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Dripping Springs City Administrator Wins Top Award

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DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS – Dripping Springs City Administrator Michelle Fischer has earned the 2016 Distinguished Public Administrator Award by the Central Texas Chapter of American Society for Public Administration. Chosen by her peers, Fischer will be acknowledged at a banquet on May 19th for demonstrating a commitment to the profession of public administration and exhibiting exceptional service and performance in the practice of public administration.

Mayor Todd Purcell said “this award is a reflection of Michelle’s management and leadership style and is significant as it shows that she is also highly respected by colleagues in her profession.”

Fischer has been the City Administrator for the City of Dripping Springs for more than 15 years. During her tenure, Dripping Springs has experienced tremendous growth and she has worked closely with elected officials to promote and preserve quality of life in the community. Fischer has been instrumental in many of the City’s major accomplishments, including construction of the first wastewater treatment plant and collection system, expansion of the City parks, and revitalization of the City’s Historic District.

Under Fischer’s leadership and initiative, the City of Dripping Springs has been recognized as the first International Dark Sky Community in the State of Texas and sixth community in the world, and was gold certified as a Texas “Scenic City.”

Dripping Springs Mayor Pro Tem Bill Foulds said that Fischer demonstrated to the City Council that she would be a great leader from the very start of her career at the City. “I feel she has assembled the very best team of individuals in the area,” he said. “Michelle has continued to educate herself to position our City to handle the phenomenal growth in a manner that respects the heritage of our community.”

Dripping Springs City Attorney Alan Bojorquez, who represents home rule and general law municipalities across the state, said “as an administrator Michelle not only implements the city council’s decisions, she also provides leadership by presenting the council with sound options, solid advice, possible initiatives, and a team capable of getting the job done.”

Outside her role as City Administrator, Fischer serves on the Board of Scenic Hill Country and the Board of Driftwood Economic Development Municipal Management District, and is a member of the

International Dark Sky Association. She is also a Unit Leader for American Heritage Girls in Dripping Springs and is actively involved in her church.

Fischer received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science with honors from St. Edward's University and earned her Master of Public Administration with honors from Texas State University.

Mayor Pro Tem Foulds said without Fischer's talents, the City would not have had progressive planning guiding the community. "Michelle receiving this award only adds to what we have known for years," Foulds continued.