

Northrup's meet-and-greet gets underway

Mayor holds monthly chats at local businesses *February 14, 2019*

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COME TOGETHER—Agoura Hills Mayor Linda Northrup, second from right, speaks with residents at the Feb. 12 Mayor's

Table gathering. RICHARD GILLARD/Acorn Newspapers

Agoura Hills Mayor Linda Northrup is sticking to her campaign promise to improve communication between the

city, residents and business community by hosting her first monthly @the Mayor's Table conversation.

Northrup, elected to the City Council in 2015 and appointed mayor last December, joined members of the community at Hatch Cafe and Market in Agoura Hills on Feb. 12 to chat about issues of local importance.

"It's a nice way to connect with people and be out in the community," Northrup said about meeting residents in an informal environment at local businesses.

Tuesday's was the first in a series of monthly meetings that will also highlight the stores, cafes and other businesses in Agoura Hills, Northrup said.

The mayor said she envisions the talks as a way to get to know her constituents and what concerns them.

Northrup's desire to reconnect with the community is seen as a reaction to last November's changing-of-the-guard election in which longtime Councilmember Harry Schwarz lost his seat and Denis Weber, the longest sitting council member, came in third in the voting behind newcomers Debbie Lopez and Chris Anstead. Incumbent Councilmember Bill Koehler chose not to run.

Traffic issues and the Cornerstone development on Agoura Road are two main talking points in the community. But

Northrup said emergency preparedness is important, too.

"People are still feeling vulnerable," she said.

With the recent onslaught of rain, mudslides are now a major concern, she said.

Under her leadership, the city has mapped out all potential mud-flow areas, and officials are hiring additional contractors during storms to keep roads clear and people and property safe.

For information about the monthly meetings with the mayor, call administrative assistant Amber Victoria at (818) 597-7316.