



City of New Bedford  
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford  
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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### **New Bedford Economic Development Council Names Derek Santos as Director**

**New Bedford, Massachusetts** – Mayor Jon Mitchell announced the New Bedford Economic Development Council (NBEDC) Board of Directors has named long-time NBEDC team member Derek Santos as the organization’s Executive Director. Santos has served as the Acting Director for the past six months following Matt Morrissey’s departure to lead the City’s launch of the Wind Energy Center, a new public-private partnership established earlier this year within the NBEDC.

Santos came to the NBEDC in 2007 to serve as the Director of Business Development and in 2012 was named the Director of Operations. Prior to his work at the NBEDC, Santos was the Historical Architect for New Bedford Whaling NHP and worked for the City Planning Office.

“The leadership transition at the NBEDC has been seamless. With so much going on, such a good transition is a credit to hard work of Derek, Matt, and the entire NBEDC board and team members. Derek has a true love for New Bedford, and comes to this new role with 20 years of experience. He has proven over the past six months that he is ready for this new challenge,” said Mitchell.

NBEDC President Tony Sapienza echoed Mayor Mitchell, “This is the right move for the NBEDC, the Mitchell Administration, and above all, the City of New Bedford. No one understands the workings of the NBEDC or the City’s economic development agenda better than Derek. As we look ahead to a time of tremendous activity we are confident that we will stay on track and not lose momentum.”

Santos reflected on the transition, “The NBEDC team is driven to strengthen New Bedford’s economy in every corner of the city. We have a solid and proven strategy, great partners, and desire to make our hometown great. I’m proud of what the team at the NBEDC and our many partners in the public and private sectors have accomplished under Matt’s leadership, and we are all excited about what the future holds.”

The NBEDC is a nonprofit organization comprised of 250 successful leaders in business, education and government led by a nine-member Board of Directors. In conjunction with the Mayor’s Office, the Council sets the agenda for the city’s key strategic economic development areas.

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