



ABOUT TOWN ▪ MARCH 16, 2012

BI-WEEKLY UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



ABOUT TOWN READER COMMENTS

Thank you to those who have commented on *About Town*. We love feedback, even if it's not complimentary. You can't improve as an organization without constructive comments. We try to use *About Town* to give a brief sketch of what is happening in Town. In an effort to increase awareness and transparency, we have recently added more about what may be coming soon to the Town Council, Planning Commission, Park & Recreation Commission, Design Review Board and/or Traffic Safety Advisory Committee so that interested parties can know to check out the Town's website for more information.



AMNESTY PROGRAM FOR UNPAID TRAFFIC TICKETS

The Superior Court of Contra Costa County is offering an amnesty program for some unpaid traffic tickets until June 30, 2012. Parking tickets, driving under the influence (DUI), and reckless driving cases are not eligible. For other traffic tickets that were due and payable before January 1, 2009, a 50% discount on the unpaid fines may be available. For information on all conditions that apply in Contra Costa County, call 1-877-541-8420.



UPCOMING PARKS AND RECREATION SPRING EVENTS!

Hacienda Spring Break Camp - Counselors Needed! If you are looking for a fun seasonal job working with children ages 5-10, complete an employment application at www.moraga.ca.us. We are looking for camp counselors to work the week of April 2 to 6. April 2 is just around the corner – so apply today! **Spring Egg Hunt** – Saturday, March 24, 10:00 to 11:00 am, rain or shine, Moraga Commons Park. Children 8 and under, with \$10 admission, will enjoy an egg hunt, unlimited games, bounce houses, crafts, face painting and pictures with the Bunny. Tickets available at the Parks and Recreation office or www.moragajuniors.org. **Moraga Beautiful** is scheduled this year from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on April 21 at Rancho Laguna Park. Wear painting clothes and be ready to spruce up our beautiful park system. **6th Annual Moraga Triathlon** – Saturday, April 28. Sign up online at www.moragatri.com before the price goes up April 1. This is a great event for the seasoned triathlete or the first timer! Youth division starting at age 5.



PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR / TOWN ENGINEER RECRUITMENT IN PROCESS

The Town of Moraga is inviting applications for Public Works Director/Town Engineer. The position provides a variety of challenging responsibilities and exciting opportunities. The position is responsible for planning, managing and overseeing the design, engineering, construction, operation, and maintenance of the public infrastructure; managing the Capital Improvement Program; providing engineering review for private project development; and serving as a member of the Town Manager's executive management team. The ideal candidate is a dynamic, hands-on, collaborative and communicative leader with demonstrated knowledge and experience in engineering and public works operations. A detailed announcement can be found on the Town's website. Application packets will be received until April 23, 2012. Please spread the word to highly qualified and interested individuals.



UPDATE ON RANCHO LAGUNA PARK

Two items of interest regarding Rancho Laguna park were on the Town Council agenda for March 14. First, the Council considered revisions to Moraga Municipal Code Section 12.08.180, which lists Rancho Laguna Park and Mulholland as exceptions to the Town-wide off-leash dog ordinance. Of the five off-leash options considered, the Council voted 3-2 in favor of an option which would eliminate off-leash use at Rancho Laguna Park, but allow off-leash animals in a Town Council designated fenced dog park of no more than three acres. As stated in the staff report, the intent of this option was to encourage all the user groups and stakeholders to cooperatively work together on a community generated plan. This fenced dog park could either be located in Rancho Laguna Park or another Town facility. This ordinance's second reading is scheduled for March 28 and would become effective 30 days thereafter. Second, the Council rescinded Resolution 46-2011, nullifying their December 14, 2011 decision for spatial separation at Rancho Laguna Park in light of pending litigation and its potential to deplete Town resources.



RECENT PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS

At their March 5, 2012 meeting, the Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit to allow **Tangelo Frozen Yogurt** to operate in the Rheem Shopping Center adjacent to Lamorinda Pizza. The business hours will be from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday to Thursday and 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. At the same meeting, the Planning Commission adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration for a proposed duplex at 1800 Donald Drive. The Commission continued its consideration of the Hillside Development Permit for the proposed 3,554-square foot duplex residence on a vacant 13,203-square foot hillside lot. The Commission requested the applicant provide additional information, including a foundation plan and construction safety procedures.



COMMONS PARK BANDSHELL PROJECT

Town Council took action on two items regarding Bandshell improvements at Moraga Commons Park at the March 14 Council meeting. Council authorized the Town Manager to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Park Foundation for Bandshell upgrades to partner with the Moraga Park Foundation on its 2012 park project. The Council also awarded a contract for construction services not to exceed \$30,000 to David McIlroy Construction for interior work. Look for work to start in late March or early April.



CROSSWALK IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS

In July 2009 the Town received a grant through the Transportation Development Act to improve crosswalk safety on Moraga Rd. at the Corliss Dr. and Woodford Dr. intersections. The initial plan included in-pavement pedestrian activated lights and was approved by the Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (TSAC) and the Town Council. As the project developed, the Town's traffic engineers recommended using warning lights on poles rather than in-pavement lights at both intersections, and also recommended changing the location of the Woodford Dr. crosswalk to the south side of the intersection. Staff felt these changes should be shared publicly at the March 7 TSAC meeting and at another community meeting on March 15th. All comments and recommendations will be presented to the Council at the March 28 meeting. Everyone is encouraged to review the proposed crosswalk improvements on the Town website at www.moraga.ca.us, and to send your comments to tmccord@moraga.ca.us.



2012 COMMUNITY CLEAN WATER INITIATIVE

On Wednesday, March 14, the Town Council voted unanimously to support the 2012 Community Clean Water Initiative by authorizing the Town Manager to submit a positive vote for all of the Town-owned parcels. Implementation of mandated stormwater protection measures will cost County agencies approximately \$8M more than the funding available. If this Initiative is successful, owners of residential property will pay \$22 per year to help support clean water. The funds generated will be returned to the local agencies. Moraga's share is estimated at \$169,775.



JERRY MEYER RETIRES FROM CHAIRING LIAISON MEETINGS

After 38 years of volunteer work chairing the Moraga Liaison meetings, Jerry Meyer has decided to step down. Jerry's decades of orchestrating information sharing between the Town, community service and other groups was honored last Friday at the Hacienda. Flowers, proclamations, and certificates of appreciation were presented to recognize what she has given to the Town and all its citizens. Susan Sperry has agreed to chair future Liaison meetings which are open to the public and held the second Friday of the month at the Moraga Library, 8:00 to 9:00 am.



UPCOMING PLANNING COMMISSION AND DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEETINGS

The Design Review Board (DRB) will meet on Monday, March 26, to consider signs and colors for Tangelos, the new frozen yogurt store in the Rheem Shopping Center. The DRB will also consider a new 29-space parking lot at the Moraga Commons Park near the Skatepark, between the existing bike path and the east side of Moraga Road. The Planning Commission will meet on Monday, April 2, to consider the Hetfield Estates subdivision, including the Final Environmental Impact Report and a Use Permit for a beauty shop and café located at 337 Rheem Boulevard (former Mondello's space).



HELP SPREAD THE TOWN KNOWLEDGE

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