

Coffee with the Mayor and His Guest, Mayor Elect Rich Constantine November 10, 2018 10:00AM – 11:30AM

Notes and Follow-Up

Approximately every two months, Morgan Hill's Mayor, Steve Tate, has hosted a coffee that is open to the entire Morgan Hill community. The coffees provide an opportunity for community members to have a discussion and share concerns and ideas with the Mayor and his guest, all in a comfortable and informal environment. Going forward our new Mayor, Rich Constantine, plans to continue the coffees.

The following is a summary of items and question discussed at the most recent coffee and further follow-up information from City Teammates as appropriate.

An attendee commented that there are too many restaurants downtown and it is destroying the quaintness that brought him here.

Many attendees shared concerns about traffic, roads and roadway safety, especially speeding (Santa Teresa, Watsonville, Hale, Edmundson, down Dunne hill). The November 9th Watsonville fatalities spurred a lot of concern.

Captain Shane Palsgrove indicated that the Morgan Hill Police Department (MHPD) is budgeted for 3 traffic officers this year. MHPD is diligently working on filling the third position. The officers will be deployed in areas that are experiencing collisions and complaints. We are aiming to have all three traffic officers working by the end of the year. We have also applied and received grant funding for extra traffic enforcement throughout the year. Please call the MHPD's traffic hotline number 408-776-0460 or <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/FormCenter/Police-14-14/Traffic-Complaint-91-91> to report concerns. MHPD's Volunteers In Policing (VIP) also deploy two traffic trailers to slow traffic down in areas receiving complaints. Our traffic team has been working on the roadways of concern.

An attendee shared that Edmundson just west of Monterey a "very bad design" and we should re-do it to make it safe.

Chris Ghione, Public Services Director, indicated that he needed more information to address this comment. Please feel free to contact Chris Ghione directly at 408. or by email at chris.ghione@morganhill.ca.gov

One attendee shared that she has made many calls to the police department but there has been no impact/change.

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Someone commented that they love BookSmart and wish it was still need downtown. It is a great community gathering place. We need a community building.

It was shared that there is a need for a traffic signal at Watsonville & Sunnyside/Santa Teresa

Chris Ghione, Public Services Director, indicated there is a traffic signal planned long-term for the intersection. The City does not yet have the funding for the signal. It is also believed that most of the traffic there occurs in relation to pass through drivers trying to avoid traffic on the 101, so adding the signal may not actually support improved traffic for local residents, if more pass through drivers continue to use this route. The City is planning to perform a pass through traffic study to help better understand the need and timing for the signal there.

Another attendee shared that there is more of a presence from the Sherriff's Department and CHP than Morgan Hill PD.

Captain Shane Palsgrove shared that MHPD works in partnership with these agencies and we routinely help each other when calls increase or to be a force multiplier. We are all on the same team keeping the community safe.

Someone suggested we should adopt the mantra of "we don't speed in MH".

Captain Shane Palsgrove share that he thought that was a great idea. He indicated that the police department will discuss this in their next team building workshop. Keep the suggestions coming. Working in partnership with the community is how we get our message out.

It was shared that there is a possibility of getting a replacement of the Redevelopment Agency (RDA).

Status of Catholic HS

The City of Morgan Hill submitted a request to the Santa Clara County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to expand its Urban Service Area (USA) boundary on land adjacent to the existing City Limits and USA in support of a project that would have included a Catholic High School to serve the needs of hundreds of South County students and families and also would have included the permanent preservation of agricultural lands in the City's Priority Agricultural Conservation Area.

After a thorough review of the factors LAFCO uses to evaluate such requests, the City concluded that the proposed project was fully in conformance with LAFCOs Urban Service Area Policies.

Following presentations by LAFCO staff, City staff, significant public comment, and Commissioner discussion, the application was denied with a 4-3 vote following LAFCO staff recommendation.

Someone shared that the working population can't get to most meetings. The City needs to continue to improve communication with them through internet, social media, etc.

***Maureen Tobin, Communications and Engagement Manager**, indicated that the City is always open to new ideas of how to reach, communicate with, and engage all of our community members. A good way to stay up to date and informed is to sign up to receive email updates from the City. You can do so at the following link <https://bit.ly/2d0yFus> . The community is also encourage to follow the City on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/morganhillengage> , on Instagram @cityofmorganhill, on Twitter @cityofmorganhil and to register for Nextdoor <https://nextdoor.com/> where the City frequently shares information. Maureen can be reached directly at 408.310.4706 or by email at Maureen.tobin@morganhill.ca.gov*

Ron Locicero solicited support for the Magic Bridge Project in Morgan Hill.

<https://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/1643/Magical-Bridge-Morgan-Hill>

Designs for the project will be presented to the City Council at the December 19, 2018 City Council meeting. View staff report at the following link:

<https://bit.ly/2POXaMp>

One attendee shared that greater community involvement is needed especially to increase diversity and younger representation.

A question was asked about the status of the Neighborhood Watch program in Morgan Hill.

***Captain Shane Palsgrove** indicated that Detective Greg Dini coordinates our Neighborhood Watch program and hosts meetings often. He would be happy to facilitate a meeting if you give him a call 669-253-4965 or email at greg.dini@morganhill.ca.gov.*

An attendee asked “Why are there yellow lines on Butterfield “trail”?”

***Chris Ghione, Public Services Director**, shared that the yellow line is so people walk on the correct side of the trail. Its standard for a multiuse trail (which this is). It was added when the trail was resurfaced.*

Concerns were shared about housing affordability for those in the middle – teachers, etc.

A concern was shared about the continued higher density vs. getting way too dense already.

A question was asked about what is happening on Half Road?

Chris Ghione, Public Services Director, shared that the water district is adding a new pipeline that connects the Anderson Reservoir to the Madrone Channel. This will be used to move water to the channel for groundwater recharge.

Someone asked about the status of medical cannabis.

No decisions have been made on the direction of medical or recreational cannabis in the City of Morgan Hill. The topic will be discussed at the City Council Goal Setting Workshop January 25 & 26, 2019.

Need “smart” bus system a la Uber

Chris Ghione, Public Services Director, shared that he agrees. The city continues to work to find private transportation providers to provide service in Morgan Hill.

One attendee shared that the VTA paratransit area makes it unaffordable to use. \$16 charge if outside of the area.

Status of Hale Avenue Extension

The City Council certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the project in August 2017. City Council also adopted a Plan Line for Hale Avenue and City Council has approved the purchase or condemnation of all of the right of way needed for the project. Project Plans are 95% complete. The construction phase will be funded mainly with the County's Measure B tax initiative. <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/880/Hale-Avenue-Extension-Project>.