

Adam McGill Biography

Novato City Manager and former Police Chief Adam McGill is a transformative, visionary leader with three decades of public service as a public safety and local government leader.

With a reputation as a progressive, community-engaged Police Chief, City Manager McGill brought a record of implementing contemporary, transparent neighborhood-based policing practices consistent with 21st century and reform practices. McGill brought his expertise to the U.S. State Department as a U.S. Diplomat in Iraq for 22 months as a senior policing advisor to the governments of Iraq and the United States.

McGill's three decades of experience as Police Chief in the cities of Newman, Truckee, and Novato provides him with a hands-on perspective on the unique public safety needs of rural and suburban communities. McGill has experience as neighborhood beat cop, Violent Crimes/Homicide Detective, Patrol Watch Commander, Critical Incident Team Commander, and Commander of a federal multijurisdictional major drug enforcement unit - Stanislaus Drug Enforcement Agency (SDEA), where he fought drug dealers and violent offenders to keep narcotics off the streets and away from kids.

As City Manager, McGill brings this public safety and crisis management leadership to local government during the time of the COVID-19 Pandemic, wildfires, and other emergencies. As the City's Emergency Services Director, City Manager McGill and his team have moved swiftly to ensure the health and safety of local residents, including coordinating with other agencies on regional rapid response, emergency and relief efforts to address the needs of constituents. McGill oversees a 60.5 million dollar City budget and has been recognized for bringing a consensus-building, team-oriented management leadership style to problem-solving in unifying elected leaders, city staff and the community around urgent community issues.

A graduate of the FBI National Academy, City Manager McGill served on the Executive Board for the California Police Chief's Association where he was also the former Chair of the California Police Chief's Association statewide committee on Technology, working to transform and update modern crimefighting data and tech systems. McGill is an active member of International Association of Chiefs of Police, International City/County Management Association, Police Executive Research Forum, and the League of California Cities.

City Manager McGill has a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration and a Master of Science degree in Emergency Services Administration from California State University, Long Beach. He and his spouse Jennifer along with four of their five children live in Novato.