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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEAVES
PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Don Mazziotti Steps Down to Focus Attention on Matters Closer to Home

Donald Mazziotti, Executive Director of the PDC since May 2001, has announced that he will be leaving his position as head of the city's influential urban renewal agency. He will continue to lead the Commission during a 90-day transition period. His official last day will be June 1, 2005.

"I am extremely proud of my work while at the helm of PDC, but would never make the assumption that I have done it all by myself," said Mazziotti, "Beside me every step of the way were the talented staff members at PDC, our Board, City Council members and the many committed citizens who make Portland the great city it is."

During Mazziotti's tenure at the Commission, PDC doubled its housing production goals—creating or rehabilitating more than 6,800 units. During this same time, PDC established two new urban renewal areas (URA): the Willamette Industrial and Gateway Regional Center URAs, both of which concentrate on business and job retention and recruitment. In December 2001, the Downtown Waterfront URA, one of the city's oldest and most successful urban renewal districts, was extended four years to focus on revitalization in Old Town/Chinatown and along the downtown waterfront area.

Mazziotti also oversaw the completion of a number of major redevelopment projects including Jamison Square and the Brewery Blocks—two key projects bolstering the city's emerging Pearl District neighborhood. He also lead the development of the three-block Museum Place project invigorating Portland's art and culture district in the West End, as well as the extension of light rail to the Portland Airport and along North Interstate Avenue.

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Mazziotti's strongest suit was in leveraging and bringing new resources, businesses and jobs to Portland. In the area of economic development, the agency recruited or retained more than 6,500 jobs—twenty-five percent of which were in small business. Mazziotti also worked with other city leaders to establish Portland's Sister City relationship with Bologna, Italy. The agency also successfully jump-started redevelopment in Portland's newest urban neighborhood and job center in North Macadam's South Waterfront area.

“Under Don's strong leadership, the Commission has accomplished some incredible things in all corners of the city,” said Matt Hennessee, Chairman of the PDC Board of Commissioners. “PDC staff, the other Commissioners and I are indebted to Don for everything he has done to make Portland a better place.”

Prior to joining PDC, Mazziotti served as Chief Information Officer for the State of Oregon from 1997 to 2000; Deputy Assistant Secretary of Transportation for the United States from 1978 to 1981; and Secretary of Commerce for the State of Pennsylvania in 1987. In his early years, Mazziotti served as Chief Planner for the City of Portland from 1973 to 1977—a watershed period when city leaders and planners orchestrated downtown Portland's internationally recognized renaissance, turning a blighted central city into one of the nation's most economically vibrant, culturally attractive and transit and pedestrian friendly cities.

In the private sector, Mazziotti served as Chief Executive Officer for the Delta Development Group, Inc, a real estate development, management and financing company. He was also the founding director of the Pennsylvania Business Roundtable, which brought together 38 chief executive officers from Fortune 500 companies to focus on economic development and the business economy.

Mazziotti holds a law degree and a M.A. in Urban Planning from the University of Iowa; a B.A. in Political Science and Economics from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa and served as an adjunct professor of planning and public administration at Portland State University (1976-1978) and The Pennsylvania State University (1985-1989).

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