



City of Gilroy

7351 Rosanna Street
Gilroy, California
95020-6141

Telephone (408) 846-0254
Fax (408) 846-0445

For Immediate Release

Date: January 3, 2008

From: Joe Kline
Public Information Officer

Contact: Jay Baksa
408-846-0210

Jay Baksa, Dean of Santa Clara County City Managers to Retire

Gilroy City Administrator Jay Baksa ends his 24 ½ years of service to the City of Gilroy in the top administrative position on Friday, January 4th, 2008. Baksa, whose career has spanned 33 ½ years, is the longest tenured Chief City Executive in Santa Clara County. Prior to coming to Gilroy in 1983, he was City Manager of Cortez, Colorado from 1978 to 1983, Assistant City Manager of Delaware, Ohio from 1975 to 1978, an Administrative Assistant in Montrose, Colorado from 1974 to 1975. Baksa earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1973, and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Kansas in 1975.

Kevin Duggan, City Manager of Mountain View says of Baksa, “Jay is one of the most respected city managers in the Bay Area. He is highly regarded not only for his long and outstanding service to Gilroy, but his leadership on many area wide initiatives. He is respected by his city manager colleagues for his professional knowledge and skill as well as the positive and constructive manner in which he works with others to find solutions to benefit Gilroy and the region. His professional commitment and contributions to the

more follows

Gilroy community is a great example for all of us in the city management profession.”

Since his arrival in 1983, Baksa has assembled an organization that believes in itself, and has the goal of customer service at it’s core. Mayor Al Pinheiro comments “Jay has had an extremely positive impact not only on the community, but also on the many individuals that he works with. Above all else, he is known for his integrity and leadership by example. We have been fortunate to have someone as dedicated and knowledgeable as Jay watching the city coffers. Jay has built a professional organization that will carry his legacy well into the future. His professionalism and institutional memory will be greatly missed.”

After retirement, Jay and wife Vicki plan to remain in Gilroy, their home for 24 years. He will continue to stay active in coaching Gilroy High School Junior Varsity basketball, the Leadership Gilroy program, Gilroy Rotary Club, the American Leadership Forum, and community volunteer work. He will also continue his many professional affiliations, including the Range Rider program of the International City/County Management Association. He has been selected to be a Range Rider for the Monterey Bay Division which includes Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties. He also looks forward to spending more time traveling and doing extensive study on one of his long-term interests, the American Civil War.

#