

PRESS RELEASE

Oct. 1, 2026

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Charlie Mitchell, CEcD; 541-660-1686; charliemitchinlg@gmail.com

Charlie Mitchell Reaches Professional Milestone Three Decades of Service in Oregon

October marks 30 years since Charlie Mitchell embarked on his professional economic development career, which began in Grants Pass (Ore.) in 1996 and wraps up in Dallas (Ore.) at the end of this month. Mitchell has announced his retirement from full-time work, and he will leave his position as Economic & Community Development Director for the City of Dallas.

Upon completing three decades of service, Mitchell now has the opportunity to reflect on his accomplishments and look ahead. He has lived and worked in Southern Oregon, Northeast Oregon and in the mid-Willamette Valley and has been a part of many transformative initiatives.

“First off, I accomplished very little all on my own,” Mitchell insists. “Mostly, I was fortunate to be a part of some really great teams of wonderful people, and together we accomplished some wonderful things that positively impacted many people, communities and businesses. I’m most proud of contributing in three distinct parts of Oregon and of the meaningful relationships I’ve been blessed with along the way.”

Mitchell has worked for three Oregon cities, two federally-recognized economic development districts and two higher education institutions. In addition to serving on numerous government and non-profit boards and committees over the years, he has served as the president of the Oregon Economic Development Association (OEDA), president of the Corvallis (Ore.) Chamber of Commerce and president of the Greater Corvallis Rotary Club.

A native Oregonian and a US Navy veteran who served in Operation Desert Storm, Mitchell holds bachelors and masters degrees from Southern Oregon University. He has earned the rigorous Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) designation from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and received a Master Practitioner certificate from the Advanced Economic Development Leadership (AEDL) program, developed by a consortium of some of the country’s top universities, including TCU and Alabama.

Charlie has been married to Julie for over 31 years. The couple lives outside of Corvallis in rural Benton County with their two cats. They have two adult children who live in the Portland area.

When asked, ‘what’s next,?’ Mitchell, a long-time avid motorcyclist, says, “I have a heart for service, so I’ll continue to be involved in Rotary and seek other new ways I can volunteer in my community and beyond. I plan to simply enjoy life, focusing on myself and my family and friends. Julie and I have some travel plans. And, of course, I hope to be logging lots of miles on my motorcycle. I look forward to this next chapter.”