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# PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Sarah Johnson-Rios Appointed to Assistant City Manager – Administrative Services Director Position**

Morro Bay, CA – City Manager Scott Collins announced today that Sarah Johnson-Rios will become the Assistant City Manager – Administrative Services Director for the City of Morro Bay, beginning her work for the City in June. Ms. Johnson-Rios was selected from a talented group of over 30 applicants following a comprehensive review process. The process included interviews with a community panel, a panel of City Managers, a written assignment, and interviews with City staff. The position will oversee finance, communications, and information technology; assist the City Manager in moving forward City Council strategic initiatives; and support other critical internal functions such as human resources and risk management.

“I am excited for Ms. Johnson-Rios to join the City team in this critical role,” said City Manager Scott Collins. “The Assistant City Manager – Administrative Services Director will lead a wide range of important City functions, including serving as the Chief Financial Officer. We needed a well-rounded leader for this role and Sarah is an excellent fit. She brings a rare depth and breadth of experience across multiple disciplines to Morro Bay. Sarah demonstrated through the rigorous selection process that she has a wealth of knowledge regarding municipal operations and policies. She will be a tremendous asset to our City and community, helping lead the organization towards a bright future. We can’t wait for her to get started!”

Ms. Johnson-Rios joins the Morro Bay team with over 13 years of local government management experience, most recently serving as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Paso Robles for the past two years. Prior to that she served as a housing administrator for the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, and Public Works Administrative Services Officer for the City of Santa Monica. Sarah, a Fulbright Scholar, received a B.A. from Emory University and a Master of Public Administration from Princeton University.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve the community of Morro Bay in this exciting new role overseeing both administrative services and advancing broader strategic priorities for the City,” Ms. Johnson-Rios said. “I look forward to contributing my experience to the team’s collective efforts to achieve Council’s goals of fiscal sustainability, effective communications, improved infrastructure, and land use and affordable housing progress. The chance to serve a wonderful community where my family already enjoys spending much of our leisure time makes me especially grateful for this role.”

Sarah will begin her work with the City officially in late June 2021. She will earn an annual salary of \$149,500.

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