



City of Milpitas

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City of Milpitas Appoints New Fire Chief

Milpitas, CA – March 9, 2023 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City Manager Steven G. McHarris is pleased to announce the appointment of Deputy Fire Chief Jason Schoonover as the new Fire Chief for the City of Milpitas.

Chief Schoonover joined the Milpitas Fire Department in 2013 as a Fire Battalion Chief and was promoted to Deputy Fire Chief in 2022. During his career with the Milpitas Fire Department, he managed the Training Division and Special Operations Divisions, and also served as the Fire Department's Dispatch/Communications Liaison. Chief Schoonover has been a member of the City's Emergency Operations Team working in the areas of emergency management, hazard mitigation planning, critical infrastructure identification and much more. Prior to joining Milpitas, he worked for 14 years with the Marysville Fire Authority in Washington State, spending his final seven years as a Fire Captain.

City Manager McHarris said, "Incoming Chief Schoonover has been a valued leader throughout his years of service. His experience, training, and community involvement are reflective of his professional dedication to the Milpitas Fire Department and the City of Milpitas. I know that he will be a valuable mentor and leader to grow the next generation of public safety teams integral to our community."

"It is a distinct honor and privilege to be selected to lead the dedicated men and women of the Milpitas Fire Department. Thanks to the incredible support of our City Council, City Manager's Office and most importantly, the community we serve, the Fire Department is well positioned to continue to meet the needs of our growing and dynamic city. Together, we will continue to provide the highest level of fire and emergency response to Milpitas residents, business owners and visitors," said Chief Schoonover.

Milpitas Mayor Carmen Montano said, "We are truly fortunate to have someone with the level of experience and expertise as Chief Jason Schoonover. I am confident that he will continue to serve our community with the same passion and commitment as he has demonstrated in his 24-years of Fire service."

Chief Schoonover received his bachelor's degree in Fire Administration from Western Oregon University in 2012 and graduated from the National Fire Academy's (NFA) 4-year Executive Fire Officer Program in 2018. He lives in Los Altos with his wife, Jean and six-year old son, Andrew. He will assume the position of Fire Chief on March 26, 2023.

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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. A full-service city with water utility, sewer utility, police and fire services, Milpitas is a flourishing community with a very diverse and inclusive resident population of over 80,000. Often referred to as the Crossroads of Silicon Valley, the City is situated between major thoroughfares in the Bay Area and considered a highly desirable location for world-class technology companies seeking to build a central base of operations. With the addition of the new Milpitas Transit Center offering BART, light rail, and bus service, and multiple new mixed-use development projects, along with a host of new City Plans and Programs in support of an inspiring and sustainable future, the City is at the forefront of building the next generation economy. For more information, visit: www.milpitas.gov

