



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Downtown Norfolk Council Announces Key Staffing Changes

NORFOLK, Va. – (June 2024) – <u>Downtown Norfolk Council</u> (DNC) is pleased to announce two significant staffing changes as part of its continued commitment to economic vitality and community development. Effective immediately, DNC's current Selden Market Director, Careyann Weinberg, has been promoted to the role of Director of Economic Vitality, and DNC has welcomed Sarah Spence Ting as the new Selden Market Manager ahead of the renovation and expansion of the award-winning retail incubator.

Promotion to Director of Economic Vitality

Careyann Weinberg, formerly the Selden Market Director, will now serve as the Director of Economic Vitality. Careyann has been an instrumental figure at <u>Selden Market</u>, managing its renovations, operations, and strategic development. Under her leadership, the market has maintained a 90% average occupancy rate since opening in 2017 and received numerous accolades, including the 2018 International Downtown Association Pinnacle Award for Economic and Business Development. Her new role will involve supporting programs, services, and initiatives that sustain and grow the economy of Downtown Norfolk. Specifically, she will oversee the implementation, monitoring, and tracking of the adopted economic development strategies for the organization.

Careyann will continue to be engaged with Selden Market for new business recruitment and business mentoring. In support of all street level businesses, she will conduct community outreach to include business retention and navigation of processes. She will also work closely with DNC partners to support business recruitment efforts for Downtown Norfolk.

New Selden Market Manager

Joining DNC as the new Selden Market Manager is Sarah Spence Ting. Sarah brings a wealth of experience in business operations, event promotion, and customer service excellence. Her extensive background in managing facilities, coordinating events, and building relationships with local businesses makes her an excellent fit for the Selden Market Manager role.

As the Selden Market Manager, Sarah will orchestrate the smooth operation and strategic advancement of the retail marketplace and incubator, overseeing all day-to-day operations of the market, managing facilities, tenant communication, and market calendars. Through effective leadership and collaboration with internal and external stakeholders, she will implement marketing strategies, events, and promotions to drive foot traffic and elevate the market's visibility within the community.

Exciting Times for Selden Market

Selden Market is embarking on a new chapter in its journey, with planned renovation work and expansion in 2024. This phase will bring enhanced facilities and opportunities for vendors and visitors and a refreshed look. The team's expanded roles will be pivotal in ensuring that DNC's and Selden's goals are met with excellence and innovation.

"We are thrilled to announce these staffing changes at such a pivotal time for Selden Market and Downtown Norfolk. Careyann Weinberg has been essential in the success of Selden Market, and we are excited to see her bring her talents to the broader economic vitality of our city. We also warmly welcome Sarah Spence Ting, whose experience and enthusiasm will undoubtedly lead Selden Market to new heights. As we enter renovations for Selden Market, we are more committed than ever to fostering a vibrant and thriving community," said Mary Miller, President & CEO of the Downtown Norfolk Council.

Downtown Norfolk Council is a private, not-for-profit membership organization comprised of businesses and individuals working toward a dynamic, attractive and prosperous Downtown. DNC also manages the Downtown Norfolk Improvement District, a 50-block special services district with enhanced services that keep Downtown friendly, safe and spotless. Connect with Downtown Norfolk on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram or visit DowntownNorfolk.org.

Selden Market, an award-winning retail incubator from the Downtown Norfolk Council, is a unique opportunity that allows business owners to test ideas and concepts with low rent and low-risk options and has become a model for cities throughout the United States. It features an eclectic mix of high quality, small businesses with a majority of women- and minority-owned shops. Selden Market businesses are open Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sun., 11am-5pm, Fri. & Sat. 11am-6pm. Some stores hold additional hours during the week. Stay up to date on Selden events, announcements and more on their Instagram.

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