

Mayor Johnston Announces Three Key Positions to Strengthen Denver's Leadership Team

Sept. 13, 2023

Denver, CO – Mayor Mike Johnston today announced the appointment of two cabinet positions, pending City Council approval, and an additional leadership position. Appointments include Phil Washington, Denver International Airport (DEN) CEO; Anne-Marie Braga, Executive Director of Human Services and Suma Nallapati, Chief Information Officer.

These strategic selections, pending City Council approval for cabinet positions, are part of Mayor Johnston's ongoing commitment to bolster Denver's leadership team and enhance the city's capacity to address challenges and contribute to making Denver an even better place to live, work and visit.

“Phil, Anne-Marie and Suma will play an integral role in shaping the future of Denver,” Mayor Mike Johnston said. “Their combined expertise will help drive initiatives and policies aimed at creating a more inclusive, sustainable and prosperous city for all Denver residents, businesses, partners and visitors.”

Phil Washington – Denver International Airport CEO

Phil Washington was appointed as DEN CEO in 2021 and his selection, pending confirmation, reflects Mayor Johnston's confidence in Washington's leadership, dedication and vision for one of the busiest airports in the world.

During his tenure as DEN CEO, Washington has overseen numerous critical initiatives, including the expansion and modernization of the airport, improvements in its customer service and experience, and a steadfast commitment to environmental sustainability. He is a public transportation leader dedicated to inclusivity and equity, working to enhance the workforce and provide aviation career opportunities to under-represented individuals, of all ages and backgrounds, and advance innovation for global impact.

Prior to DEN, Washington led two major transportation hubs as CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and CEO of the

Denver Regional Transportation District. He is also a 24-year veteran of the U.S. Army, where he held the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer rank an enlisted soldier can achieve.

Anne-Marie Braga – Executive Director of Human Services

Anne-Marie Braga has dedicated her career to social and human services, with a focus on equity, inclusivity and community engagement. Her leadership has been marked by a steadfast commitment to addressing issues such as homelessness, child welfare and food insecurity.

For the past four years, she served as a Deputy Executive Director of Community Partnerships for the Colorado Department Human Services where she provided people-centered leadership to a variety of economic security and supportive human services programs to help all Coloradans thrive.

Braga's selection as Executive Director of Human Services, pending confirmation, will set the strategic direction and vision, and lead the fiscal and operational strategy of the Department of Human Services to drive high impact and equitable outcomes for the City and County of Denver.

Suma Nallapati – Chief Information Officer

Suma Nallapati is an experienced digital transformation focused Chief Information Officer (CIO) with a career spanning 25 plus years. Her work includes enhancing client and resident omni channel experiences, expanding data and digital capabilities, building and leading global teams, and optimizing IT operations and cybersecurity across both public and private sectors.

Her experience includes Global CIO at Insight and Chief Digital Officer at Dish Network and Everbridge. Previously, she held positions at TeleTech, Catholic Health Initiatives and the State of Colorado.

Nallapati will lead and implement the Mayor's Vision and Strategy and goals as CIO for technology services within the City and County of Denver.

Mayor Johnston and the City of Denver look forward to the appointees' continued success, contributions and pivotal roles in creating a more equitable and vibrant city for all residents in the coming months and years.

The Denver's City Charter requires that Cabinet appointments be confirmed via a resolution passed by Denver City Council. The resolutions generally take three weeks to go through the full Council process.