



NEW MEMBER PROFILES

URBAN MANAGEMENT ASSISTANTS OF NORTH TEXAS



Name: Stephen Tanner

City/Entity: City of Plano

Title: Assistant to the City Manager

If you could snap your fingers and become an expert in something, what would it be?

Probably woodworking. Growing up, I was the kid who had a block of wood for the pinewood derby car. I've always wanted to master this skill, but never have been able to put my full time and effort into it. Also, my wife would be pretty happy with this, she would give me lots of DIY projects to work on.

What's one thing that surprised you about working in local government?

It's where the rubber meets the road. Local government touches people's lives so much more often than the state and federal government, yet those are the ones that get the greatest attention. I like to tell people who are interested in getting involved in politics to do so at the local government level, as they can create the most change there.

What's one thing most people don't know about you?

I speak Mongolian fluently. I volunteered on a two year, self-funded mission teaching English as a second language (ESL) to local government leaders, universities, and secondary schools in Mongolia. I was able to learn Mongolian, although, I'm a little rusty on the language today.