



**Marion County**  
OREGON

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### **Marion County Announces New Public Works Director**

The Marion County Board of Commissioners announced the appointment of Willis “Bill” Worcester as the county’s new permanent public works director. Worcester had been acting as the interim public works director since January 1. He is replacing Jim Sears, who retired last December and had been with Marion County for 26 years.

Worcester has been a part of Marion County Public Works for more than 24 years, coming to the county in 1984 as the bridge engineer. He also served as the county engineer for 8 years, from 1999-2007 where he oversaw a staff of seventy. As public works director, Worcester now oversees a staff of 220.

Marion County Public Works is responsible for maintaining over 1200 miles of roads, 145 bridges, numerous traffic signals, hundreds of miles of striping and thousands of signs; extensive drainage systems; land use planning; building inspection and permitting; design and construction of capital improvements; traffic engineering; checking, recording and managing survey records; and running the dog control program and shelter, among other activities.

“Bill is a dedicated and talented professional who is respected by his colleagues, his team and his peers,” said Marion County Commissioner Sam Brentano, board chair. “He is committed to excellent customer service and has a very solid and strong work ethic,” he said. “I have had the opportunity to watch Bill as the interim director and have confidence in his ability to be successful,” Commissioner Brentano added.

Worcester holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a Masters Degree in Management from Willamette University. He lives in Salem with his wife, Roslyn. They have three grown sons.

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