

January 24, 2026

Dear Mayor and City Commission,

This letter accompanies my resume for the City Manager position with the City of Madeira Beach. The role reflects a community-focused leadership position where visibility, responsiveness, and steady municipal operations are essential.

Experience in coastal and tourism-dependent communities has reinforced how seasonal population shifts affect infrastructure, public safety, and resident expectations. In places where visitors, part-time residents, and full-time residents share limited space, consistent service delivery and clear communication are critical to maintaining community trust.

My professional experience includes coordinating storm response services, overseeing infrastructure and capital programs, managing parking and mobility systems, and supporting development in high-density residential environments. Work with public facilities, open space, and community-serving infrastructure has emphasized long-term stewardship and attention to quality-of-life concerns, particularly in neighborhoods with large retiree populations.

The City Manager role in a community such as Madeira Beach requires a hands-on presence, practical problem solving, and collaborative relationships with the City Commission, staff, and residents. That approach aligns with how municipal leadership has been practiced throughout my career.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,
Phillip Best

Phillip Best, MA

119.071(4)(d)1

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CITY MANAGER | OPERATIONS & CAPITAL | COMMUNITY TRUST

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

City Manager-level municipal executive with experience leading operations in coastal, tourism-impacted communities. Background included storm response, infrastructure coordination, capital planning, and organizational leadership in high-visibility environments with seasonal population shifts. Experienced working directly with governing bodies, department heads, and residents to maintain service continuity, protect community character, and ensure stable day-to-day operations.

KEY LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Provided senior operational leadership during storms and red tide events, approving emergency vendor payments and expedited procurements to maintain continuity of essential public services across multiple departments for extended operational periods.
- Provided executive coordination across Public Works, stormwater, and facilities programs by aligning funding, operational capacity, and project sequencing, including deployment of a \$1.7M capital emergency reserve to minimize service disruption.
- Exercised fiscal judgment under pressure by authorizing urgent \$7.3M in public facility work across multiple funding sources while maintaining compliance, transparency, and continuity of operations.
- Directed alternate procurements and funding strategies for capital projects through cooperative agreements, accelerating delivery timelines by 30% and reallocating \$4.5M in savings to additional infrastructure priorities.

CORE SKILLS / COMPETENCIES

Municipal Operations

Organizational Leadership

Community Development

Fiscal Judgment

Contract Management

Public Works & Infrastructure

Capital Programs

Organizational Stability

Council & Commission Relations

Community Engagement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Administrative Services Manager – City of St. Petersburg, FL | Dec 2021 – Apr 2022

Oversaw fiscal and operational coordination for Stormwater, Pavement, Traffic, and Lake Management Divisions, supporting citywide infrastructure delivery, and service continuity.

- Exercised executive oversight of a \$24M operating budget and \$17M Stormwater Enterprise Fund, coordinated project financing, vendor contracts, and emergency fiscal operations.
- Directed integration of financial tracking and asset management systems across multiple infrastructure programs and 311 operations, improving operational visibility and decision-making.
- Served as senior operational liaison across Public Works divisions during weather events and infrastructure disruptions, coordinating fiscal approvals and operational priorities to maintain continuity of essential city services.

Police Services Manager – Oakland Police Department, CA | Jul 2019 – Jan 2021

Managed Planning, Research, and Legislation functions for the Oakland Police Department under federal oversight, supporting, compliance, governance reform, and community accountability.

- Coordinated policy and training directives for compliance with U.S. District Court mandates.
- Authored new and revised General Orders, including Diversity Policy and Use-of-Force reforms.
- Served as liaison among City Council, Police Commission, and community oversight entities.

Principal Revenue Analyst (Deputy Administrator) – Revenue Management Bureau, City of Oakland, CA | Apr 2014 – Jul 2019

Served as bureau senior manager supporting and serving as assistant to the Revenue & Tax Administrator, acting as deputy and administrative lead; supported and represented the Administrator as assigned.

- Served as tax administration authority responsible for collection oversight, cash management, and revenue performance reporting.
- Managed 8 operating divisions, 78 FTEs, and a \$41M operating budget, including oversight of a \$53M citywide parking portfolio covering citations, permits, garages, and parking operations.
- Directed the Business License Customer Service Center (18 staff), processing approximately 60K licenses for approximately \$80M.

Urban Planner / Management Analyst – City Manager’s Office, City of Irvine, CA | Apr 2003 – Apr 2014

Served as executive staff within the City Manager’s Office, coordinating fiscal planning and cross-departmental delivery of capital and public facility projects for the Citywide operating budget and 5-Year CIP.

- Managed administrative and operational functions within the City Manager’s Office including HR coordination, purchasing, variance analysis, and executive staff reporting.
- Delivered \$41M Cypress Community Park (LEED Platinum) and \$55M Col. Bill Barber Gymnasium.
- Managed a \$52M CIP portfolio and conducted citywide facility compliance audits.

Revenue Control Officer – Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, VI | July 2022 – September 2025 (accepted May 2022)

Revenue Control Officer providing executive oversight of territorial revenue operations, forecasting, compliance, and cash management across multiple agencies.

- Produced official Revenue and Expense forecasts exceeding \$1.2B for the Governor and Legislature, supporting short-term cash flow management, fiscal transparency, and public accountability.
- Authored the Territory’s first comprehensive cost-recovery fee analysis, establishing a transparent and equitable fiscal policy.
- Modernized tax code provisions and led multi-agency Revenue Conferences with 15 departments.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts, Economics – California State University, Fullerton

Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration (Management Science) – California State University, Fullerton

Bachelor of Arts, Economics – San Francisco State University

ASSOCIATIONS

California Society of Municipal Finance Officers | International City/County Management Association

American Planning Association | NASBO State Association

Leadership Tomorrow – Class Valedictorian (Cities: Costa Mesa, Newport Beach & Irvine)

Public Records Exemptions

Enclosed please find a copy of the response documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages
119.071(4)(d)2a		2

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Enclosed please find a copy of the response documents for your public records request. The following information is provided to explain the process employed to review and produce the response documents.

Reason	Description	Pages
119.071(4)(d)1		2