

**Melissa A. Smith Gentry, P.E., M.B.A.**  
**Assistant City Manager**

Melissa Gentry began working with the City of Columbia as an intern while completing her undergraduate in Civil Engineering at the University of South Carolina. With over 22 years of experience at the City, she now performs the role of Assistant City Manager over Operations and Development Services. Prior to that role, she filled various positions during her career to include Civil Engineer, City Engineer and Public Works Director.

Her career at the City has allowed her the opportunity to serve the public interest of the citizens, residents and visitors of Columbia as well as the surrounding areas. The Operations Section of the City includes the following departments: Community Development, Office of Business Opportunities, General Services, Parking, Planning and Development Services, Public Works and Utilities & Engineering. She is also heavily involved in the current development of 181 acres of land in the core of Columbia, to include a minor league baseball and entertainment venue.

In addition to her Civil Engineering degree, Missy holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Carolina and is a registered Professional Engineer in SC. She has been recognized throughout her career by various associations to include: APWA Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year, 2013; 20 Under 40 by the State Newspaper, 2010; APWA Young Leader of the Year, 2005; USC Outstanding Young Alumnus for College of Engineering and Information Technology, 2004; SC AWWA Young Professional of the Year, 2004; SC ASCE Young Government Engineer of the Year 1999 & 2001; SC APWA President's Award Recipient, 1999. She has also served as the City of Columbia United Way Chairmen several years and on the annual Mayor's Breast Cancer Breakfast Committee for over ten years. She is a graduate of the Leadership Columbia Class of 2001 and Leadership South Carolina Class of 2009.

Missy has been married for over 12 years. She and her husband, Russ, are the proud parents of twin ten year olds and a seven year old.