nevada, where he received high academic honors from SAE. Originally from Morton, Illinois, often referred to as the pumpkin capital of the world, Thiel worked as a consulting engineer in St. Louis and Pasadena prior to starting at the District in 1992.

A 26 year resident of South Lake Tahoe, John enjoys 80s music, Crossfit (usually), skiing and boating with his son Andrew, age 23, and trail running with his big dog, Leroy.

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