



## ABOUT TOWN - DECEMBER 10, 2020 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



### THANK YOU MAYOR KORPUS AND COUNCILMEMBER WYKLE



Outgoing Mayor Kymberleigh Korpus gave a [presentation](#) on the Town's accomplishments this past year which included construction of the first phase of the Canyon Road Bridge, implementation of the Moraga Center Specific Plan and the enhanced Storm Drain Operations and Maintenance program to name a few. Mayor Korpus was recognized for the passion, strong analytical skills and tireless advocacy she brought to Town business over the past four years. No issue has been too complex for her intellect nor too small to address.

Outgoing Councilmember Roger Wykle, who served as Mayor in 2015 and 2019, was recognized for the knowledge and insights he brought to Town business over the past twelve years as a Councilmember since 2012 and on the Planning Commission the four years prior. Councilmembers acknowledged Roger's steadying presence, his great sense of humor, brevity and recognized him as an exemplary public servant (someone who always places the interests of constituents before his own).



### WELCOME COUNCILMEMBERS SOS, STROMBERG AND ONODA

At the Town Council meeting on December 9, newly elected Councilmembers Renata Sos, David Stromberg and Teresa Onoda were sworn in by the Town Clerk following the certification of the November 3, 2020 General Election. They will serve a four-term until December 2024.



Renata Sos has lived in Moraga since 2001 and raised her two daughters here. She coached multiple youth sports, was active in the Moraga schools, and served on the Moraga Community Foundation Board and the Moraga Planning Commission. She is a retired engineer and attorney and spent 12 years in private practice as a litigator of complex commercial cases. Renata was unanimously appointed to the Moraga Town Council in 2018 following an unexpected vacancy and has been an important contributor to the Town Council.

David Stromberg moved to Moraga in 2015 with his wife and immediately began his public service for the Town, first on the Design Review Board and for the past two years as Chair of the Moraga Planning Commission. David served two terms on the Lafayette School Board and is a board member on the Moraga Community Foundation. David is an attorney with experience in environmental law and litigation. In 1998 he formed Stromberg Law Firm and currently specializes in mediation and alternative dispute resolution.



Teresa Onoda and her husband have lived in Moraga for nearly 39 years and raised their family here. Teresa has been on the steering committee of Preserve Lamorinda Open Space and served for two years on the Moraga Planning Commission before being elected to the Town Council in 2014 and serving a four-year term. She is most proud of the Hillside and Ridgeline Ordinance that was passed during her tenure. Teresa is a professional artist, a plein air painter whose work is noted for its vibrant color and powerful applications of oil.



## MAYOR MCCLUER AND VICE MAYOR WOEHLEKE ELECTED

The first item of business of the newly seated Council was to elect the Mayor and Vice Mayor positions for 2021. Mike McCluer was unanimously elected Mayor and Steve Woehleke was unanimously elected Vice Mayor.



## SANTA LETTERS FOR THE NORTH POLE

Moraga can now send mail directly to the North Pole! Drop your letter to Santa in the mailbox at the Moraga Commons Park and get a very special letter in return. Santa's bright red mailbox is located in front of the Holiday Tree at the park. Please make sure letters include a name and return address. Letters to Santa must be received in the mailbox by Thursday, December 17 at 5:00pm.



## VOLUNTEER NOW FOR TOWN COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Moraga depends on volunteers to serve on all its Committees and Commissions. If interested, please click on the Committee or Commission name below for more information and complete an application packet to submit to the Town Clerk's Office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, or email to [Town Clerk](#).

[Audit and Finance Committee](#) - 2 openings

[Art in Public Spaces Committee](#) - 2 openings

[Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee](#) - 4 openings

[Park and Recreation Commission](#) - 4 openings

[Planning Commission](#) - 4 openings



## RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON DECEMBER 9, 2020

### **RECYCLES MART WASTE RATES 2021**

Town Council received an update on the proposed Solid Waste and Recycling Rates for 2020 and voted unanimously to support the Town's board representatives' recommendation for an 6.75% rate increase and to forward the recommendation to the RecycleSmart Joint Powers Authority board.

### **FISCAL YEAR 2020/21 SALARY SCHEDULE AMENDMENT**

Town Council adopted a Resolution amending the current Fiscal Year 2020/21 Salary Schedule for Recreation Leader I (PT), Maintenance Worker (PT), Facilities Attendant (PT) and Intern classifications to comply with the State of California minimum wage increase effective January 1, 2021 and for the Recreation Leader II (PT) classification to address compression.

### **GHAD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

The Council entered into an agreement with the Moraga Geologic Hazard Abatement District (GHAD) for the Town to provide and be reimbursed for professional services, including clerk and legal services. The agreement covers January 2020 – June 2021 unless terminated earlier and is intended to cover an interim period to assist the GHAD in establishing its management, clerk and legal structure. The GHAD is an independent entity formed in 2015 to enable local residents to collectively mitigate geological hazards which pose a threat to their properties.



## STATE AUDITOR RATES MORAGA AT A LOW FINANCIAL RISK

The California State Auditor's Office released an update to an Online Dashboard of cities' fiscal information that includes ranking of their financial health. The Town of Moraga ranked 400 of the 453 cities statewide in overall risk, with the higher the number indicating the lower the risk. First launched last year, the study evaluated and ranked each city for fiscal distress based on several criteria such as the city's general fund reserve balance, debt burden, liquidity, revenue trends, debt obligations, pension costs and funding. Moraga's fiscal conservancy has paid off and the Town is in a better financial situation than 88% of cities in California.



## HOSPICE EAST BAY TREE OF LIGHTS - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13



Hospice of the East Bay will be celebrating the 34th annual Moraga Tree of Lights at the Moraga Country Club on Sunday, December 13, at 5:30 pm. These ceremonies provide a way for families and friends to honor their loved ones and find solace in the symbolism of light as the names of their loved ones are read. Funds raised by these ceremonies make it possible for Hospice of the East Bay to provide care to patients who are not covered by insurance and support additional services and programs, such as music therapy and children’s grief programs, which are not covered by Medicare. See the [event schedule](#).



## PREVENT HOLIDAY CRIME

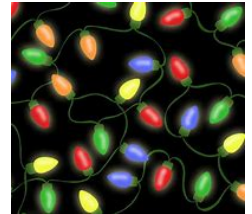
Please help prevent holiday crime in Moraga.

- 1- Watch for deliveries and bring them inside ASAP before “porch pirates” strike.
- 2- Clear your mailbox every day. Moraga Police recently arrested mail thieves who were roaming through Town at night and had stolen mail from nearly 40 residents.
- 3- Report suspicious persons and vehicles in your neighborhoods, especially at night, before they spoil your holiday season! Recently vehicles have had catalytic converters removed at night – expensive repairs!!



## BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER

Moraga’s Holiday Tree has been lit with shimmering lights for all to enjoy. The \$6,000 annual fundraising goal ensures this tradition can continue. A minimum donation of \$30 per bulb is appreciated; however, any amount would be most welcome. We encourage you to donate online at [moragarec.com](http://moragarec.com), just click the holiday tree “Buy-A-Bulb” button. Check donations can be mailed to the Parks and Recreation Department, Attn: Buy-a-Bulb 2100 Donald Drive Moraga, CA 94556.



## PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

On December 7, the Planning Commission (PC) approved the Moraga Country Club Facilities Expansion which includes a new 6,650 square foot fitness facility, 4,300 square foot courtside grille, 860 square foot recreation pavilion adjacent to the clubhouse, and landscaping and parking lot improvements.

The Planning Commission also recommended the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance Update to the Town Council for approval to comply with the January 1, 2020 State Law. The law requires ADUs be allowed in all residential districts, be a maximum size of 850 square feet for a studio or one bedroom and 1,000 square feet for more than one bedroom. The law also eliminated owner occupancy requirements and reduced ministerial review to 60 days.

The Planning Commission elected Brenda Luster as the new Chair and Kerry Hillis as the new Vice Chair.



## HOLIDAY CLOSURE OF TOWN OFFICES

The Town offices and the Hacienda de las Flores will be closed during the winter holidays from Wednesday, December 23, 2020 through Friday, January 1, reopening on Monday, January 4, 2021.



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, December 15, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 23 – [Town Council](#), **CANCELLED**

Monday, January 4, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), TELECONFERENCE

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. The Town of Moraga Livestreams Town Council, Commission and Committee meetings using Vimeo. [View live streaming of meetings](#).



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## HELP SHARE THE TOWN NEWS

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