

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 29, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Carl Cahill, City Manager

RE: Retirement Announcement

CC: Steve Mattas, City Attorney

After 22 years of service to the Town of Los Altos Hills, and the past 15 years as your City Manager I've made the decision to retire effective Friday, October 29th end of the day. It has been an honor and a privilege for me, and I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to serve you and the Los Altos Hills Community.

I'm proud of the outstanding accomplishments we've achieved together for the benefit of the Town, our staff and its residents. The results speak for themselves with steadily increasing property tax and permit revenues. Many beautiful new homes can be seen throughout the hills. The Town's street and sanitary sewer systems are both in very good condition having benefitted from years of sound planning and investment. The Town has seen major additions to its wonderful trail system that has made it eminently practical for one to travel all over the Town by foot, bicycle, and horse. The new Town Hall still looks great after 15+ years and the Westwind Barn and Corp Yard Barn have both been restored and seismically retrofitted. Under the leadership and direction of the Council, we have delivered healthy balanced Budgets to the Town every year with sufficient funds available to transfer to capital investment and for paying down pension and OPEB liabilities.

I'm most proud of staff and my accomplishments during the year of the pandemic 2020. I had originally considered retiring last year. However, with the onset of the pandemic, my desire was to help lead the Town and its residents through a period of great uncertainty. I was so proud of the staff. Staff came together as a team and we kept the lights on at Town Hall and continued to provide our core services. Permit revenues were up 11% from the previous strong year of 2019. No staff were laid off. Everyone was incredibly busy. The Parks and Recreation Department staff retooled and devoted much of their time to public information and outreach on the pandemic crisis. Working closely with the Council and Supervisor Simitian, we also successfully defended against the County's plan to dissolve the Town's beloved Fire District. Finally, we worked weekends to keep Town residents informed of the status of the CZU Lightning Complex wildfire that was raging in the nearby Santa Cruz mountains.

In addition to what is hopefully the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are a host of other challenges on the horizon including:

- SB-9 which, if adopted, will fundamentally alter residential zoning in Los Altos Hills and require planning for new water and sewer infrastructure.
- Update of the Housing Element with substantially increased affordable housing production goals.
- Completion of the El Monte Utility Undergrounding Project
- Planning and financing additional U.U.G projects.
- Bringing fiber and other high-speed broadband options to the Town
- Preserve our local LAH County Fire District.
- Adopting new ordinances and policies necessary to protect the public from climate change, drought conditions and the extended fire season.

I am prepared to assist in any way the Council desires with the orderly transition to new Town management. It is reasonable to assume the recruitment process for a new City Manager will take four to six months to complete. While I recognize my current contract with the Town has an expiration date of June 30th, I am prepared to continue in my role as City Manager through October to ensure continuity of service until the new City Manager takes over I will continue to uphold the honor and integrity of this office and perform the City Manager duties set forth in the Los Altos Hills Municipal Code.

If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the office or give me a call.



Carl Cahill, City Manager