Leslie Deese is the City Manager of National City, a California coastal community of 60,000 bordered by downtown San Diego. The City Council unanimously appointed her to City Manager in January, 2012.

Leslie joined National City 30 years ago after serving four years in the U.S. Navy during which she worked at the Pentagon for the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. During her time with the City, she has worked as an Administrative Assistant, an Executive Assistant to the City Manager, Community Services Director, and the Assistant City Manager.

As City Manager of the county’s second oldest city, Leslie administers a $87.5 million dollar budget and oversees 11 departments with a workforce of more than 370 employees.

Leslie holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, a Masters Degree from National University, and is a resident of National City. Leslie’s many years of government service have resulted in her involvement with a variety of departments, positions, and organizations, such as past president of the Sweetwater Kiwanis Club and a member of the National City Host Lion’s Club. Leslie has consistently been a part of the community in which she serves.

She is a member of the International City/County Management Association, the County of San Diego’s Treasury Oversight Committee and chairs the San Diego City/County Managers Association.

Leslie can be contacted at (619) 336-4242 or ldeese@nationalcityca.gov.