



# February 2021 Pathfinder

*"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are." -Benjamin Franklin.*

## Teamwork Matters

A message from  
the City Manager  
Jason Stilwell



Fellow City employees, thank you for your dedication during the past 12 months since the pandemic began. You are valued. Please know that I hear first-hand from Santa Maria residents and businesses – and from our City Council - who are grateful to have a well-run City that constantly seeks to extend a helping hand up.

It is an easy bet that several of these attributes describe you: Agile. Ambitious. Creative. Dependable. Diligent. Diplomatic. Eager. Focused. Honest. Influential. Positive. Proactive. Reliable. Savvy. Skilled. Strategic. I will add this adjective, flexible. You display the ability to safely adapt. That is vital in these difficult days, both because we rely on each other, and because our community looks to us to set a high standard.

This month, in any other year, we would be hosting our 58th Annual Employee Service Awards Dinner. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, we cannot do so. This in no way diminishes the importance of recognizing our teammates. We will be honoring our fellow employees who achieved significant service milestones, or who have retired from City service during 2020. Award gifts will be distributed at the beginning of March. In detail, we will be celebrating:

- 13 Employees that have provided over 10 years of service with the City;
- 24 Employees that have provided over 15 years of service;
- 13 Employees that have provided over 20 years of service;
- 9 Employees that have provided over 25 years of service;
- 5 Employees that have provided over 30 years of service;
- 3 Employees that have provided over 35 years of service; and
- 23 Retiring Employees

Each of us spend hours of our lives committed to this work and to serving this community. I am committed to ensuring that the City does everything it can to maintain a safe workplace and support your efforts.

We are putting your health and safety first. By “we” I mean all Department Directors and supervisors and managers – and yes, all of us. Caring for one another is the right thing to do. Take some time to check in on each other.

On the next page is contact information for our confidential Employee Assistance Program (EAP) if you or your family need support. The program is available 24/7. A critical component of workplace and community safety is having employees look out for one another.

To all of our Santa Maria employees, please know that we care very much about you. Please be in touch should you need anything from your City.

*Jason*