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Admin Services Director leaving for early retirement

By Vera Kochan

After three and a half years, Administrative Services Director Norman Veloso is leaving Moraga for an early retirement. "We were able to achieve clean audits and healthy reserves through the financial integrity of the town," stated a proud Veloso. "It's a perfect setting to end my public service."

His last day as a town staff member will be Dec. 30, but in the meantime Veloso reflected on what brought him to that decision. "After almost 30 years of public service in three Bay Area cities across Solano, Sonoma and Contra Costa counties, I believe it's a perfect time to pause a bit," he said. "I wanted to retire to spend more time with my wife of 32 years, Bernadette, and my family, as well as take some time to enjoy the opportunity to travel and experience a more active lifestyle while I'm still relatively young and healthy." When asked what his major contributions to the town were, Veloso replied, "Moraga went through some financial challenges in the past and I knew that taking on this job three years ago would be a challenge. My experience and expertise in financial management helped bring financial stability, integrity and transparency to the town, which are essential to good governance." He added, "We achieved these with clean financial audits, balanced budgets, very healthy financial reserves, addressing the town's unfunded liabilities, and putting in place a long-range financial plan for the town."

Veloso won't completely put aside his calculator. He enjoys working in a public service capacity, finding it both challenging and fun. If the situation presents itself he may opt to work for a government agency in the future. Making a positive difference in a community is his passion.

Taking early retirement was a difficult decision for Veloso to make. "It has been an honor and pleasure to work for the town of Moraga for the last three-plus years. The town does magnificent work on behalf of the community, and I am proud to have worked with so many talented people, from staff to elected and appointed officials, as well as volunteers who are dedicated to making Moraga a wonderful place to live." Veloso reflected, "Moraga is a gem, not just because of its location, but it's a gem because of the people. This is a community I can call my second home."

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