

Town of Moraga	Agenda Item
Ordinances, Resolutions, Requests for Action	11. E.

Community Engagement Tour

“Engage, Discuss & Listen”

Mayor, Mike McCluer

&

Vice Mayor, Steve Woehleke

March-May, 2021

Overview

Goal- To deepen Community Engagement by better understanding and discussing Community issues/concerns with deep listening on our part. Surveys were provided to each Group to identify Key issues, Town Performance and other feedback. Bring comments, issues and survey results back to Town Council for discussion, and potential action.

Why?

This was an effort focusing on listening to various Community Groups, discuss issues by reversing the process of holding Town Halls inviting people to come and instead attend their individual group meetings.

Additionally, previous efforts typically “Presented” to groups with lengthy slide presentations which provided for valuable information; however typically minimal time for real discussions.

The approach used minimal presentation (10%) with substantial discussion (90%). Also, the Town of Moraga has no formalize Performance Measurement process in place to receive this type of information/feedback.

What?

Reached out to all Community Groups to engage in a discussion of key issues, listen to concerns, answer questions and bring back information to Town Council. Each discussion began with a brief presentation of 2021 Goals.

Who?

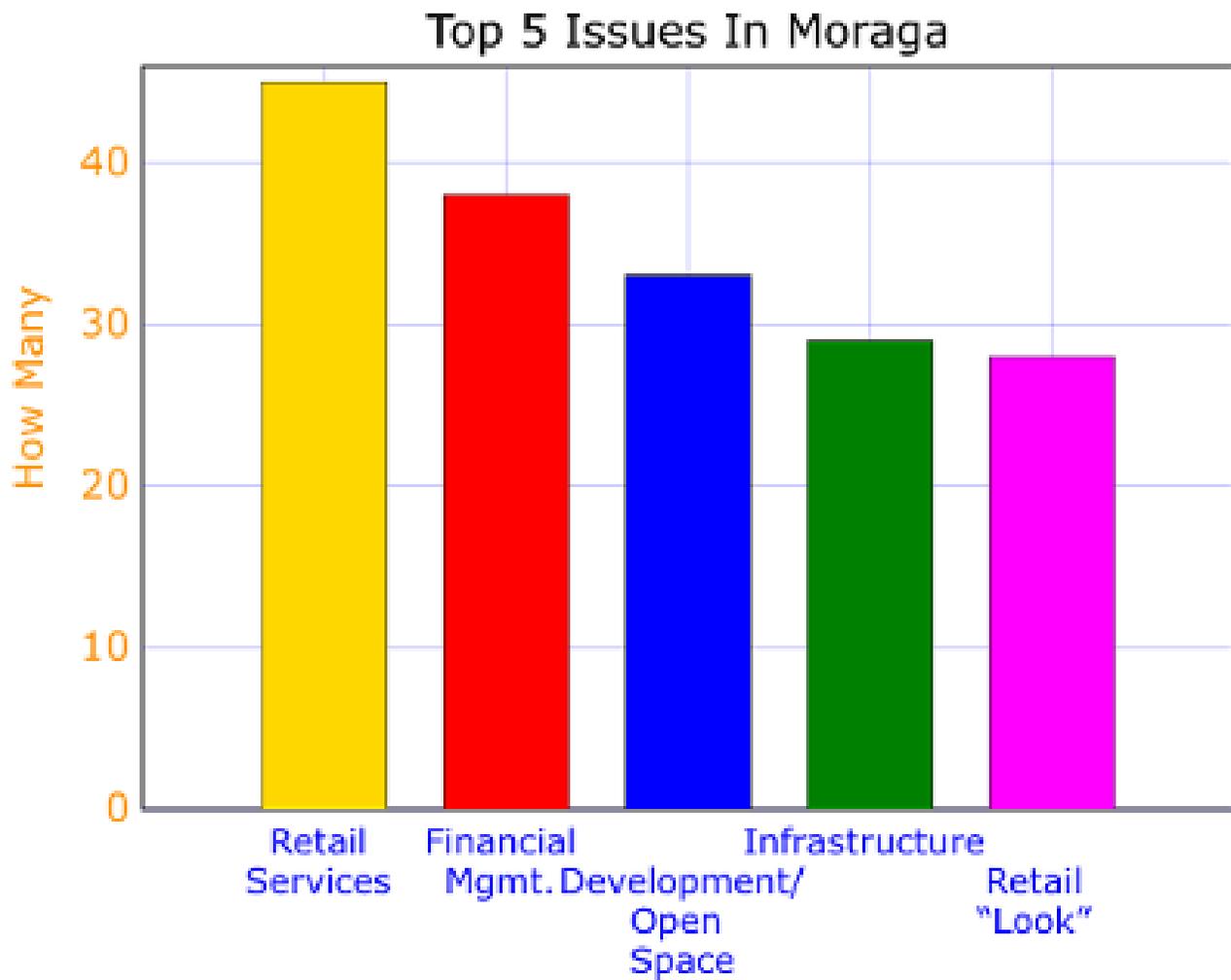
Mayor and Vice Mayor met with these Community Groups.

These 10 group meetings were mostly with Leaders/Boards of over 160+ people, with 113 surveys and represented over 3,000 members;

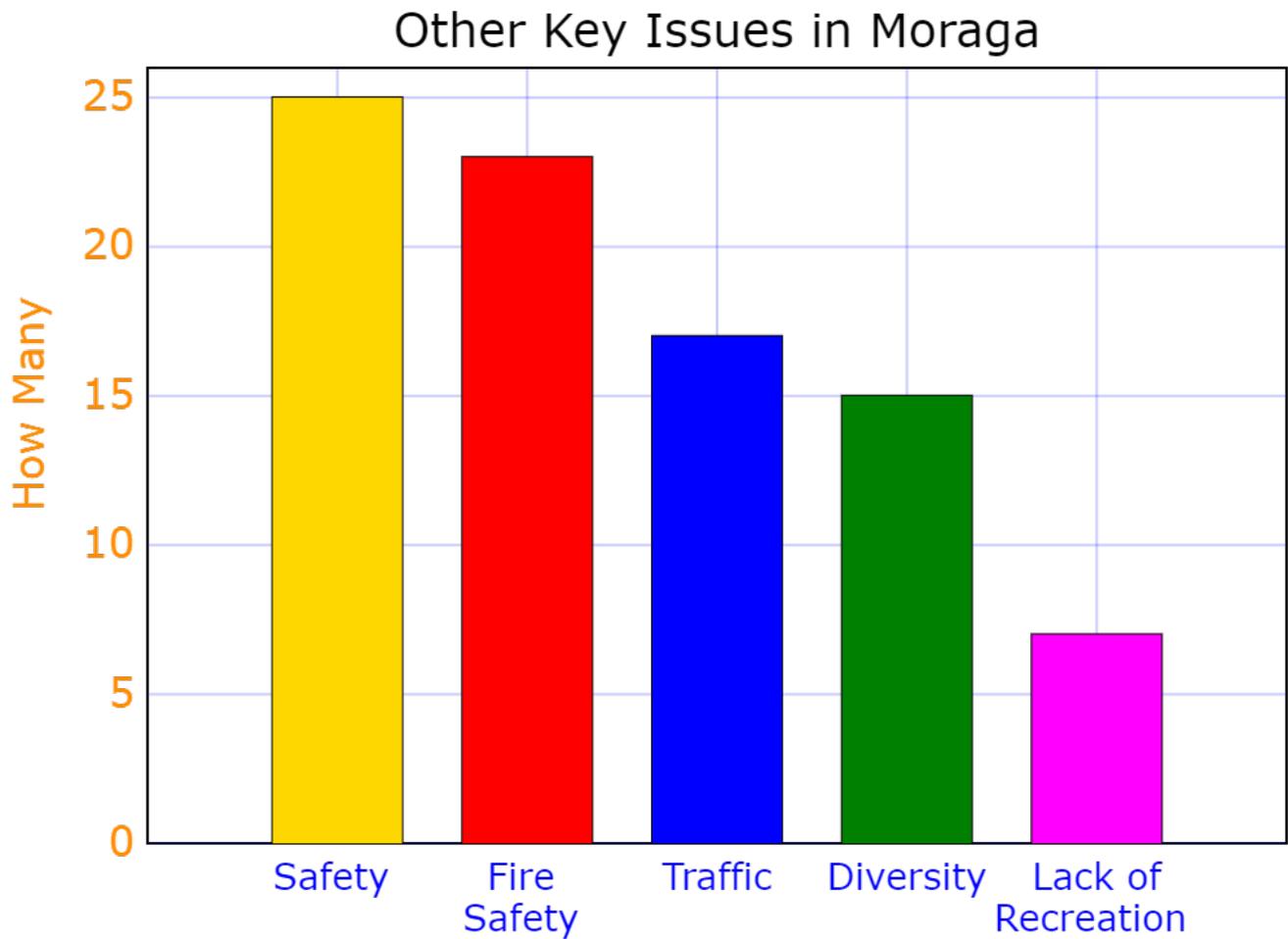
- Preserve Lamorinda Open Space**
- Moraga School District- 2 meetings
(Camino Pablo, Rheem, Los Perales, Joaquin Moraga Schools)**
- Moraga Rotary**
- Moraga County Club HOA**
- SMART Moraga**
- Moraga Kiwanis**
- Campolindo High School**
- Garden Club**
- Lions Club**

Note- Chamber of Commerce/Local Businesses were put on pause due to Kathe Nelson departure. Hope to re-engage shortly.

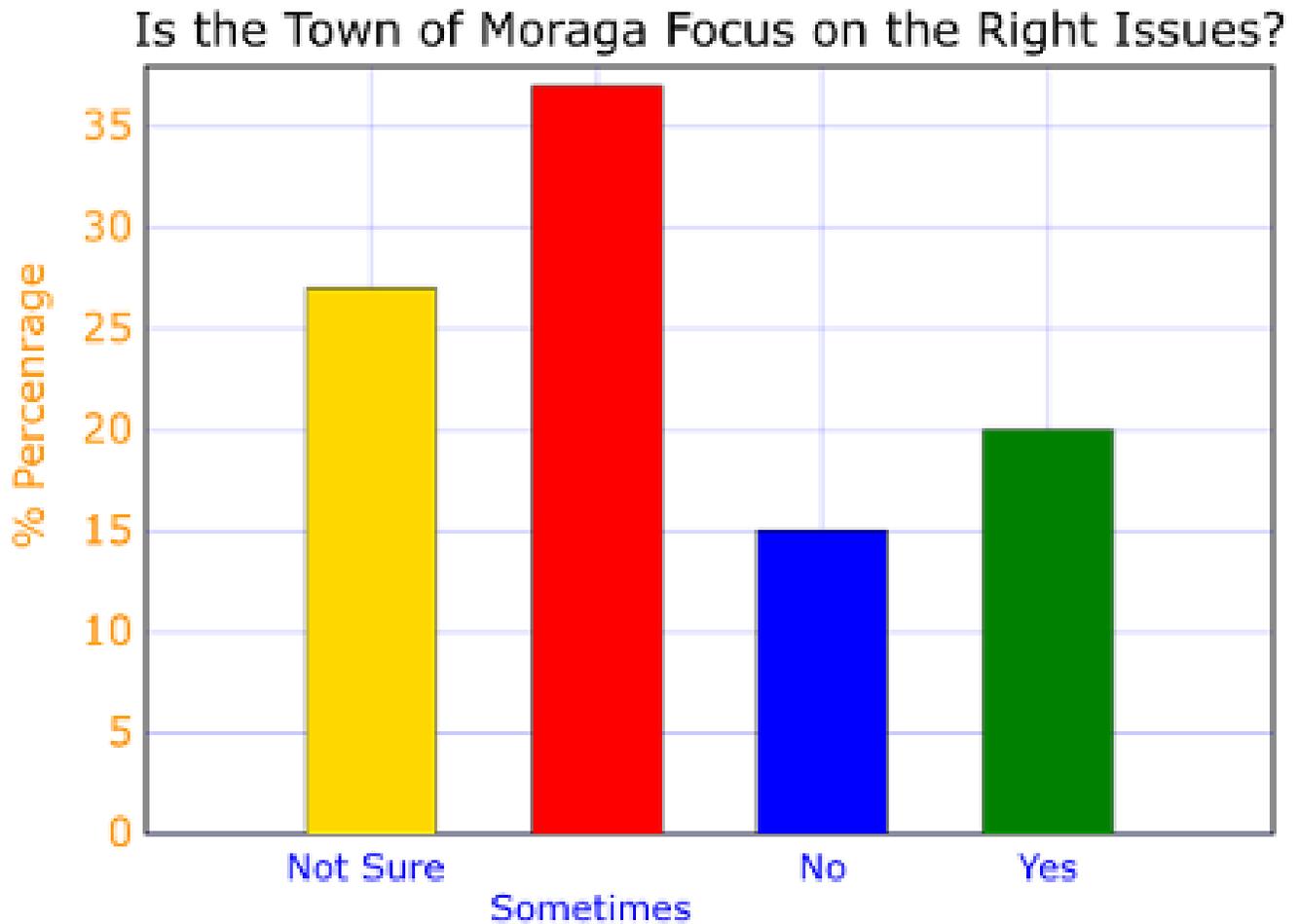
Top 5 Issues in Moraga



Other Key Issues in Moraga (#6-10)



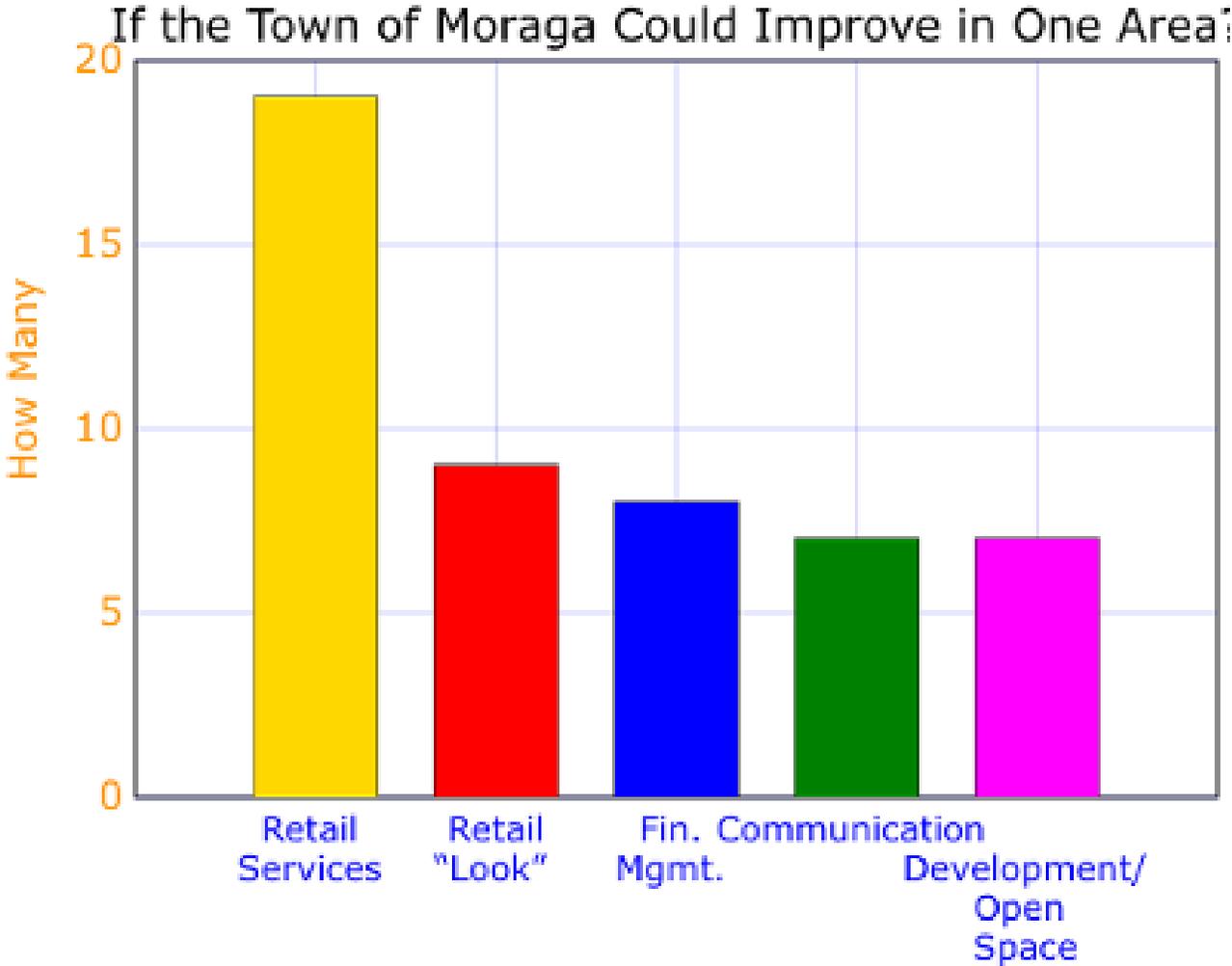
Is the Town Focused on the Right Issues?



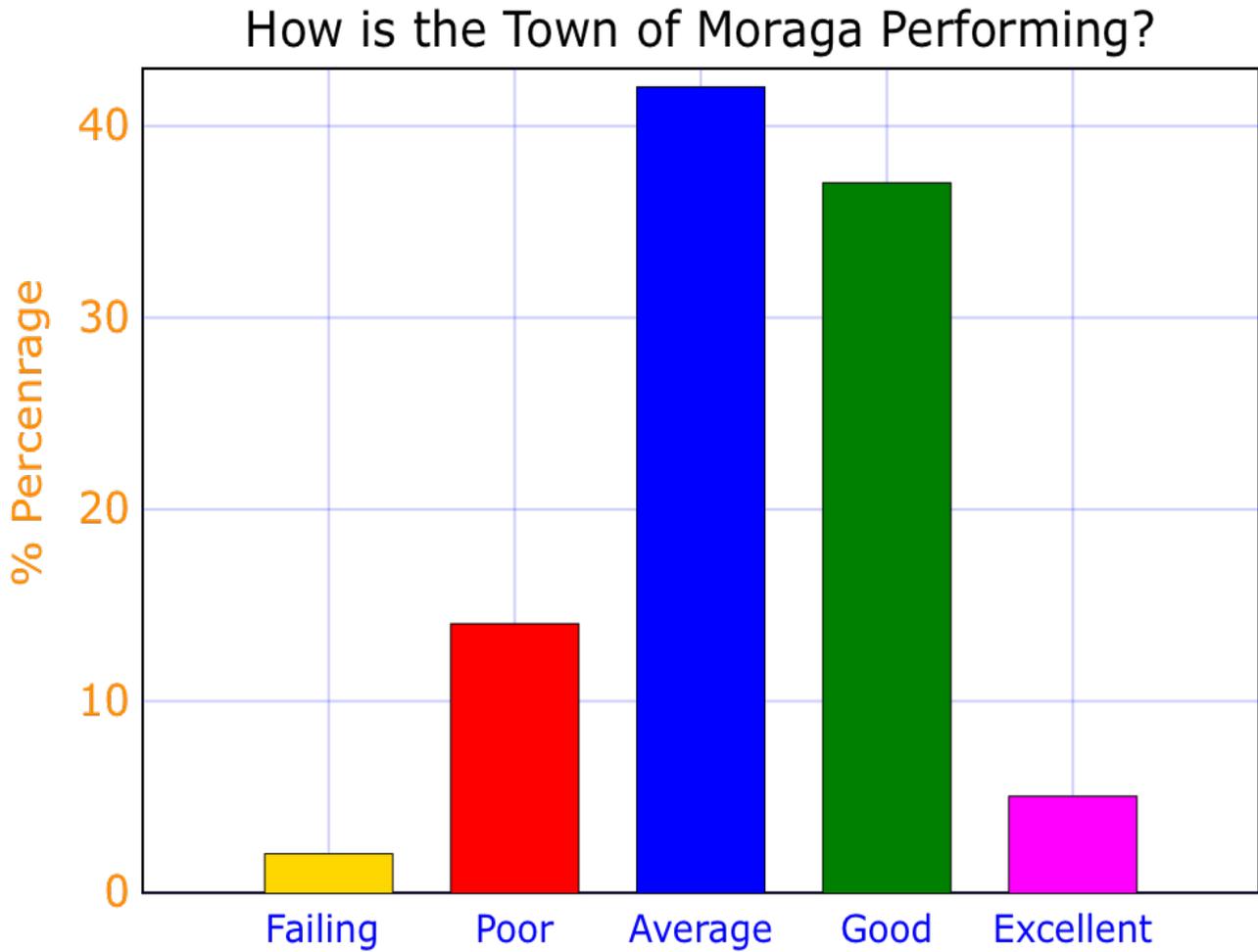
Overall- Sometimes

Second Choice- Not Sure

If The Town Could Improve in One Area, What?



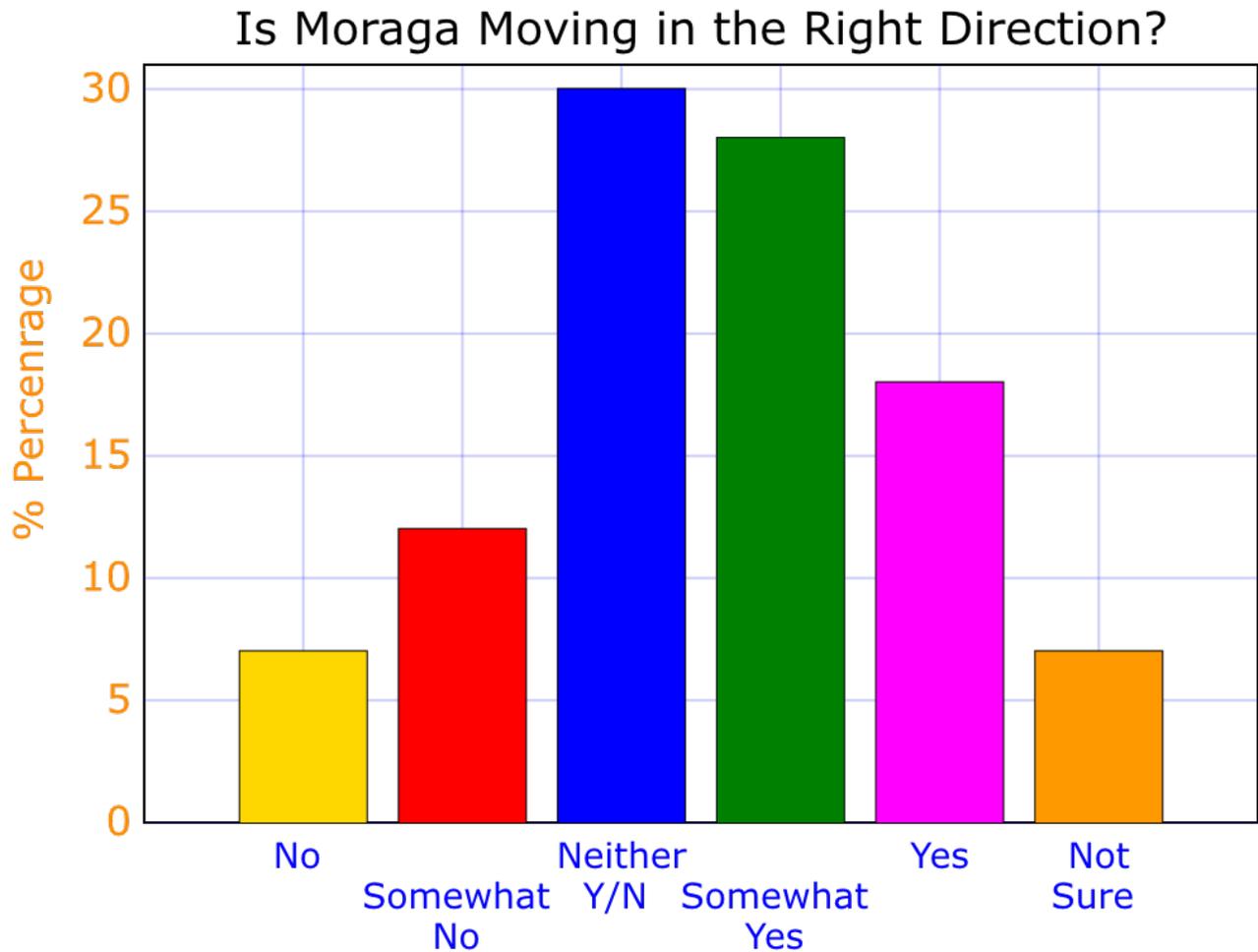
How is the Town of Moraga Performing?



Overall- Above Average

**Grade C+/B-
(GPA 2.3)**

Is Moraga Moving in the Right Direction?



Highest Score- "Neither Yes or No"

Overall- Between "Neither Yes or No" and "Somewhat Yes"

Specific Suggestions From Residents

1. **Require new developments to have zero net carbon emissions.**
2. **Evaluate all projects in terms of carbon footprint impact** and seek options and alternatives to minimize the carbon impact.
3. **Address visual unsightly area at the Moraga Ranch** across from Safeway. Concerns regarding RVs, people living in the area and visual impacts (We suggested residents notify the Town Manager as well as this report).
4. **Garden Club** is willing to partner with the Town of Moraga on **“Beautification” of our Town**, expanding current efforts and a suggested next project on street medians. **Joint funding is possible with the Garden Club and the Town of Moraga** (Palos Colorado’s recreation \$).
5. **Long Term Financial Planning** needed to foresee future financial issues and address solutions for “Unfunded Needs” (Beyond the last Budget/Capital-CIP process).
6. At **Rimer and Camino Pablo** vegetation is impairing visibility and the intersection needs restriping. Also, at the **Camino Pablo School Stop Sign** repainting is needed in that area.
7. **Retail “look” of 2 major shopping centers considered to be an eye sore. Explore sanctions on property owners to maintain a minimum level of appearance.** An experienced individual who has done this before is willing to assist the Town (We shared plans of Rheem Center update by largest property owner and has been approved by the Town).
8. **Restrict housing for Teachers and School Staff in the MCSP** as Oakland has done for their schools.

Specific Suggestions From Residents (Cont'd)

9. Community Groups gave a **high level of support to using Measure K funds**, after roads are maintained, for **Storm Drain Infrastructure and required Capital Asset Replacement**.

10. **Develop a set of “Metrics”** by major activities to measure and **evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness** of the Town of Moraga.

11. **Support/Subsidize Shuttles To/From popular destinations** during commute and other peak traffic periods. A possible **Lamorinda project** with **funding from the White House Transportation/Infrastructure Bill**.

12. **Canyon cut-through traffic a significant concern.**

Specifically, Install a triangle of strips, like Corliss and Moraga Road, to allow for a **dedicated right turn from Camino Pablo to Canyon**.

13. **Housing Units near Retail Centers with greater partnership with St Mary’s on housing and traffic.**

14. **Enhance Pedestrian Safety by use of “Warning Flags”** when crossing the street as used by Lafayette.

15. **Los Perales School exit (at Camino Ricardo) for students** at bottom of the hill has no signage whatsoever. Request to **add a sign “School Children Crossing”**.

16. **Request to formally hear from the Youth Involvement Committee** regarding current projects, members and their schools. (We suggested letter to TC which has been sent.)

17. **Left Turn from Lucas drive (7-11/Golden Palace) onto Moraga Road is dangerous** (crosses 5 lanes). Open to a **“No Left Turn” sign**.

Conclusions

- These meetings and surveys provide clear quantifiable information in many important areas over and above informal chats.
- Groups were very pleased that the Mayor/Vice Mayor volunteered to come to their meetings and had an open discussion of issues. Average meeting was over an hour.
- I asked if these meetings were valuable and if they would like to see them continued, response was overwhelming yes and yes.
- There was an appreciation and increased awareness of the depth and breadth of work done by the Town of Moraga.
- 17 specific issues raised from residents during these meeting including several new issues and presented to the Town Council.
- Residents were unclear how the State Bills directly limit and override local control regarding housing.
- Top Community Wide issues from residents were identified with a total of 10 Key Issues and their rankings.
- Survey Feedback on Town Performance, Direction and Improvement Areas quantitatively identified. This can be used as a baseline and future meetings/surveys can be compared against it.
- This survey and questions serve as “Performance Measures” on Customer Satisfaction and provide evidence to the question and goal of how the Town of Moraga is performing for residents as the Government Financial Officers Assoc. is now requiring for their award.

Thank you Moraga,

We are here to Serve Our Residents!