



NEWS RELEASE

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Charleston County Parks names new Executive Director Kevin Bowie as the current Executive Director David Bennett announces retirement

[CHARLESTON COUNTY – June 22, 2022] – Effective July 1, 2022, David Bennett will begin transitioning into retirement from his executive director role with the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission (CCPRC). The Commission has appointed Associate Executive Director Kevin Bowie as the new executive director. To ensure a smooth transition over the next 24 months, David will continue to serve as an advisor, a special project manager and the executive director of the Charleston County Parks Foundation.

Bennett has had a long employment history with CCPRC since starting with the agency over 35 years ago. A Charleston native, Bennett graduated from Mars Hill College. Throughout his career, Bennett has been involved in a variety of professional and community organizations, serving on the following boards: the National Recreation and Park Association, the South Carolina Recreation and Park Association, the Cooper River Bridge Run, James Island Charter High School, the Charleston Area Children's Garden Project, the Charleston Heritage Education Forum, the Charleston County Greenbelt Project's Urban Grants Review Committee, Family Corps, the Bishop Gadsden Trustees and the Wallingford Presbyterian Church Trustees.

New CCPRC Executive Director Kevin Bowie was also born and raised in Charleston. He began his career with CCPRC in 1986 at Palmetto Islands County Park, where he worked part time for five years. In 1991, Bowie was selected as the assistant park manager at Palmetto Islands County Park and was promoted to James Island County Park manager in 1994. In 1998, Bowie became assistant director of operations, then became director of operations in 2008, superintendent of administrative services in 2010, superintendent of general services in 2014, and associate executive director in 2016. Bowie has a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the College of Charleston.

"I am honored to be the next executive director of the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission," said Bowie. "As I reflect on my 36 years with this agency, it is incredible to see how CCPRC has grown and expanded into the diverse organization we are today. At the heart of our work is the CCPRC staff, who bring a five-star level of commitment and service to everything they do. I am dedicated to working with our staff and the community to uphold our agency's mission to improve the quality of life in Charleston County."

For more information on CCPRC, visit CharlestonCountyParks.com or call 843-795-4386.

The Charleston County Parks Foundation is a nonprofit organization formed in 1990 by CCPRC. Its mission is to help ALL residents experience Charleston County Parks and programs. For more information on the Charleston County Parks Foundation, visit CharlestonCountyParksFoundation.org.

The mission of CCPRC is to improve the quality of life in Charleston County by offering a diverse system of park facilities, programs and services. The large park system features over 11,000 acres of property and includes four land parks, three beach parks, four seasonally-lifeguarded beach areas, a skate park, three dog parks, two landmark fishing piers, three waterparks, a historic plantation site, 19 boat landings, a climbing wall, a challenge course, an interpretive center, an equestrian center, cottages, a campground, a marina, as well as wedding, meeting and event facilities. The park system also offers a wide variety of recreational services - festivals, camps, classes, programs, volunteer opportunities, and more. For more information on CCPRC, call 843-795-4386, or visit www.charlestoncountyparks.com.

