



ABOUT TOWN ▪ MAY 30, 2014 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



NEW MORAGA POLICE OFFICER – RICH MCEACHIN



The Moraga Police Department (MPD) is pleased to introduce Rich McEachin as its newest officer. Rich grew up in Antioch and holds an AA degree in Administration of Justice. He comes to MPD from Clayton PD where he worked 9 years, rising to the rank of sergeant. Rich will be formally introduced to the community at a reception in the near future.



FREE MOVIE TOMORROW NIGHT! SEE *FROZEN* – SATURDAY, MAY 31

Join the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee (MYIC), Elsa, Anna and the rest of the *Frozen* gang at the Moraga Commons Park tomorrow, Saturday, May 31, for a free outdoor showing of *Frozen*! Bring friends, enter the raffle, and enjoy concessions sold by the MYIC. All proceeds help fund future projects and events benefiting the youth of Moraga. Movie begins at approximately 8:40 pm.



HILLSIDE AND RIDGELINE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP – THURSDAY, JUNE 5

The Town will be holding a second community workshop on the Hillside and Ridgeline project on Thursday, June 5, at 7:00 pm in Hagerty Lounge, De La Salle Hall, at Saint Mary's College. A comprehensive guide to the Town's existing hillside and ridgeline regulations will be available for public review in advance of the workshop. The public is invited to attend the meeting, review the materials and participate in the Open Town Hall: [Hillside and Ridgeline Workshop](#).



NEW FISCAL YEAR BUDGET INTRODUCED TO TOWN COUNCIL

At the May 28 Town Council meeting, Town staff presented a structurally balanced [Budget](#) (pdf file) to the Council for the fiscal year 2014/15 starting July 1. The budget includes an updated Five-Year Financial Projection and a comprehensive Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. Though the budget is balanced for next year, financially tight times ahead are projected. The economy has improved but the property and sales taxes that support a large portion of the Town's operations are relatively flat. The demands for higher quality services and maintenance of existing assets such as the Hacienda de las Flores, Library and park facilities are greater than what current revenues can support. Next year's budget does include a few capital projects that will address some deferred maintenance at the Commons, Hacienda de las Flores and Library, as well as funding for the Street Rehabilitation Program supported by Measure K Sales Tax revenues and a new police vehicle to replace an old one. The Council will consider adoption of the budget at its next meeting on June 11.



SUMMER CAMPS AND CLASSES

Summer is right around the corner and Moraga Parks and Recreation is offering a variety of camps for all ages and interests. Choose from educational, sports, art, filmmaking, music, Lego, and more! Sign up [online](#) today. Camp Hacienda day camp has weekly themed activities for kids ages 5 to 10. If you have questions about camps or classes, call the Recreation Department at 925-888-7036.



MAYOR INVITED TO JOIN CHINA TRIP

Mayor Ken Chew has accepted an invitation by China Silicon Valley to join a delegation of other mayors from the Bay Area on a trip to China from June 16 to 27. The purpose of the trip is to encourage partnerships between Silicon Valley local governments, and businesses in China, to increase investment, job growth, and business opportunities. The delegation will be visiting Beijing, Shanghai, Wuhan, and Shenzhen. The trip will incur no expenses to Moraga or its taxpayers.



BUY A ROCKET AND SUPPORT THE FIREWORKS

Since 1991, Moraga has hosted a free fireworks show, thanks to generous community donations. Due to dwindling resources, many local cities have eliminated 4th of July fireworks shows. Annually, Moraga raises funds to continue this event and, once again, citizens are encouraged to help continue this tradition. This year, the Town's goal is to raise \$24,000 for the fireworks show. Please donate to the Buy-A-Rocket fund and help preserve this event. [Donate online](#) or send a check to Moraga Parks and Recreation, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556, Attn: Buy-A-Rocket.



PLANNING DEPARTMENT UPDATES

RANCHO LAGUNA II

On May 28, Town Council introduced an ordinance allowing 15,000 sq. ft. lots for non-MOSO zoned areas of Rancho Laguna II. The action follows approval of the 27-lot subdivision that clusters 11 lots near Rheem Boulevard and 16 additional lots upslope. The new ordinance would be consistent with a similar General Plan policy that allows for smaller lot sizes on non-MOSO land when a development includes recreational facilities. The Council will consider ordinance adoption on June 11.

SIGN CHANGES PROPOSED

On May 28, Town Council discussed a comprehensive update of the Town's sign regulations. The draft ordinance reflects a six-month collaborative effort with the Design Review Board, Planning Commission, Moraga Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and community groups. The Council will consider introducing the ordinance at its June 11 meeting.

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD RECENT ACTION

On May 27, the Design Review Board approved a new house at 5 Paseo Linares; design of new decks at 1873 St. Andrews Drive; and landscaping plans for the new open space/park to be dedicated as part of the Camino Ricardo subdivision. The Board reviewed the 18-lot Via Moraga single family subdivision on the former bowling alley site, expressing concerns about setbacks and height for the proposed structures fronting Moraga Road. The Board also indicated general support for the redesigned 36-unit Moraga Town Center townhouse project on Moraga Way, directing further changes to the architecture and preparation of a document with conditions of approval.



MORAGA YOUTH INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (MYIC) HIGHLIGHTS

At the May 28 Town Council meeting, the 2013/14 MYIC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, Zach Taylor and Victoria Targett, presented the committee's accomplishments from the past two terms. Activities such as Free Family Movies, Holiday Tree Lighting, and valentine delivery to Moraga Royale residents were highlighted as well as donation drives and joint environmental clean-ups with the Lamorinda Teen Association. Staff is proud to work with such enthusiastic, motivated, and remarkable students. Thank you MYIC for your hard work and thank you Zach and Victoria for your leadership!



MARQUEE UPDATE

At the May 27 meeting, the Design Review Board provided input on design of an Electronic Community Message Board sign that will replace the existing Town sign located on Moraga Road across from the Moraga Commons Park. The new sign will increase the Town's ability to distribute community-wide information (general and public safety) and can be operated remotely. When the design is finalized, it will be submitted to PG&E for its review and approval.



TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

On November 4, 2014, Moraga voters will elect two Councilmembers. The nomination period will be open from Monday, July 14, to Friday, August 8. If one of the incumbent officeholders does not file by the August 8 deadline, the nomination period for that vacancy will be extended (for any qualified person, other than the incumbent) until Wednesday, August 13. Nomination papers must be obtained from the Town Clerk's office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, during the nomination period. Candidates are invited to contact the Town Clerk's office at 925-888-7022 for election details.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, June 2, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Hacienda, Mosaic Room
Thursday, June 5, 7:00 pm – [Hillside and Ridgeline Workshop](#), Hagerty Lounge, Saint Mary's College
Monday, June 9, 7:00 pm – [Design Review Board](#), Moraga Library Community Room
Wednesday, June 11, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), Regular Meeting, JM Auditorium
Tuesday, June 17, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Hacienda, Mosaic Room
All meetings are open to the public. Visit the [Town's](#) website for updated agendas and packets.



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