

Marshall succeeds Bosek who will manage MOSI

By Debbie Carson
Staff Writer

TEMPLE TERRACE — There's a new face in City Hall. Michael Marshall has accepted the position of Redevelopment Director – a position that was vacated by Ralph Bosek, who has decided to step down in favor of having some family time before moving on.

"Six more days," Bosek said last Thursday – not that he's counting. His last day is Friday May 30.

Marshall will now oversee the finalizing of the last two contracts the city needs to sign with downtown redevelopment partner Pinnacle/Ram and set the course for the second phase of development.

He topped out 18 other applicants for the \$75,000 a year job.

And what will Bosek do with his spare time once his 5-year tenure with the city comes to an end?

He's going to take a few months off and then get to work at the Museum of Science and Industry as its new chief operating officer.

Bosek will be managing the operations of the museum. It's a new position created, in part, to free CEO Wit Ostrenko to focus on fund-raising.

But he won't forget Temple Terrace's redevelopment effort and will continue to assist when asked.

"I've got a lot of my soul in this project," Bosek said.

Bosek decided to take the opportunity to step down before the project moved along any further because it seemed the best possible time to do so, he said.

The necessary rezonings are moving forward in the process and the site plan drawing are looking good, Bosek said.

"All that's left, really, to close the deal is the contracts," Bosek said. "There's not that much left to do on phase one."

Bosek added that Marshall has a strong background in handling contracts and he feels confident that he will be up for the challenge.

Marshall has experience with redevelopment projects that incorporate multiple uses – retail, residential, office – and is based on the New Urbanism style of development, meaning it's pedestrian friendly and promotes infill development instead of suburban sprawl.

"I enjoy redevelopment projects," he said. "I think that this one has the very serious potential to be successful and it seemed like a good fit for me."

"It's what I'm used to working on," Marshall added.

The 41-year-old Oldsmar resident oversaw Center Park Village, a \$500 million redevelopment project in Tampa. Marshall served as the development officer – similar to the way Pinnacle/Ram interacts with Temple Terrace. He represented Bank of America in negotiating with the City of Tampa.

He was also the project manager for Jordan Park Center – also known as Midtown Center – in St. Petersburg.

Bosek has spent his remaining days in Temple Terrace's City Hall passing along every shred of information he can think of to the new recruit.

He said that he had to give City Manager Kim Leinbach credit for bringing Marshall on board early

enough that Marshall could be brought up to speed.

"There's thousands of little details and things that I've got in my brain that I don't have the chance to download," Bosek said.

And while Friday will be Bosek's last official day at City Hall, that does not mean he will become a stranger, he said. He plans on keeping a watchful eye on the city's redevelopment effort and promises to remain available should questions arise.

"They have my phone number," Bosek said.

So what does Marshall think about taking over the downtown project?

"I really don't think I'm being thrown into it," Marshall said. "Ralph has done a great job getting us to a point where we're ready to go. So I just kind of feel like I've got to keep pushing what he's done at least for this first phase one and get it done."

Marshall will have more on his "to do" list than the main redevelopment project, though. He will be overseeing the street enhancement projects, the business façade improvements, and all the other peripheral details associated with the massive undertaking on the southeast corner of Bullard Parkway and N. 56th Street.

"I get to give him all these projects that I should've finished," Bosek said.

Meet Temple Terrace's Redevelopment Director

Name: Michael W. Marshall

Age: 45

Salary: \$75,000 to start

Education: University of Florida Master of Arts degree in Urban and Regional Planning; University of South Florida Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science

Status: Married with three children