



ABOUT TOWN ▪ AUGUST 25, 2016

UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



CONTRA COSTA LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



The Town's Senior Civil Engineer, Laurie Sugcang, graduated from this prestigious and intensive certificate program. The goals of the Leadership Academy are to create a cost-effective development program for the participating jurisdictions; enhance the leadership skills of the participants; assist participating agencies with succession planning; and offer employees positive development opportunities and motivating experiences. Pictured from left to right are Robert Priebe, Interim Town Manager; Amy Cunningham, Administrative Services Director; Laurie Sugcang, Senior Civil Engineer; and Edric Kwan, Public Works Director.



CANDIDATES FOR TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION

On November 8, 2016, Moraga voters will elect three Councilmembers. The nomination period for the election has closed and there are four qualified candidates: Graig Crossley, Jeanette Fritzky, Kymberleigh Korpus and Roger Wykle. All Moragans are encouraged to meet the candidates and learn about Town issues by attending the Moraga Citizens Network (MCN) "Candidates' Night" on Thursday, October 13, at 7:30 pm at the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga. Candidate information and statements are available for public review in the Town Clerk's office.



BACK TO SCHOOL TRAFFIC SAFETY

The beginning of school brings increased traffic and congestion around local schools. Students are not always aware of the traffic around them and count on drivers to watch out for them. Please drive safely and do the following: Be aware of crosswalks and stop when they are occupied, do not pass school buses with red flashing lights, keep speed at or below the posted limit and do not assume that a pedestrian or child on a bicycle will always see approaching vehicles. Please drive slowly, safely and watch out for kids!!



BOLLINGER CANYON SLOPE STABILIZATION -AUGUST 29 TO SEPTEMBER 1

Rock slope stabilization work above Bollinger Canyon Road will occur from Monday, August 29 through Thursday, September 1. The work will address slide-prone areas along the bluffs (above the four-foot chain link fence) by removing potentially unstable materials and trees from the slope face. The rock removal will require road closure in both lanes each day on odd hours as follows:

- 9:00 am to 10:00 am, 11:00 am to 12:00 noon, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Only emergency vehicles will have access during the road closures. Please note closure times and adjust your schedules accordingly. Please be patient and thanks in advance for your cooperation.



HERO PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE)

The HERO program, one of the two providers of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing that were approved by the Town Council in March 2016, launched in Moraga this week. The HERO website now has a dedicated page for [Moraga](#) where property owners can find information about accessing PACE financing for improvements related to renewable energy, energy efficiency and water efficiency.



RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS - AUGUST 24, 2016

RHEEM CENTER SURVEY

Town Council received a [presentation](#) from the Moraga Chamber of Commerce on the results of a community preference survey conducted to identify what businesses and changes are desired in the Rheem Center. The online survey had 1,084 respondents, including Moraga, Orinda, Lafayette, and Saint Mary's College residents, and indicated family or child-friendly businesses were most important coupled with the desire for more restaurant choices. Jay Kerner of U.S. Realty Partners, Inc., the new owner of the Rheem Center, was present and addressed Council with his vision and progress thus far to make improvements to meet the needs of the community.

MORAGA TOWN CENTER HOMES (CITY VENTURES PROJECT) APPEAL

Town Council adopted, by a 3-2 vote, a resolution approving the General Development Plan and Vesting Tentative Map for the Moraga Town Center Homes project, granting City Ventures' appeal of the Planning Commission's July 18 effective denial of the application. The project now requires three additional approvals from the Town: the Precise Development Plan, Final Design Review, and Final Subdivision Map. For more information contact [Holly Pearson](#), Senior Planner.

COMMUNITY NEEDS AND PRIORITIES SURVEY

Town Council received a report on the results of a [Community Needs and Priorities Survey](#) from Godbe Research. The survey, which included a representative sample of just over 400 Moraga voters, asked respondents to rate various aspects of quality of life, and assess levels of satisfaction and importance of various Town services and infrastructure, as well as issues like growth management. The survey also polled respondents on how they access information about the Town, and participation in Town-sponsored and other events. The survey indicated a high level of satisfaction with the overall quality of life in Moraga, as well as impressive levels of participation in community events and engagement with the Town through the Town's website and About Town newsletter, local press, and social media (especially NextDoor.com). Among the items that were identified as both important and in need of improvement, were repairing and maintaining infrastructure such as storm drains and streets; and managing growth, particularly development in hillside areas. The survey will assist the Town Council as they consider spending priorities in future budget cycles, and to evaluate and develop longer-term funding strategies to address Moraga's most critical needs.

ALL ACCESS PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Town Council approved the Moraga Commons Park, Option 2 location, which abuts the lower playground area closest to the St. Mary's Road parking lot for the proposed new playground. Some redesign was suggested and funding of \$155,000 for site development was approved from One Time Developer Fees (Palos Colorados). Identification of the location for the playground was necessary for Moraga Rotary to start their campaign to raise \$260,000 to fund the new playground equipment, rubberized surfacing and fencing.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNITY INFORMATION SIGN UPDATE

Town Council accepted the one year update/status report on usage of the Electronic Community Information Sign. After the first year of operation, over 170 different messages have been displayed, proving to be a popular resource for community information. The fee is \$84 for a week-long message. Reserve a timeslot for your next community event or milestone with the Town's [reservation form](#).



MORAGA SINKHOLE "WINTERIZATION" CONTINGENCY PLAN

Work began this week with the Town's contractor setting up a water diversion system inside the 96-inch pipe, cutting out pieces of metal pipe that are sticking out, and concrete patching which will continue throughout the rest of the week. All work inside the pipe should be completed by the end of next week (September 2). Soon after, the contractor will begin securing the surface around the hole and place erosion protection measures (such as plastic tarps) and a temporary berm and inlets to capture surface runoff and direct it into the pipe. The contractor and inspector will monitor the hole and pipe throughout winter and check for any changes or movement. The intersection will continue to operate as it does now with stop control and one lane open in each direction.



COFFEE WITH A COP AND MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION



Moraga Police held their most recent Coffee with a Cop at the Make-a-Wish Foundation Walkathon, held on Saturday, August 20, at Saint Mary's College. The officers were joined by some suspicious individuals as they shared coffee and conversation with many of the families in attendance. It was an honor to be able to participate and support this charity as they raised over \$60,000 to support families and grant wishes.



LANDSLIDE UPDATE FROM EBMUD

East Bay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) continues to study and monitor the landslide that occurred near Moraga Creek (behind Augusta Drive) last winter. Prior to the rains, tarps will be replaced to protect the slope. EBMUD is also watching the creek for algae blooms that result from the drought and record high heat, and will be raking the surface of the creek to reduce odor. At this time, there is no anticipated date to reopen the nearby trail. EBMUD will continue to work with East Bay Regional Park District on determining whether there are any alternate trail routes. The public will be advised if any are identified.



LOWER RHEEM BOULEVARD LANDSLIDE STABILIZATION PROJECT

The structural retention system construction is moving forward. With all 106 piers in place and the concrete grade beam cap partially complete, work on the installation of the tiebacks has begun, but not as quickly as planned. The contractor will try to make up for lost time by bringing in additional equipment. After the completion of the pier-and-tieback retaining wall, the road work will begin with the installation of a subdrain, sewer line, and then reconstruction of the pavement section. While the roadway closure was expected to end in mid-October, the community should be advised that project evaluation now indicates the reopening of Rheem Boulevard (between Fernwood Drive and Via Barcelona) is anticipated to be December 2016.



SUMMER ENGINEERING INTERNS



The Town's two summer Engineering Interns are Erica Wilson (left) and Sara Dowling (right). Erica is a Senior at Campolindo High School, President of YMCA's Youth & Government Delegation Diablo Valley, and Vice President of the Symphonic Band. She is part of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission High School Internship Program intended to introduce high school students to career opportunities in the field of transportation. Sara recently graduated from U.C. Davis with a B.S. degree in civil engineering and already possesses an Engineer-in-Training certification. She was part of the Institute of Transportation Engineers' Student Chapter team and placed 2nd in the Transportation Project competition at American Society of Civil Engineers' Mid-Pacific Conference 2016.



CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 8 TO 14

The California Independent Film Festival (CAIFF) opening night event will be Thursday, September 8, at the Rheem Theatre, with a mixer beginning at 6:00 pm. Enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres until 6:30 pm when the annual Slate Awards will be announced. At 7:00 pm, the main attraction will begin with the film *The Story of Percival Pilts*, a short film from Australia, followed by *Miles*, the opening night feature film. *Miles* is a comedy/drama inspired by a true story about a young man desperate to get out of his small Illinois farming town. Tickets for opening night are \$25 and are available at the Rheem and Orinda Theatre box offices or online at www.CAIFF.org.



FINAL HACIENDA NIGHTS FOOD TRUCK EVENT - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9



The 2016 Centennial Celebration of the Hacienda de las Flores concludes Friday, September 9, with the final food truck event! Due to the success of the first two [Hacienda Nights](#) there will again be **four entrée trucks** and one dessert truck! September 9 welcomes: [Sliders Truck](#), [Akita Sushi](#), [Stuff My Waffle](#), [Izzy A's](#), plus one other. Beer, wine, and margaritas will be available for purchase with proceeds benefiting the [Hacienda Foundation](#). Join the fun for all ages from 6:00 to 10:00 pm, sponsored in part by the [Hacienda Foundation of Moraga](#) and the [Moraga Park Foundation](#). The event is at the Hacienda de las Flores at 2100 Donald Drive. Admission is free and food prices vary by truck.



MORAGA COMMONS PARK SITE SPECIFIC MASTER PLAN MEETINGS

Participate in one or both of the community outreach meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 8, and Monday, September 26, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Hacienda de las Flores. Provide input on potential improvements to the park that, if funded, could be realized within the next few years. Discussions to date include the desire for additional bocce courts and more parking. Please make time to provide input on the award-winning Commons Park and help continue to make life better.



PEAR AND WINE FESTIVAL - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Attend the 18th Annual Pear & Wine Festival at the Moraga Commons Park from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, September 24, for a family-friendly event celebrating Moraga's pear history! Featuring: entertainment at the bandshell with DJ RyanO, afternoon concert with the Tune Riders, food trucks, wine tasting with the Lamorinda Winegrowers Association, pear pies, jumpies, local artists, community booths and more! Don't miss the [Pear Recipe Contest](#) to show off your favorite pear dish. Visit the [Event Page](#) for schedules, recipe contest details, and additional information.



LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

The Town offices, located at 329 Rheem Boulevard and the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive, will be closed Monday, September 5, for the Labor Day holiday, reopening on Tuesday, September 6, 2016.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

- Monday, August 29, 7:00 pm – [Special Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers, 335 Rheem Boulevard
- Tuesday, August 30, 6:30 pm – [Joint Town Council and Moraga School District Board](#), Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Library, 1010 Camino Pablo
- Tuesday, August 30, 7:00 pm – [Ped-Bike CAC](#), Hacienda, La Sala, 2100 Donald Drive
- Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers, 335 Rheem Boulevard
- Thursday, September 8, 6:30 pm – [Moraga Commons Park Site Specific Master Plan](#), Hacienda, 2100 Donald Drive
- Monday, September 12, 7:00 pm – [Design Review Board](#), Council Chambers, 335 Rheem Boulevard
- Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), Council Chambers, 335 Rheem Boulevard

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



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