



ABOUT TOWN ▪ JUNE 1, 2010

BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT BALLOT MEASURE

Although unofficial until the Town Council certifies the results at its June 9 meeting, preliminary results indicate that approximately 57% of the weighted ballots approve of the increased assessments in order to maintain the street lighting in Town, with approximately 43% against the increase. The Town had a remarkable 61% response rate for the mail in ballots – exceeding typical responses rates of between 30% and 50%. Staff feels that the results are truly indicative of the majority sentiment in Town, and wish to thank all who participated in the process.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOCUS GROUPS PROVIDE INPUT

Thanks to the volunteer help from Larry Bienati, Maridel Moulton, and Kathy Ferber who facilitated six focus group sessions recently, the Town has received valuable insights from our residents. Over 50 randomly selected residents participated in six separate two-hour sessions. The results of the input provided will be presented to Town Council in July and the participants and the general public will be invited to attend the presentation. Town Council will be using the input provided from the focus groups to develop additional community outreach efforts to answer resident questions and provide information about the state of the Town's financing. Other residents will be able to complete a questionnaire online the end of this week by visiting the Town's website to provide input into this process.



2010-11 TOWN BUDGET TO BE PRESENTED JUNE 9, 2010

The 2010-11 Town budget will be presented to Town Council on June 9, 2010 to allow community input into the proposed budget. The Town Manager will present a balanced budget as directed by Town Council. The proposed budget will maintain current service levels overall, but there will be some reductions and adjustments due to stagnant revenues and increasing costs. Residents are encouraged to attend the meeting to learn about the budget and provide input to the Town Council on programs and services provided by the Town.



4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS DONATION

The Town of Moraga has applied for a \$10,000 4th of July grant. Without your immediate action, we might not qualify. Log on to www.BringBackthe4th.com, take the short eight question US history survey, and make sure you use the zip code 94556 in your last response. Liberty Mutual, the sponsor of the grant is gifting ten \$10,000 grants to small, medium and large-sized cities across America. Liberty Mutual has noticed that cities and towns are cutting back on their 4th of July celebrations and would like to help. If Moraga is one of the small cities with the most responses, we could win \$10,000 for this year's 4th of July Celebration. You must take the survey by June 14 for the Town to receive credit. On www.BringBackthe4th.com, you will have an opportunity to forward the survey to another Moraga resident; please do so to increase our chances of winning the grant



CAMINO PABLO SCHOOL FIELDS TO BE IMPROVED

The Town received word this week from East Bay Regional Park District that the Measure WW grant application for field improvements at Camino Pablo School field was approved. Planning for the renovations will begin this fall in hopes of starting construction at the end of the 2011 school year. The goal is to complete construction next summer, without disrupting any school functions.



TOWN COUNCIL CONSIDERS RANCHO LAGUNA II APPEAL

On Wednesday, May 26, the Town Council considered an appeal from the August 2009 decision of the Planning Commission which approved a conceptual development plan for a 27-lot residential development on Rheem Boulevard between Moraga Road and Saint Mary's Road. The hearing on the appeal followed nearly 7 months of work on the project by the applicant and the Town's consultants. In the end, the Town Council decided to continue the matter again to allow the applicant time to prepare a revised plan that would not fill the creek along Rheem Boulevard and not allow residences to be visible on the non-MOSO minor ridgeline from any scenic corridor or the Lafayette-Moraga trail. Protection of the ridgeline and impacts to the Rheem Boulevard creek have been critical issues for this project from the start.



MORAGA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Police Department has been active this past week, working with local groups dedicated to serving our community. The Lamorinda CERT's Disaster Animal Response Team (DART), sponsored by the Moraga Police Department, was officially registered with the National Office of Citizen Corps. This organization is part of the FEMA Community Preparedness Division. Anyone interested in more information on our DART, or who might be interested in becoming a member, should visit the website at <http://LamorindaDART.org>.

In addition to working with the Lamorinda CERT leadership, Chief Priebe was a guest speaker at Saint Mary's College (SMC), providing information and suggestions to the SMC Sexual Assault Crisis Response Team. The police department and college officials share the common goal of providing a professional and supportive response to victims of crime in our college community.