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News Release

For Immediate Release

Mayor's Schedule Fills Up Quickly

Springfield's new Mayor Bob Stephens isn't wasting any time getting to know more about City operations. He will spend a part of his first day after taking his oath of office as a "CAmPer" learning more about the departments of Environmental Services and Public Works.

He may even get the opportunity to operate a dump truck, and will help smooth cement to create a sidewalk.

It's all part of the City's Ambassador Program, or CAmP, a leadership program that puts City employees in the middle of the action to learn more about various operations.

Stephens will join 23 employees who are part of the inaugural CAmP program, started last fall by City Manager Greg Burris. They will spend the afternoon at the Public Works Operations, 1010 W Chestnut St.

CAmPers represent departments ranging from Finance to Parks, and have spent the past year going behind-the-scenes of various City services, ranging from health inspections to fire response.

Employees apply to get into the program, which Burris hopes to give employees a broader perspective of the vast amount, and variety of work, done by City employees every day. There's already a waiting list for the next cohort.

CAmP is just one activity on the Mayor's already busy schedule. In a given week, he will dedicate about 30 hours to City Hall, doing a variety of activities including Council and committee meetings, community outreach and follow-up, according to City Clerk Brenda Cirtin. On top of that, the Mayor and Council members spend many hours researching issues, and engaging with citizens.

Mayor Bob Stephens will be onsite at Public Works Operations, 1010 W. Chestnut, from 2:45 – 4:30 today.

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