



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Milpitas City Council Rebukes Mayor Tran**

***Cites need for greater professionalism from the Mayor, following court ruling allowing City's disclosure of documents withheld by prior restraining order.***

***Milpitas, Calif.*** --- The Milpitas City Council has issued a public statement regarding its concerns about the actions and words of Mayor Rich Tran related to the City's former city manager accusations. The statement follows the recent decision of Santa Clara County Judge Sunil Kulkarni that now allows the City to release public documents that had been legally withheld over the past year as a result of a temporary restraining order.

The four Councilmembers include Vice Mayor Marsha Grilli, Garry Barbadillo, Bob Nuñez, and Anthony Phan. Their joint statement regarding Mayor Tran, who serves as the fifth councilmember, follows:

With the completion of two separate independent investigations regarding various allegations, and with the decision of Judge Sunil Kulkarni allowing us to release the relevant public records associated with this matter, the City Council finally has the opportunity and obligation to express our deep concerns about the professional behavior of Mayor Rich Tran as an elected official and as Mayor of our city.

All of us on the City Council serve in a position of public trust, and that trust must be continually earned through the actions and words of all of us, all the time. Furthermore, when a member of our City Council, including the Mayor, demonstrates a lack of respect for our code of ethics and for the public we have been elected to serve, then it reflects poorly on the City and corrodes that trust we have worked so hard to build and maintain.

Therefore, we have been deeply disappointed by Mayor Tran's behavior and statements in the past year that have failed to meet the level of professionalism and the level of respect that our community expects and deserves from our leaders.

*[more]*

His actions and words have contributed both to unnecessary dissension and distraction for the City Council and our staff, and to the need for the City to expend time and money that could have been better directed to our community's real priorities.

Looking forward, we trust that the Mayor has learned and grown from this painful experience over the past year. We hope he now understands that words have consequences, and that as Mayor representing all our residents and all our employees, he must adhere both to a much higher standard than for a private person, and to a standard that we have not fully seen from him.

Service as an elected official is not a mere hobby, it carries accountability. It is a professional and personal calling to help make our entire community better, more tolerant, and a more positive place everyone can call home. We ask Mayor Tran to remember that, and to please not disappoint the people of Milpitas in the future.

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### **About the City of Milpitas**

Located at the southern end of San Francisco Bay, Milpitas is a progressive community that is an integral part of Silicon Valley. As a full-service city of 389 full-time employees with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas serves a diverse population of nearly 80,000. The city has an annual \$191 million operating budget and a \$315 million capital improvements budget.

Milpitas is the eighth-fastest growing city in the United States according to the US Census, and the second-fastest in California. It has the third highest job growth among the 515 qualifying cities rated by Wallet Hub. The homeownership rate is close to 70%, and the Milpitas housing market remains relatively affordable in Santa Clara County. Milpitas is often called the "Crossroads of Silicon Valley" with most of its 14 square miles situated between two major freeways (I-880 and I-680), Route 237, and a County expressway.

More information at: <http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/>