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**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**Nov. 3, 2023**

## **New Executive Director Nominated to Lead Denver's General Services**

**DENVER** – Today, Mayor Mike Johnston announced the nomination of Al Gardner to serve as Executive Director of General Services, pending City Council approval. In his role, Gardner will oversee the General Services department and will play a pivotal role in advancing the city's commitment to sustainable practices, managing facilities, and ensuring operational efficiency.

"Denver is a vibrant and growing city with diverse needs, and I am excited for Al to contribute to its continued success," Mayor Mike Johnston said. "We are fortunate to have him join our team to help us achieve our vision for a sustainable, accessible, and resilient city."

The General Services department provides support to more than 40 city and county agencies, departments, and offices by managing maintenance, operations, and security for over 5.78 million square feet in 134 city-maintained facilities and structures; city utility payments; facility sustainability and efficiency efforts; requests for proposals, contracts, master purchase orders; procurement spending; and city surplus property sales.

**Al Gardner** is a distinguished executive with a nearly three-decade career marked by engineering expertise, leadership, and strong community engagement. Gardner's notable accomplishments include leading a Denver-based startup hospitality company, to a successful IPO in 2022 as the Head of IT and Security.



Gardner has served on various boards and commissions including his service on the Denver African American Commission, the Denver Citizens Oversight Board, and currently as a Commissioner on the Denver Civil Service Commission Board. He has also contributed to the Denver Police Department Chiefs and the Denver Sheriff's Advisory Boards.

As a Board Member of the Colorado Technology Association and an adjunct instructor at the University of Denver School of Technology and Communications, Gardner actively shares his experience and knowledge in the industry. He earned the prestigious C-suite award from the Denver Business Journal, and his journey was featured in the PBS Road Trip Nation documentary series "Leaders."

A devoted husband, father, and grandfather, Gardner cherishes quality time spent with family, friends, and the community. Gardner earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in business

administration, emphasizing his commitment to academic excellence and expertise in team building and strategic management.

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