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## **News for Immediate Release**

Mayor Cognetti Announces New Cabinet Leadership

SCRANTON, PA – Mayor Paige G. Cognetti announced today new leadership in the City's Office of Economic and Community Development, Human Resources, and Department of Public Works.

## **OECD**

Eileen Cipriani will assume the role of Executive Director of OECD effective May 18, 2020. Ms. Cipriani brings extensive economic development experience at the state and local levels. Most recently, Ms. Cipriani served as Deputy Secretary of Workforce Development in the State Department of Labor & Industry under Governor Wolf's administration, where she traveled the state boosting workforce programs and oversaw a staff of 400 employees and a budget of \$228 million dollars.

"As we begin the recovery process from the COVID-19 pandemic and plan for more robust economic development activities within the City, Deputy Secretary Cipriani's state-level economic development experience and focus on workforce will be invaluable. Deputy Secretary Cipriani will be able to hit the ground running next week and help us continue to identify and stand up programs to support our local businesses that are struggling under the extended stay-at-home order," said Cognetti.

Mary-Pat Ward will remain with OECD as Deputy Director and will continue her skilled leadership in community development, including expanding access to social services and housing solutions for our residents.

## Department of Public Works

Tom Preambo will assume the role of Director of DPW effective May 25, 2020. Mr. Preambo currently serves as Deputy Director of OECD and brings decades of management experience in both the public and private sector.

"Mr. Preambo is a committed and dedicated employee of the City who has been a tremendous asset to Scranton. He will bring his expertise in federal and state funding, and administrative and project management expertise, to build a new approach DPW management," said Cognetti.

## **Human Resources**

Amber Viola will join the City as Director of Human Resources effective May 18, 2020. Ms. Viola brings management experience from her time in the U.S. Navy and also has a background in social work and services. Ms. Viola has supervisory and leadership experience in the military where she was in charge of training, evaluating, disciplining, and supervising sailors.

"We look forward to Ms. Viola joining our team. She is a dedicated Scranton resident and government employee whose experience will bring great value to the Office of Human Resources," said Cognetti.