



## ABOUT TOWN - SEPTEMBER 16, 2011 BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF

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### RHEEM VISIONING NEXT STEPS

The Moraga Economic Development Action Committee hosted two successful visioning workshops at The New Rheem Theatre in late August. One hundred residents and business/property owners shared what they liked about the Rheem Valley area and what they would like to see (and do) in the Rheem area. The workshop participants voiced common themes and desires, focusing on the theatre, more restaurants, more locally-oriented businesses, variety of businesses and land uses, special events, evening activities, pedestrian- and bike-friendly improvements, gathering spaces, and changes to Moraga Road and Rheem Boulevard. The Committee is putting together recommendations and a strategy for Moraga's Planning Commission and Town Council.



### RANCHO LAGUNA PARK PLANS

On September 14, the Town Council authorized an agreement with a landscape architecture firm to assist with preliminary design services for Rancho Laguna Park. Future conceptual design proposals will retain the rural setting so many residents currently enjoy. During a playground safety inspection earlier this year the 25+ year old play structures were determined to be unsafe due to the weakened condition of the rotted support posts. The par course (old metal exercise structures) were rusted with exposed sharp edges at a dangerous height for children. The upper Commons Park play structure, replaced in 2009, cost \$55,000 and was designed only for ages 5-12. The Park and Recreation Commission set a goal to raise \$100,000 to pay for the Rancho Laguna Park replacement play structure(s) that will accommodate ages 2-5 and 5-12. Typically this would be two different play structures with different challenges due to age and motor skill development. Additional community input is desired as the Town strives to reach a solution that maintains the rural setting and addresses the spatial separation requested by Town Council. Please attend any or all of the scheduled meetings on September 20 (Park and Recreation Commission), October 18 (Park and Recreation Commission) and October 26 (Town Council).



### UPCOMING EVENTS IN MORAGA

**Pear & Wine Festival** – Saturday, September 24, 2011, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Enjoy local wines, food and beer, pear pies, grape stomping, recipe contest, art and craft vendors, jumpies, community booths, Arbor Day tree planting, Animal Rescue Foundation and local band Stone Soup, funded by the Moraga Park Foundation. There is still time to enter the Pear Recipe Contest; entries are due at the bandshell area by 11:30 am the day of the event. [Application and Details.](#)

**Oktoberfest** – Sunday, October 16, 2011, 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Family Fun, live German band, Bavarian dancers, strudel and pretzels, jumpies, pumpkin painting and more. Hosted and provided to the community as a fundraiser for the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga. Support this great event and great cause as the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga strives to enhance, protect and preserve the Hacienda de las Flores.



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Town will be working with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) to improve Emergency Preparedness. MOFD recently hired Dennis Rein as the District's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, and Dennis has been working with Moraga, Orinda, and Lafayette to assess Lamorinda needs. All three municipalities plan to adopt a similar Emergency Operations Plan which will provide opportunities to cross train and supplement personnel needs between cities. MOFD will also assume sponsorship of Lamorinda CERT. Each municipality will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with MOFD to define responsibilities and expectations. Lamorinda communities will benefit from coordinated training, centralized record keeping, and regularly scheduled emergency response drills.



## LAFAYETTE-MORAGA REGIONAL TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

If you are a frequent user of the Regional Trail through Town, you have undoubtedly noticed the ongoing construction. Major portions of the trail are being repaved, thanks to a capital project by the East Bay Regional Park District. No Town funds are being used on this project. Please pay attention to the **"Trail Closed"** signs, since the trail may look fine where the sign is posted, yet large construction equipment and activity may be blocking the trail ahead. Please use caution.



## POLICE AUCTION

On Saturday, September 24, between noon and 2:00 pm, the Moraga Police Department will be auctioning three used police patrol vehicles (Ford Crown Victorias), two off-road motorcycles (Suzuki 350cc), several bicycles, and miscellaneous property. The auction will be held in the Town Hall parking lot at 329 Rheem Boulevard. All items will be sold "As Is" and all sales will be final. Bidders will submit a closed bid and the highest bid on each item will be announced around 2:00 pm.



## BOLLINGER CANYON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Town Council authorized contract amendments related to Bollinger Canyon at its meeting Wednesday night. The Town is continuing to process General Plan Amendment and Rezoning applications to consider a proposed 126-unit residential development on 186.33 acres located in the northeastern corner of the Town. The amendments will allow the Town to pay the consultant for additional work on the Draft Environmental Impact Report and will allow the applicant to fully reimburse the Town for all costs associated with the project.



## PLAY STRUCTURES FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The Park and Recreation Commission set a goal to raise \$100,000 by December 31, 2011 to fund new replacement play equipment at Rancho Laguna Park. To date, \$5,000 has been raised. The Parks and Recreation Department is looking for groups/organizations/individuals interested in donating to this community-based effort. All support helps; please donate to the Moraga Park Foundation, Attn: Rancho Laguna Park Playgrounds, PO Box 302, Moraga, CA 94556.



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The Town Council has cancelled the September 28 Town Council meeting because it falls on a Jewish holiday this year. The Council will meet as usual on October 12, 2011 to conduct Town business.



## **TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE OPENING**

The Traffic Safety Advisory Committee has a current opening. Anyone interested in providing volunteer services for the Town to assist neighborhoods with their efforts to implement traffic calming measures, please refer to the Town's website for an application. The Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month, and may go to additional neighborhood meetings as necessary. Starting at its October meeting, TSAC will begin reviewing certain aspects of the Town's Traffic Calming Guide. On October 5, TSAC will discuss the appeal process for groups bringing traffic calming projects before the Committee. The Traffic Calming Guide is available on the Town's website for review at <http://www.moraga.ca.us/committees/tsac/about>



## **TOWN TO HOST E-WASTE EVENT**

Do you have an old computer monitor, VCR or laptop that has been collecting dust and needs to be disposed of properly? The Town of Moraga is hosting an E-Waste event beginning Monday, September 19 through Wednesday October 19, 2011. The Town of Moraga is partnering with E-Recycle OnUs to collect and recycle electronic waste at no cost to residents. E-Recycle OnUs will donate 50% of their profit to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event being held at Saint Mary's College in October. Residents can drop off electronic items from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday at Town Hall, 329 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga. For a complete list of items that will and will not be accepted please go to [www.moraga.ca.us](http://www.moraga.ca.us).



## **HELP SPREAD THE TOWN KNOWLEDGE**

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