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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Morgan Hill Receives State of California Certification of its Sixth Cycle Housing Element

Morgan Hill, CA—(November 30, 2023) On November 29, 2023, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) certified Morgan Hill's 6th Cycle Housing Element, stating, "HCD appreciates the dedication and hard work City staff put into the housing element update and review process, and applauds the leadership and collaboration of the City taking meaningful steps towards compliance, including significant approval and progress toward the RHNA." This certification marks a significant milestone in the City's ongoing efforts to meet the housing needs of our community while adhering to state guidelines and affirmatively furthering fair housing.

The Housing Element is a critical component of our General Plan to address the housing challenges in the region. It outlines a comprehensive strategy for accommodating the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) and ensuring an adequate supply of affordable housing within the City over the next eight years. It also includes programs supporting housing preservation, tenant protection, fair housing, homelessness prevention, and much more. By achieving certification, the City has demonstrated its commitment to fulfilling its obligations under state law to create an inclusive and equitable living environment.

The certified Housing Element enables Morgan Hill to maintain local control over land-use decisions and to exercise discretion when reviewing development projects, including those submitted under the "Builder's Remedy" provisions of state law. While Housing Element Certification was issued on November 29, City staff believes the City Council adopted a substantially compliant Housing Element on January 25, 2023. Staff worked diligently with HCD to incorporate technical revisions desired by HCD reviewers to receive certification.

"Morgan Hill remains committed to implementing our Housing Element in a manner that furthers our goals and obligations under state law, respects our City's character, and reflects the aspirations of our residents," said Development Services Director Jennifer Carman. "We are dedicated to working closely with the community on the Housing Element program implementation while preserving the natural beauty and charm that make Morgan Hill a desirable place to live," she added.

For more details about the City's Housing Element, please visit <https://www.morganhill.ca.gov/2063/Housing-Element-Update>.

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