

Lunch with the Mayor at the Centennial Recreation Senior Center August 21, 2019 Notes and Follow-Up

On the 3rd Wednesday of the each, Morgan Hill's Mayor, Rich Constantine, has lunch at the Centennial Recreation Senior Center. The lunch provides an opportunity for senior members of the community to have a discussion and share concerns and ideas with the Mayor in the comfort and familiar environment of the Senior Center.

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

What is the status of the Hale Extension Project?

Mayor Constantine shared that this project is moving forward and will help with the traffic on Monterey Road. For details about this project please visit <https://www.morganhill.ca.gov/880/Hale-Avenue-Extension-Project> .

On Butterfield at Barrett near the Lodge there is a fire hazard due to very tall weeds.

This has been reported to the Fire Marshal to review.

We need more VTA services.

Mayor Constantine shared the we work closely with VTA advocating for services, but unfortunately, we do not control how services are allocated.

Are cities coordinating efforts in relation to global warming?

Mayor Constantine shared that Morgan Hill has taken many steps on its own, i.e.: retrofitting all streetlights to LEDs, working with Recology to get rid of all diesel trucks. He also shared that the cities aren't really working in coordination, but he likes that idea and will bring it up at the Cities Association meeting.

Morgan Hill is overbuilding. We moved here to be in the country. Now there is too much traffic and the condition of our roads is awful.

Over the last few years Morgan Hill has experienced what has felt to many like too much growth and development especially in relation to housing. Much of this growth "bubble" has been attributable to the projects that were approved and given allotments under our voter approved residential growth control system during the recession but were not able to get the financing to start their projects. Additional people living in Morgan Hill has contributed to traffic and wear and tear on the roadways, but we also have a lot of cut through traffic in Morgan Hill particularly during commute hours. Unfortunately, the City has over \$20 million dollars in unfunded pavement work and needs new funding sources to maintain and improve our roadways. Additionally, there

is legislation at the state level that will likely override our growth control system in the future. The City will know more about this within the next month.

How will the new “use of force” legislation affect our police department?

Chief David Swing shared that the Morgan Hill Police Department already trains and practices de-escalation tactics in critical incidents. Also, officers already use force only when necessary when judged by a reasonable officer - as the new law defines necessary. The community will see no difference in how our officers serve and protect.