



**South Suburban
PARKS AND RECREATION**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2015

Contact: Jamie DeBartolomeis
303.483.7016

Rob Hanna Named Executive Director of South Suburban Parks and Recreation

After an extensive national search, Coloradoan Rob Hanna has been selected as the new Executive Director for South Suburban Park and Recreation District. He takes the helm as the District nears its 60th anniversary.

At a special Public Meeting on Wed., June 17, the South Suburban Board of Directors named Rob Hanna the District's next Executive Director in a 5-0 affirmative vote. Hanna is currently Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf for the Town of Castle Rock, CO.

"We are excited that Rob will be leading South Suburban to the next level of greatness," said John Ostermiller, Board President. "Rob is a solid performer and has proven himself to be a dedicated leader who works exceptionally well with partners and agencies. He's a collaborator and is responsible for creating an open environment that has contributed to high levels of community engagement. "

Hanna has enjoyed his tenure with the Town of Castle Rock and is most proud of his involvement in the design and construction of Philip S. Miller Park, a 300-acre park including zip lines, synthetic fields, outdoor amphitheater, core plaza with splash pads, adventure playground and the Epic Adventure Tower. The Miller Activity Center includes indoor synthetic turf, trampolines, indoor playground and a leisure pool.

He successfully negotiated the Town's first public private partnership (P3) to provide adventure based regional recreational opportunities in Philip S. Miller Park.

While serving as the Director of Parks, Recreation and Golf for the Town of Castle Rock, Hanna developed the first intergovernmental agreement with the Douglas County School District providing for the joint development and use of facilities to reduce capital construction and increase availability of recreational facilities for the community.

Hanna has 17 years of park and recreation experience, and has been in his current position since 1998. He is a Certified Parks and Recreation Professional and is a Registered Landscape Architect. He holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. He currently resides in Castle Pines, CO.

-more-

In Feb., the Board selected and hired national executive search firm Peckham & McKenney to conduct the recruitment process, a highly qualified and well connected firm that specializes in providing executive search services to local government agencies throughout the Western United States.

Hanna went through a rigorous selection process and emerged as the top candidate of the three finalists who were all interviewed on June 11 by advisory panels comprised of select South Suburban staff, leadership from governmental agencies in the District and members of the community. Participants in the panel interviews included Michael Penny, City Manager, City of Littleton; Brian Vogt, CEO, Denver Botanic Gardens; Seth Hoffman, City Manager, City of Lone Tree; John Brackney, Director, Strategic Community and Public Policy Engagement, Webolutions and Shannon Carter, Intergovernmental Relations & Open Space Director, Arapahoe County. More than 60 candidates applied from throughout the country.

It is anticipated that Hanna will officially join South Suburban on July 31.

South Suburban Parks and Recreation provides and manages parks, trails, open space and recreation facilities and programs for 146,000 residents living in Littleton, Lone Tree, Sheridan, Columbine Valley, Bow Mar, western Centennial and portions of unincorporated Jefferson, Douglas and Arapahoe counties. South Suburban is a nationally recognized Park and Recreation District which has won the national Gold Medal Award three times and has been a finalist eight other times since 1976.

###