



ABOUT TOWN - NOVEMBER 18, 2022

UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



TOWN MANAGER RECRUITMENT COMMUNITY SURVEY



The Town Council has initiated a recruitment for a new Town Manager. The Town Manager is appointed by the Town Council and is responsible for addressing the priorities established by the Council and overseeing day-to-day operations. The Council is interested in obtaining feedback from the community to guide the recruitment and selection strategies. Please take a few moments to respond to the brief survey. The survey is open and accessible via this link: [Town Manager Survey](#).



TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Join your friends and neighbors for the return of a time-honored holiday tradition in the Moraga community! The annual Tree Lighting ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, December 1 at the Moraga Commons Park. The event commences at 6:30 pm with cookies, cocoa, and carols. The tree will be lit promptly at 7:00 pm. Santa is scheduled to make a very special appearance! The event is free and open to the public. Join the celebration and launch of the 2022 holiday season.



STORM PREPAREDNESS AND SANDBAG STATION

Self-service sandbags are available at no charge to Moraga residents at the Rancho Laguna Park parking lot (2101 Camino Pablo). Please take only what you need and fill bags one-third full for stacking. Moragans are encouraged to plan ahead for winter storms. Here are a few tips:

- Inspect drainage inlets, gutters, ditches, pipes, and creeks on your property and remove any debris that may be blocking the flow of water.
- Visit the [FEMA Flood Mapping Center](#) to look at flood maps of your area.
- Learn about the Contra Costa County Flood Control's [7-5-3-2 Flood](#) forecasting tool to warn of potential flooding periods.
- Plan for food, water, medical and personal comfort needs for each household resident and plan an evacuation route in case of fast-rising water. Visit [Ready.gov](#) for more information.



COMMENT ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DRAFT EIR)



Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative

Draft Environmental Impact Report

The Town is soliciting comments pertaining to the content of the Draft EIR for the Town's Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative. The Draft EIR identifies and discusses potential impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed Initiative aimed at ensuring the Town has a sufficient number of appropriately zoned sites to meet its Regional Housing Needs Allocation of 1,118 residential units. View the [Draft EIR](#) and [Report Appendices](#). Comments should be emailed to makemoragahome@moraga.ca.us prior to the deadline of 5:00 pm on December 12, 2022.



TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON NOVEMBER 9 and 16, 2022

PROCLAMATION HONORING TOWN CLERK MARTY MCINTURF

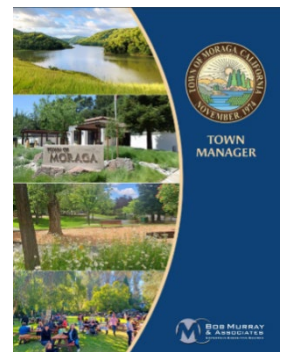


The Council presented a proclamation to Marty McInturf who has loyally served as the Town Clerk for the past 13 years. Marty was recognized for her professionalism, attention to detail, generosity, encyclopedic knowledge and exceptional customer service. Marty will be deeply missed by her colleagues and councilmembers. Please join us in wishing Marty a long and healthy retirement!

A message from Marty: *I am so touched by the outpouring of well-wishes I received. I will miss the daily interactions with my coworkers, Councilmembers and members of the Moraga community. I appreciate and thank you for the wonderful send-off and promise to visit now and again.*

TOWN MANAGER RECRUITMENT BROCHURE

The Council approved the Town Manager recruitment brochure and timeline. The recruitment is now open and the deadline to apply is January 3, 2023. Information about the position can be found on Bob Murray & Associates [website](#).



WELCOME INTERIM TOWN MANAGER BRIAN DOLAN

The Council adopted an Employment Agreement with Brian Dolan. Brian has 35 years experience working for local government, most recently serving as the City of Pleasanton's Assistant City Manager. Brian is also a 20 year Moraga resident. Brian will begin work on January 3, 2023 and serve until a new Town Manager starts.

GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENTS AND SAFETY ELEMENT AMENDMENTS

The Council received a report on the proposed General Plan and Safety Element Amendments that will be included as part of the Housing Element adoption in January 2023. The proposed updates to the General Plan focus on compliance with recent State laws, consistency with the updated Housing Element and proposed zoning changes (including the rezone of the Bollinger Canyon area), safety element updates, and traffic circulation updates to incorporate Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).

PROPOSED AFFORDABLE HOUSING ORDINANCE

The Council heard an overview of the proposed Affordable Housing Ordinance that the Planning Commission recommended for adoption at their November 14 meeting. The proposed Ordinance requires all new residential development in the Town to include 10% affordable units. More specifically, 10% of for sale units must be affordable to moderate-income households (those that make less than 120% of the Area Median Income (AMI)), and 10% of rental units must be affordable to low-income households (those that make less than 80% of the AMI). Low density residential developments can opt to meet the affordability housing requirement by constructing Accessory Dwelling Units in 25% of the homes. The staff report and draft Affordable Housing Ordinance reviewed by the Planning Commission can be found [HERE](#). The Public Hearing to consider adoption of the Ordinance is scheduled for the December 7, 2022 Special Town Council Meeting.

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DRAFT EIR)

The Town Council received a report and accepted public comment on the Draft EIR for the Comprehensive Advanced Planning Initiative. View the [PowerPoint presentation](#). The EIR is a "Program" EIR meaning that it evaluates a series of future actions that are connected with the adoption of certain policies, regulations, rules, and plans. Individual development projects will still be subject to future environmental review but may rely on the Program EIR for the evaluation of impacts that are not site-specific in nature.

REVIEW OF HCD'S COMMENTS ON DRAFT HOUSING ELEMENT

The Council received an overview of the comments from the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) on the [Town's Draft Housing Element](#) submitted on August 12, 2022. HCD's letter can be found [HERE](#). The Town will need to respond to all comments and adopt the Housing Element by January 25, 2023 to avoid penalties such as "Builders Remedy" which would limit the Town's authority to deny qualifying housing projects, among other things.

MORAGA ROAD AND HACIENDA DRAINAGE PROJECT

The Town Council approved amending the contract with Anchor Engineering for an additional \$25,000 for Construction Management and Inspection Services for the Moraga Road and Hacienda Drainage Project (CIP 21-206). Additional funds are needed to address the lengthened construction schedule, additional time analyzing changes in the storm drain repair methodology, and administrative time to close out the project and will be offset by construction cost savings. View the [staff report](#).

ANNUAL STORM DRAIN REPAIRS PROJECT DESIGN WORK TO BEGIN

The Town Council accepted the 2021 – 23 Annual Storm Drain Repairs Basis of Design report recommendations to complete the design for the repair of 22 high-priority storm drain pipe segments. Staff with the consultant, Harris and Associates, will inspect nearly 30,000 linear feet of the public storm drain pipelines, including the remaining corrugated metal pipes, which are highly susceptible to failure. View the [staff report](#) and [PowerPoint presentation](#). For more information, see the [Project web page](#).

TRAVEL TO FEMA EMERGENCY TRAINING

The Town Council authorized the Town's Associate Civil Engineer to attend the upcoming FEMA E0273 Managing Floodplain Development course at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The course is by invitation only and focuses on understanding and managing floodplains in order to protect our community. All travel and course expenses to attend the course are to be paid by FEMA.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK

Town Council declared November 13 to 19, 2022 United Against Hate Week in Moraga. The Town has committed to showing support for all members of our community and standing together in opposition to bias, bigotry, and intolerant treatment. The Town further encourages residents and community organizations to work together in opposition to hate. Moraga Stands United Against Hate posters are available at the Town offices or you can print a copy from the Town's [United Against Hate webpage](#) where you can also find information on how to get involved.



TOY DRIVE TO BENEFIT THE USMC TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM



The Moraga Police Officers Association has begun their annual toy drive to benefit the USMC Toys for Tots program. The participation was started by Moraga's late Detective, Kevin Mooney, who was also a Marine Corps officer. Through Kevin's efforts and in his memory, thousands of toys and over \$10,000 has been collected to benefit this program and provide toys to many children who otherwise might not receive gifts at Christmas. Collection bins are at the Town Hall, Ace Hardware, Starbucks, Safeway, OSH, TJ Maxx and Campolindo High School. Please consider donating unwrapped toys to benefit children in need throughout the Bay Area.



BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER

The community's continued support of the Buy-A-Bulb Fundraiser is a testament to the giving spirit of the Moraga community. 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](#), by clicking the holiday tree "Buy-A-Bulb" button. The iconic holiday tree will remain lit through the end of December.





LAGUNA CREEK RESTORATION UPDATE

The Laguna Creek Restoration Project is close to approval from FEMA to proceed with Phase 2 – completing the engineering design, bidding, and construction of the proposed creek restoration project at the historic Hacienda Park. The project's 65% Plans and Environmental Studies are being reviewed for environmental compliance and conformance with the grant requirements by FEMA for Floodplains/Wetlands, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for ESA, and a consultation with local tribes and the State Historic Preservation Officer. For more information about the FEMA Floodplains/Wetlands 15-day review notice, please visit the Town's [project web page](#).



MORAGA RECEIVES GFOA'S DISTINGUISHED BUDGET AWARD

The Town has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA's) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget. The award represents a significant achievement and reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. Moraga's budget serves as: a policy document; a financial plan; an operations guide; and a communications device. This is the first ever Distinguished Budget Presentation Award given to the Town of Moraga. Town Council and staff's commitment to continually improving Moraga guided development of this GFOA award-winning budget.



CYCLE RECYCLE



Bobbie and Tom Preston's bike collection for Cycle Recycle ends on Wednesday, November 30. New and/or used bicycles in working or repairable order, or useable bike parts may be delivered to the right side of the driveway of the Preston's home at 1307 Larch Avenue in Moraga. Please no skateboards, scooters, razors or plastic bikes. The bikes will be given to various charitable organizations to refurbish and distribute to those in need for the holidays. For questions call 925-376-8474.



SEE'S CANDY HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

The Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley has been selling See's candy during the holiday season annually since 2010. Their fundraiser store is open 10:00 am – 5:00 pm from November 18 through December 23 in the Rheem Shopping Center near CVS with 100% of the net proceeds going to local charities and organizations that benefit the Moraga community. Thanks to the generous support of the community members, over the past three years, the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley has donated over \$170,000 to local organizations. For more information visit the [Kiwanis website](#).



DONATE TO ONE WARM COAT



The Moraga Youth Involvement Committee is teaming up with One Warm Coat to hold a coat drive this winter. Coats can be dropped off at the Parks and Recreation office at Hacienda de las Flores from December 1 through December 19 or at the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 1 at the Moraga Commons Park from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Gently worn or new coats of all sizes are greatly appreciated. All coats collected will be donated locally to neighbors in need.



ORDER FREE COVID-19 TEST KITS

Contra Costa residents can now get free at-home COVID test kits from Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) through a new mail-order program. Order up to four free at-home test kits per household by filling out [this online form](#) or by calling 833-829-2626. CCHS will mail the kits directly to your home within approximately five to seven business days.



TOWN OFFICES CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Town Offices and the Hacienda de las Flores will be closed Wednesday, November 23 through Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. All Town staff wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

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

Tuesday, November 29, 5:00 pm – [Art in Public Spaces Committee](#), Hacienda de las Flores

Tuesday, November 29, 6:00 pm – [Special Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Tuesday, November 29, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, November 30, 5:00 pm – [Audit and Finance Committee](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 7, 6:00 pm – [Special Town Council](#), Council Chambers

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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