

Matt Doherty leaving as head of Casino Reinvestment agency

Written by Administrator

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ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — The head of a state agency tasked with helping to redevelop Atlantic City using reinvested casino money is stepping down.

Matthew Doherty is leaving his post as executive director of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority at the end of January for a job in the private sector.

Doherty, the former mayor of Belmar, was tapped by Gov. Phil Murphy to head the reinvestment agency four years ago.

“During the past four years we have made major investments in Atlantic City and its people, culminating in the groundbreaking this past November of a new ShopRite grocery store,” he said Wednesday. “I see remarkable potential in Atlantic City and I believe there will be a renaissance in the city over the next 5 to 10 years.”

The agency runs on payments that casinos are required to make toward projects to benefit the city. Those payments used to be disbursed to projects across the state but have recently been targeted for Atlantic City.

The agency also shares some planning and zoning authority with the city, particularly on large projects.

Doherty received high marks for his handling of Belmar's recovery after Superstorm Sandy in 2012; the town was the first at the Jersey Shore to rebuild its boardwalk after the storm.

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