



ABOUT TOWN - FEBRUARY 25, 2022 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



HOUSING OPPORTUNITY SITES SPECIAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2



On Wednesday, March 2, at 6:00 pm, the Town Council and Planning Commission will hold a special joint meeting to provide information and receive feedback on rezoning policy options to meet State mandated housing assignments. The availability of housing sites is one of the major factors considered by the State of California when they review the Housing Element. Based on the State requirements, staff will be presenting rezoning options to meet the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. This meeting is part of the comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative. For more details visit makemoragahome.org. Members of the public are encouraged to join the Zoom webinar at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85071108524>.



RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON FEBRUARY 23, 2022

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) UPDATE

The Town Council designated the \$4.2 million in ARPA funding as Replacement for Lost Public Sector Revenue consistent with the eligible expenditure categories established by the Federal government to streamline the reporting process and directed that ARPA funds be accounted for in Fund 102 – ARPA to ensure accurate tracking and transparency. The Council discussed and provided input on the future expenditure of ARPA funds, including consideration of providing financial assistance to Moraga small businesses impacted by COVID.

MORAGA-ORINDA FIRE DISTRICT UPDATE

Moraga-Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Chief Dave Winnacker provided an update on four items:

1. A proposed change to the MOFD's Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map to extend the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to include some of the area currently designated as High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in CAL FIRE's 2009 maps to reflect the current reality and increase fire safety. MOFD held a public hearing on this item on February 16. View MOFD's [staff report and maps](#).
2. A proposed Ordinance to expand the fuel mitigation requirements for undeveloped parcels to clearly require owners of undeveloped parcels to maintain fuel breaks where the parcels end to prevent spread of wildfires.
3. Progress on expansion of the Shaded Fuel Break around Moraga and Orinda made possible by a \$6.3 million grant received from the California Climate Initiative from CAL FIRE. Work includes clearing the understory, dead trees and brush, and trimming trees.
4. Information on preparing for wildfire season which may come very early this year. View information on [MOFD's Hazardous Wildfire Fuels Reduction Program](#) and the MOFD's [Community Chipping Request Form](#).



DONATION FROM MORAGA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Town Council received a generous donation from the [Moraga Community Foundation](#) (MCF) in the amount of \$100,000. The donation is the second installment of the Moraga Community Foundation’s \$450,000 commitment to the Moraga Commons Enhancement Program. The fundraising campaign will fund the replacement of the main restroom structure at the Moraga Commons Park with an upgraded ADA complaint model, and includes contributions to the picnic area renovation, and irrigation replacement projects slated to be completed at the Commons Park in 2022/23. The enhancement program will also include tree planting around the All-Access Playground. The Town has already completed the installation of the bottle filling station and the new flagpole which were part of the enhancement program and funded by donations from MCF.

MORAGA ROAD DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Town Council authorized an engineering design agreement with CSG Consultants for the Moraga Road Drainage Improvement Project (CIP 21-207). During heavy storm events, runoff from the Painted Rock open space area drains towards Moraga Road and floods an approximately 500 feet long street segment. The desired cost-effective engineering design would utilize the existing Moraga Road pavement area (footprint), as anything outside of this area will likely increase design, environmental permitting, and construction costs.

MORAGA ROAD AND HACIENDA DRAINAGE PROJECT

The Town Council authorized a construction agreement with Kerex Engineering, Inc. for the Moraga Road and Hacienda Drainage Project (CIP 21-206). Storm drain video inspections revealed three priority storm drain pipe repairs: 1) 12 inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) that is causing pavement depression in the auxiliary Hacienda parking lot; 2) 60 inch diameter CMP pipe invert is eroded adjacent to the Hacienda parking lot; 3) damaged 36 inch diameter CMP storm drain crossing underneath Moraga Road near Corliss Drive. Work is expected to start this spring 2022.

LOCAL ROAD SAFETY PLAN

The Town Council authorized a project agreement with TJKM Transportation Consultants to develop a [Local Road Safety Plan](#) (LRSP). The Town received a \$40,000 grant from the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 10 Grant for this project. The LRSP will systematically identify and analyze safety problems and recommend safety improvements. TJKM and staff will host several community meetings to solicit input on the LRSP, and a future website page will be developed to provide updates on the project and promote ways for the public to participate.

MORAGA COMMONS PARK ADA RESTROOM PURCHASE

The Town Council authorized the [purchase of a new Americans with Disabilities \(ADA\) restroom](#) structure for Moraga Commons Park from the Public Restroom Company. The existing restroom at the Moraga Commons Park was installed in the late 1970s and does not meet current ADA codes. The restroom replacement project is scheduled for installation in 2022/23 as part of the Town’s Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The cost of the prefabricated structure is \$324,000 and will be paid for through a generous donation from the Moraga Community Foundation totaling \$450,000.

MORAGA POLICE LIEUTENANT POSITION SALARY ADJUSTMENT

The Town Council evaluated the need to revise the salary of the Moraga Police Lieutenant’s position as it was one of the lowest when compared to the benchmark cities used in the Town’s salary surveys. This is especially important as the Town is currently recruiting to fill the Lieutenant’s position following the departure of Brian South, who was a member of the Department for over 20 years. The Council updated the salary schedule to reflect a 10.9% increase, which brings the position to the median level of the benchmark cities. Police Chief King also advised the Council that he has delayed his retirement to facilitate the hiring and training of a new Police Lieutenant.





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TWO COMMITTEES

The Town still needs volunteers to fill critical roles on the [Audit and Finance Committee](#) (1 opening) and [Local Sales Tax Oversight Committee](#) (2 openings). Moraga is known for its strong sense of community and volunteerism. Please consider applying today! Click on the Committee name for more information and to complete an application packet to submit to the Town Clerk's Office, 329 Rheem Boulevard, or email to [Town Clerk](#).



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 1, 6:30 pm – [Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, March 2, 6:00 pm – [Special Joint Town Council and Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 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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