



17575 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA 95037-4128
TEL: (408) 779-7271
FAX: (408) 779-3117
www.morganhill.ca.gov

Contact:
Maureen Tobin
Communications and Engagement Manager
408.310.4706 (o)
408.406.4076 (c)
maureen.tobin@morganhill.ca.gov
@CityofMorganHil

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Morgan Hill Adopts a New Public Engagement Platform to Enhance Engage Morgan Hill Process

Morgan Hill, CA, June 13, 2019 – The City of Morgan Hill is excited to announce the launch of Polco, an innovative engagement platform where residents can directly provide input to the local government decision-making process. By using Polco, the city is making public participation easier for residents by meeting them where they are. Officials will post questions directly to residents on Polco’s app and website, where residents answer and comment on the questions.

The City received a grant from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation to pilot Polco for the next year. The grant provided the perfect opportunity for the city to enhance engagement efforts as part of the **Engage Morgan Hill** process, a year and a half community conversation about services, funding and priorities, at no additional cost.

The City of Morgan Hill has just asked Morgan Hill residents for their input on the very first question using the new engagement tool. Specifically, the City has asked residents, “What topics are of most interest to you in better understanding the City of Morgan Hill’s services, funding and priorities?” Residents may choose 3 topics from a list of 7 including: Budget Basics, City Pensions, Economic Development, Housing/Growth, Infrastructure, Public Safety, and Traffic/Congestion.

City Manager Christina Turner commented, “It is exciting to be piloting a new engagement tool as part of **Engage Morgan Hill**. Community engagement is one of our City Council’s strategic priorities and we continually look for ways to enhance our efforts.”

The City will be asking for further input through Polco in the coming weeks and months.

Residents begin giving input by downloading the Polco app for Android or iOS, or by visiting <https://polco.us/> and creating an account. Polco’s platform is available via web, mobile app, email, and any place Polco e-ballots are found online. This service is free to all residents.

Polco is committed to a strict privacy policy where they only share aggregated de-identified results. Participants’ individual data and votes are never shared.

If you would like more information about Polco or **Engage Morgan Hill**, please contact Maureen Tobin, Communications and Engagement Manager at 408.310.4706 or maureen.tobin@morganhill.ca.gov

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