



ABOUT TOWN ▪ DECEMBER 11, 2015

UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING WITH SANTA

Thanks to everyone who braved the rainy weather on December 3 for the annual Holiday Tree Lighting at the Moraga Commons Park! A great crowd enjoyed cookies and cocoa with the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee while the Rossmoor Community Chorus entertained with classic carols leading up to Santa's show-stopping "police escort" arrival. Happy holidays Moraga!



MAYOR WYKLE'S YEAR IN REVIEW



Prior to the formal Council reorganization on December 9, Mayor Wykle provided meeting attendees and internet and cable television viewers a "Year in Review" that highlighted accomplishments of his term, including a National Recognition of Excellence for the Town's Financial Report; the opening of the new Council Chambers; installation of a new ADA pathway at the Commons Park; and a new electronic community sign. The Mayor's term also reflected his interest in several environmental initiatives, including streamlining the process to install solar panels; amending an ordinance to allow more residents to keep bees, chickens and rabbits on their property; and protecting trees from PG&E's planned clear cutting. All Councilmembers acknowledged Mayor Wykle's ability to professionally and calmly run a tight meeting and respect everyone's opinion. The Town Manager presented Mayor Wykle with a "trophy," recognizing his persistence in reminding staff to remove tennis shoes that were hanging from utility lines near the Skatepark.



NEW MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR ELECTED

At their December 9 meeting, the Town Council voted to elect Mike Metcalf as Mayor and Dave Trotter as Vice Mayor for the 2016 term. Outgoing Mayor Roger Wykle was honored by the Council, members of the public, and County Supervisor Candace Andersen for his successful year as Mayor. Both Mayor Metcalf and Vice Mayor Trotter expressed their gratitude for election to their respective new offices and looked forward to starting a productive year with a Goal Setting workshop on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 6:00 pm at the new Council Chambers.



DON'T LET THIEVES RUIN YOUR HOLIDAYS

Thieves love the holiday season with doorsteps and vehicles often filled with packages. Crooks do their shopping at others' expense. Help the Moraga Police prevent thefts and burglaries by reporting suspicious persons and vehicles and having packages shipped to your workplace or coordinate with a neighbor to pick them up for you. Consider subscribing to delivery company services that notify you of package deliveries and have a safe and happy holiday season!



NEW WAYFINDING SIGNAGE - VOTE ON A PREFERRED DESIGN

The Town is creating a wayfinding plan including new signage for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists to make it easier and safer to move throughout Moraga. Four design options for the new signs are proposed, and the public is encouraged to provide their design preferences on [Open Town Hall](#). For more information, contact [Coleman Frick](#).



EI NIÑO STORM PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

The Town of Moraga lies within the Moraga Creek Watershed, which includes three major creeks: Moraga Creek, Laguna Creek, and Rimer Creek. The creeks and drainage channels are susceptible to flooding with the potential to cause property damage. The Town has notified owners of all properties adjacent to Town creeks of their responsibility to maintain their sections of creeks to prevent flooding. Certain areas within the Town are designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as 100-year flood zones, which refers to a high risk area with a one percent chance of being flooded in any given year. Residents located in flood-prone areas are encouraged to have materials, such as sandbags and plastic sheeting, available to protect property during the rainy season. The Town has provided three cubic yards of self-serve sand and bags behind Fire Station 41 (1280 Moraga Way) for Moragans. Please take only what you need and fill bags one-third full for recommended stacking. Visit FEMA's [website](#) for flood zone designations.



RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON DECEMBER 9

For staff reports and background information, visit the Town's [website](#).

LAMORINDA TRANSIT SERVICE PLAN

Town Council received a report from consultants on the recently approved Lamorinda Transit Service Plan, a Lamorinda and County Connection partnership identifying options to address three critical transit needs – weekday commutes to BART, mid-day trips for seniors and others, and transit to local schools. Hundreds of Moraga residents contributed ideas and comments on the plan, which will be used as a basis to seek funding. The report is available on the [Town's website](#).

USE OF MEASURE K FUNDS

At the recommendation of the Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee (LSTOC), the Town Council approved a resolution classifying the use of Measure K funds (the voter approved 1% Local Add-On Sales Tax revenue) for street and related infrastructure repairs. The LSTOC had requested a method to easily track the use of Measure K funds in the Town's annual financial statements. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rules allow revenue sources with significant activity and balances to be reported as a Major Fund. Reporting Measure K funds as a Major Fund will provide greater clarity and transparency in tracking the use of this revenue.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDIT

The Town Council reviewed the annual independent audit report of the Town's financial statements indicating that the Town is operating and reporting financial activities in conformance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the standards identified by the GASB.

SMALL FARM ANIMALS ORDINANCE ADOPTED

Town Council adopted new zoning regulations to allow small farm animal keeping, including chickens, rabbits and bees, in Residential, Institutional and Open Space zones, as accessory to an existing residential use with no special permit required. The new regulations set limits on the number of animals allowed based on property size, and require setbacks for coops and other enclosures as well as keeping them sanitary and free of odors to avoid neighbor impacts. The new regulations will become effective on January 8, 2016. Contact [Brian Horn](#) with any questions.

SAND VOLLEYBALL COURT PROJECT

Town Council authorized a construction contract to renovate the sand volleyball courts at the

Commons Park, including an improved drainage system to address seasonal winter ponding and standing water issues. Construction is targeted for January, 2016, with a goal of completion before the March start of the Saint Mary's College Women's Beach Volleyball season.

LAND SURVEYING AGREEMENT AMENDMENT WITH COUNTY

Town Council gave direction to staff to amend the existing Land Surveying Services Agreement with the County to include right-of-way-engineering and real property services for public projects. Contact [Edric Kwan](#) for more information.



RHEEM BOULEVARD AND MORAGA ROAD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

Traffic analysis at the Rheem Boulevard and Moraga Road intersection determined that most eastbound traffic on Rheem Boulevard turns left onto Moraga Road. As a result, eastbound lanes have been reconfigured from left/through and through lanes to left only and left/through lanes. This change will allow more traffic to turn left onto Moraga Road and improve traffic flow at this busy intersection.



TOWN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Moraga depends on volunteers to serve on all of its Boards, Committees, and Commissions. There will be openings in 2016 on the Audit and Finance Committee, Design Review Board, Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee, Park and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission and the new "Art in Public Spaces" Committee. If interested, please complete the [application and questionnaire](#), and submit a letter of interest and your resumé to the Town Clerk's Office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, or [Town Clerk](#) by 5:00 pm on Friday, January 22, 2016.



BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER

Thanks to everyone who attended the lighting of the Holiday Tree on December 3! The Buy-a-Bulb fundraiser continues through the holiday season and contributions in any amount are appreciated. The Town's goal is to raise \$5,000 to cover the cost of lighting the holiday tree, with only \$1,350 donated thus far. To continue this annual holiday tradition, please [donate online](#) or send checks to the Town of Moraga, Attn: Buy-a-Bulb, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556. Thanks to all!



REGISTER FOR SPRING ACTIVITIES NOW

Looking for something new in 2016? Having fun and learning locally is a great New Year's resolution. The Moraga Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of classes and activities for everyone! Browse the Activity Guide or sign up at [moragarec.com](#). Winter/Spring 2016 offers great activities for all ages.



SHOP MORAGA FIRST



Local holiday shopping, or purchases online, directly helps Moraga residents and local businesses. Local and online purchases generate sales tax revenue to repair local roads and provide other services. Avoid driving and crowds this holiday season by visiting Moraga's diverse array of shops, restaurants and businesses. If you cannot find what you need in Moraga, shop from home online and keep your tax dollars in Moraga. Visit Moraga [Chamber of Commerce](#) for more information.



SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN - EIR SCOPING MEETING

Moraga residents are invited to a meeting on Saturday, December 12, at 12 noon, to provide input on the scope of environmental topics to be addressed in the upcoming Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed update of the College's Campus Master Plan. The meeting will be held at Saint Mary's College, Hagarty Lounge, De La Salle Hall. A second scoping meeting, with the Planning Commission, is scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, at 7:00 pm, at the new Town Council Chambers. For information, or to view the Campus Master Plan, visit the [project webpage](#). Scoping comments may be submitted to [Ellen Clark](#).



COUNCIL GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP - THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

SAVE THE DATE - The Moraga Town Council will develop the community's goals and priorities for 2016 under the leadership of Mayor Mike Metcalf on Thursday, January 21, at 6:00 pm, at the new Town Council Chambers, 335 Rheem Boulevard. Mayor Metcalf's proposed goals for 2016 will be discussed with the Council and the community at this meeting and the public is invited to review and comment on the proposed goals, to identify their top five goals, and to suggest any new goals through [Open Town Hall](#), the Town's forum for community engagement.



LIVABLE MORAGA SURVEY - COMING TO MAILBOXES SOON!

The Town will begin distribution of a town-wide mail survey next week, soliciting residents' opinions about several different options for re-striping the segment of Moraga Road between Donald Drive and Corliss Drive as part of the Livable Moraga Road Project. The survey will remain open through January 8, 2016, and results will be reported back to the Town Council later in the month. For more information, contact Ellen Clark. The Town needs your input!



HOLIDAY CLOSURE OF TOWN OFFICES

The Town offices and the Hacienda de las Flores will be closed Friday, December 18, through Friday, January 1, for the winter holidays, reopening on Monday, January 4, 2016.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, December 14, 7:00 pm — [Design Review Board](#), Moraga Library (CANCELLED)
Tuesday, December 15, 7:00 pm — [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Hacienda, Mosaic
Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 pm — Hillside and Ridgeline Steering Committee, Hacienda, Mosaic
Monday, December 21, 7:00 pm — [Planning Commission](#), Town Council Chambers (CANCELLED)
Wednesday, December 23, 7:00 pm — Town Council, Town Council Chambers (CANCELLED)
Monday, December 28, 7:00 pm — Design Review Board, Town Council Chambers (CANCELLED)
Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 pm — [Town Council](#), **NEW TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 335 RHEEM**

All meetings are open to the public. Visit the [Town's](#) website for updated agendas and packets.



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