



## ABOUT TOWN - JUNE 25, 2020 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



### VIRTUAL 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY



We will all miss the fireworks display and gathering with one another at Commons Park; however, you can still partake in some of your favorite traditions this 4th of July. Residents are encouraged to participate in a Virtual July 4th Celebration which includes a virtual dog parade, a virtual bike parade, and a front yard BBQ. Share your July 4th celebration with family, friends, and the Moraga community by sharing photos of your family celebration. The [event webpage](#) and [flyer](#) have more details on how to participate. On July 4th, a real-time [slide show](#) will begin at 9:00 am and continue throughout the day showcasing how community members are celebrating the holiday.



### MOFD/MORAGA/ORINDA FIRE PREVENTION JOINT MEETING

On June 22, representatives from the Town of Moraga and City of Orinda Councils and Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board participated in the inaugural meeting (via Zoom) of the newly constituted Fire Prevention Joint Subcommittee (FPJS). Orinda Mayor Gee and Moraga Mayor Korpus were appointed Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. Fire Chief Winnacker announced a summer hiatus of MOFD's successful Chipper Program, and reviewed the status of the 2020 MOFD Fire Code update, MOFD's current fire risk reduction activities, and emergency response planning efforts. The agencies discussed their individual outreach and education efforts. A discussion of the specific goals and authority of the FPJS resulted in the Chair, Vice Chair, and President of the MOFD Board (Steven Danziger) volunteering to work with staff to develop a Charter for the FPJS' consideration.



### LOCK YOUR CAR TO PREVENT THEFTS

Thefts from unlocked vehicles and mail thefts are on the rise. Some of these thefts have resulted in burglaries and theft of the vehicle as keys and garage openers were left in the unlocked cars. Cars and residences should be kept locked at night or when unattended. Remove all valuables from your vehicles and report suspicious persons in your neighborhoods. Be sure to pick up your mail daily and consider a locking mailbox to prevent thefts. Please coordinate with your neighbors to watch out for each other. Call MPD at 925-284-5010 to report incidents or 925-888-7055 for more information.



### WELCOME BRET SWAIN, NEW SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER



Bret Swain has recently joined Moraga as the Town's new Senior Civil Engineer. Bret is an experienced engineer with professional Civil and Chemical engineering licenses. He received double Bachelor's degrees from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo in Physical and Soil Science, a Masters in Civil Engineering from Fresno State and an MBA from UC Davis. Prior to joining Moraga, Bret was a Senior Civil Engineer for the Cities of Manteca and East Palo Alto. Bret has begun working on the following Capital Improvement Program projects: Hacienda ADA Bathroom Installation; Hacienda ADA Pathway; Commons Park Irrigation Replacement; and Roof Replacement at Town Facilities. He is excited about working with the Moraga community.



## RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON JUNE 24, 2020

### **ORDINANCE TO STREAMLINE SIGNS APPROVAL PROCESS**

The Town Council voted to make a small number of final revisions to a series of amendments that it previously considered on June 10 to Chapter 8.88 – Signs of the Moraga Municipal Code that will streamline the approval process for certain types of commercial signs and allow for new master sign programs for multi-tenant commercial properties to include a greater degree of variation from the current standards. The Council is scheduled to conduct a second reading of the revised ordinance and consider adopting it at their next meeting on July 8.

### **ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION PROJECT**

Town Council authorized the award of the EV Charging Station Project to El Camino Electrical Services with a contract cost not to exceed \$34,440. The project will install two electric vehicle charging stations at the Town offices as well as Moraga Commons Park. The project is funded through various sources, including a MCEv Grant and a 511 Contra Costa Grant. Construction is scheduled to be completed this summer.

### **CANYON ROAD BRIDGE TREE REMOVAL PROJECT**

Town Council accepted the tree removal services completed by Julian Tree Care for the Canyon Road Bridge Tree Removal Project. The project removed 32 trees for the Canyon Road Bridge Replacement Project, which is currently under construction. The final construction contract cost was \$42,722 and will be funded mostly by a Caltrans Highway Bridge Program grant with the remaining by Contra Costa County Measure J funds.

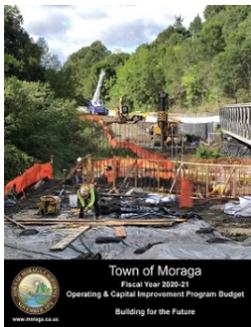
### **STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT**

To maintain and continue the street lighting assessment district, the Town is required to conduct an annual levy and collection process. Town Council held a public hearing and approved continuing the current assessment of \$58 for a typical single-family residence within the Street Lighting Assessment District to fund operations and repairs of the Town's streetlights and traffic signals. Prudent management of the District funds has kept the \$58 assessment level in place without increases since July 2010.

### **2020 PAVEMENT OVERLAY PROJECT**

Town Council authorized the award of the 2020 Pavement Overlay Project to Bay Cities Paving and Grading with a contract cost not to exceed \$1,482,520. The list of eight streets (totaling approximately 1.9 miles) that will receive a pavement overlay are posted on the Town's [website](#). Construction is scheduled to begin this summer and be completed this fall.

### **FISCAL YEAR 2020/21 OPERATING AND CIP BUDGETS**



Town Council approved a \$22.75 million budget for FY 2020/21 which includes \$9.82 million in Operating Budget and \$12.93 million in Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget. The budget projects a small surplus of \$2,196 and a year-end General Fund Reserve level of \$4.87 million, or 51%. The budget includes \$8.3 million for construction on the permanent Canyon Road Bridge, \$3.1 million of investment in other transportation related projects; \$300,000 for an enhanced storm drain operations and maintenance program; \$376,000 for capital asset replacement; and \$165,000 to begin rezoning the Bollinger Valley Study Area. Town staff will continue to monitor the budget throughout the year and communicate to Council any changes to the short- and long-term financial picture of the budget due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **COUNCIL EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

The Town Council discussed the need to add language to the Town Council Protocols adopted in October 2019 to clarify the issue of who speaks on behalf of the Town and who is responsible for external communications. The Council gave direction to staff to add the following responsibility to the Town Manager's Responsibilities as listed in Town Council Protocols Section 4.1 Town Manager and Town Attorney: *"principal responsibility for all official communications from the Town to the public."*



### **PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH**

In recognition of the diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning+ (LGBTQ+) community of Moraga and the Town's commitment to supporting visibility, dignity and respect for all people and to providing LGBTQ+ youth with a safe environment in which to grow and thrive, the Town of Moraga proclaimed June 2020 as Pride Month.



### **MORE COVID-19 TESTING NEEDED AT SENIOR FACILITIES**



Moraga Community Foundation (MCF) thanks everyone who has donated to the original campaign to raise \$10,000 for COVID-19 testing of residents and staff at Moraga senior care facilities. Each test kit costs \$56. Since the start of this project, another Moraga facility has joined the testing program which has increased the need for testing and MCF's fundraising goal. Seniors and staff in residential housing remain at highest risk from COVID-19. If you would like to help keep our most vulnerable community members safe, please visit [MCF COVID-19 Testing](#) to make a donation or send a check to MCF at: 1480 Moraga Road, Ste C #191 Moraga, CA 94556 and indicate "COVID-19 Testing."



### **CANYON ROAD BRIDGE MAJOR CONCRETE POUR SCHEDULED FOR JULY 3**



The Canyon Road Bridge Replacement Project is in its tenth week of construction. In the past two weeks, false work forming the bottom of the bridge has been completed, the stem and soffit are being formed and rebar is being installed. The project is preparing for a critical early morning mass concrete pour on **Friday, July 3, 2020**, of the stem, soffit, and abutment totaling 300 yards of concrete. **To ensure the safety of the community and workers, the bridge will be closed beginning at 3:30 am and reopen no later than 3:00 pm.** For more information, please visit the [Project website page](#). To sign up for project updates, please register at [Notify Me](#).



### **VIRTUAL EVACUATION EXERCISE - SATURDAY, AUGUST 1**

Moraga-Orinda Fire District and Moraga Police will hold a Town-wide virtual evacuation exercise Saturday August 1, starting at 7:30 am. This virtual evacuation exercise, consisting of notifications only, will NOT involve residents actually evacuating. The purpose of the exercise is to refine the Community Warning System (CWS) that will be used in an evacuation order in Moraga and to improve coordination between organizations. If you have not already registered with CWS, please visit [CWS Alerts](#). This is the primary method that will be used to issue evacuation orders, and by registering your cell phone, you enable phone and text notifications. During an emergency, the CWS (not Nixle) will be the most reliable method of receiving information. On the day of the event, a simulated wildfire scenario will be run to mimic fire spread for the purpose of coordinating a time phased evacuation, in which residents closest to the threat will be notified first. Call MPD at 925-888-7055 with any questions.



### **UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS**

Monday, July 6, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), **TELECONFERENCED**

Wednesday, July 8, 6:00 pm –GHAD Board, **TELECONFERENCED**

Wednesday, July 8, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), **TELECONFERENCED**

The Town Council Chambers are located at [335 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556](#).

The Hacienda de las Flores is located at [2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556](#).

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



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