CITY OF MORGAN HILL

City of Morgan Hill Application for Appointment to City Council Vacancy Term ends December 2018

City Clerk's Office
City Hall
17575 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA. 95037
Phone (408) 310-4678
Fax (408) 779-3117
michelle.wilson@morganhill.ca.gov

This application is a public record and will be included with the applicable City Council materials and may be posted on the City s website. Thank you for your interest in serving on the Morgan Hill City Council.

Full Name John K. McKay

Home Address [redacted]

Home Phone [redacted] **Cell Phone** [redacted]

Email [redacted]

Number of years lived in Morgan Hill Sixteen (16)

Occupation Retired (former Const. Est/PM) **Employer** N/A

In addition to completing the applicant questionnaire, please feel free to attach your resume. In order for your application to be considered, the applicant questionnaire must be completed.

I hereby certify that all statements made in this application are true and complete. I legally reside in the City of Morgan Hill. I am 18 years of age or older. In compliance with State law, I understand that I will be required to file a statement of Economic Interests upon appointment to office and annually thereafter. I understand that my application and materials will be considered a public record and thus will be available for public inspection and copying. The completed applications may also be published on the City's website.

John K. McKay
Applicant's Signature

January 6, 2017
Date

Civic service is a privilege and responsibility of our citizens. The value and importance of the participation of our citizens cannot be measured. Your interest in serving on the City Council of the City of Morgan Hill is greatly appreciated.

APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Why do you want to be appointed to the City of Morgan Hill City Council?

I believe that the people who live here and provide jobs here in Morgan Hill deserve a representative that will work to provide the best living and working experience that this community can offer.

I think that I can work in City Government to help provide the quality of life and work experience with my energy, creativity, and dedication to getting things done.

I am ready to take on a leadership role to help keep moving Morgan Hill in the generally positive direction it is headed and work on the areas which could be improved upon, as difficult as some of it may be.

2. What qualifies you to serve on the Morgan Hill City Council?

I am a graduate of Leadership Morgan Hill (Class of 2010).

I became involved in following our community's economic development at the Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee meetings starting in 2010.

I was appointed to the City of Morgan Hill Planning Commission in 2011 and have contiunued to serve until this day. As a member of the Commission I have worked on the 2035 General Plan update, the Measure S voter initiative, and the Residential Development Control System (which is still under development).

I helped create the Morgan Hill Wine Advocates whose goal was to promote local wineries and the local wine region. This committee was the launching pad for my involvement in the Wineries of Santa Clara Valley wine association in helping with events and their marketing program and the Morgan Hill Tourism Alliance.

I helped create the Morgan Hill Tourism Alliance after observing a need for a coordinated tourism effort in Morgan Hill (and the region) was needed. We have had many successes and supported avenues of tourism development.

I joined the Board of Directors of the Morgan Hill Downtown Association in 2013. We have since grown the organization's impact and influence in the downtown community. I am currently serving as the President of the Association. I actively seek feedback from the downtown business community on a regular basis.

I have actively worked to promote bicycling in Morgan Hill and developed a working relationship with Specialized Bicycle Components for the betterment of recreational bicycling here in town.

Based upon the above I feel that I have a deep understanding of the community and how the private and public sectors work and can work together.

3. What are your top three priorities for the City of Morgan Hill?

Transportation: Not just how we get around but the condition of the roads we use as our main means of getting around Morgan Hill. The condition of our roads is a hot topic which has proven to have no easy way of addressing. To me circulation will also be as important as the condition of roads as we are seeing more and more traffic at peak traffic hours. Transportation can be part of the complex equation of where and how we should build residential developments and businesses.

Housing: Can we ever get enough or is there too much? I feel good about the currently prescribed rate of residential development overwhelmingly approved by the voters in Measure S. Can it be maintained? I believe that we need to be honest and develop a better understanding of the community's needs, the marketplace, and actual land resources. Can development be guided to provide the most benefit to the community from the land resources that we have? Can we provide more affordable housing and still maintain the "Morgan Hill feel" of single family detached homes? I believe that there will be much work ahead in these areas.

Economic development: The downtown is making huge strides in putting Morgan Hill on the map but we are still not producing enough quality high paying jobs. I know that there is no easy to accomplish formula to secure employers to provide those jobs but I see the progress and would like to work on this myself. There are so many aspects to a solid economic development plan and I see the efforts and practices of City Staff bearing fruit and want to reinforce this important work. This ties into the possibility of the High Speed Rail actually coming through town. No matter which alignment may be selected there will be economic impacts. This can become one of the greatest challenges to our town's economic health from not only the actual relocation of businesses and residents but also the impact of the construction process. Economic development is as big a part of our future as any of the other items I noted.

Priority 3.5: Communication: Getting information out and understanding incoming information. I keep hearing that Morgan Hill arguably has the best in community communication and want to make sure it continues to be the best, both outgoing and incoming.

4. Why should you be appointed to serve on the Morgan Hill City Council?

I have the time, energy, and desire to be a full time representative of the people and businesses of Morgan Hill. I know there is a lot to learn to be an effective City Councilmember and have the dedication to commit myself to doing what it takes to be effective quickly.

I have a strong basic understanding of how City Government and the private sector work and can work with both to get results.

I still have what might be fresh ideas to Morgan Hill and the will to work on those ideas to make sure they may benefit the community with the least risk.

I have the greatest respect for the City Council, City Staff and the entire community of Morgan Hill. I will pledge to do my best to be a representative of the community and City Government for the betterment of all.

Thank you.