

## Economic Stimulus for Moraga (updated 12/14/09)

The Town of Moraga has been very active in pursuing funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 - otherwise known as the Stimulus Package.

**Total ARRA funding to date for Moraga: \$689,000**

### General Information about ARRA.

The idea behind the ARRA is that by investing money into some programs and infrastructure, more jobs will be created and more money will get back into the American economy. The Town will gladly accept any money toward infrastructure or existing programs that it can. Throughout the County, between \$15M and \$20M are anticipated to go to repaving projects alone this summer!

### Moraga's Approach

The Town has been working with State, regional, and local agencies regarding funding for transportation projects. Projects are supposed to be "shovel ready", which means basically ready for construction as soon as the distribution is authorized. Additionally, all projects must comply with all Federal requirements for Federal funding. These requirements include such things as environmental clearances, disadvantaged business inclusion, and wage requirements. For transportation project purposes, this means that the only projects that would be both "shovel ready" and meet all Federal requirements are pavement rehabilitation projects.

Federal funding can only be used on roads that are designated as arterial or collector roads on the functional classification list. This limited the possible streets eligible for funding to: Moraga Road, Moraga Way, Rheem Boulevard, St. Mary's Road, Canyon Road, Camino Pablo, Corliss Drive, and Camino Ricardo.

Of the arterial roads, the one best suited for a quick pavement project is Moraga Road - partially due to the recent trench work to Draeger Drive, partially because we have plans and specifications for a pavement project between Sky-Hy and Buckingham (already funded and going out to bid soon), and partially because it has a worse pavement condition than the other arterials.

### Moraga's Project

The Town resulted in a preliminary allocation of roughly \$555,000 from the federal government's ARRA program. This money will go toward applying a substantial **rubberized cape seal to Moraga Road between Buckingham and Draeger**. Because the proposed project requires costs more than \$555,000, staff has also applied for a grant of approximately \$50,000 for using recycled car tires in the asphalt mix. Additionally, EBMUD has provided some funding assistance due to the trench work completed recently between Sky-Hy and Draeger. Moraga is also well poised to receive more funds if other agencies cannot meet the deadlines in the ARRA.

### 5/15 update

The Town has been notified that it will be receiving an additional \$54,000. We have submitted the proposed project plans and specifications to Caltrans for review, and to authorize the Town to go out to bid with the work. We anticipate this approval to occur by mid-June, which would allow the Town to award the construction project in July and start work in August.

### 6/22 update

The Town received approval to take the Cape Seal project out to bid. Staff plans to bid the project shortly, and has tentatively scheduled the construction contract award for late July.

Additionally, the Town also applied for more ARRA money to install an ADA-compliant elevator in the Town's building at 329 Rheem Boulevard. This will enable users to have full access to the second floor. This ARRA money came through the County's Community Development Block Grant program, which received additional funds through the ARRA process. The County received 43 applications for \$837,000. Only 14 projects were awarded any funding, and only six received the full funding requested. **Moraga was one of the select projects - being awarded the full \$80,000 requested.** The Town will be working with the County to install the elevator this calendar year.

### 10/9 Update

Construction has started on the roadway project, and should be completed in early November.

Staff has been working with the County representatives to work out the details of the elevator installation at 329 Rheem Boulevard. Architectural services are being secured to design the elevator shaft and select mechanical equipment.

### 12/15 Update

The Moraga Road Rubber Cape Seal project has been completed. Staff is still working with the contractor regarding some areas which are not holding the aggregate as well as it should.

The Town is also pursuing additional funding through the **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant** program. Possible improvements include upgrading insulation and HVAC systems in various Town-owned buildings, as well as retrofitting some street lights to LED and/or installing solar panels on 329 Rheem. These improvements are being evaluated for cost effectiveness and alternative funding sources before submitting the grant application. **The Town could receive an additional \$93,000** to cover these activities.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How much money is the Town getting?**

At this time we do not know. Potential funding is available for many programs that the Town does not have - such as Rail Modernization, or Brownfields. Staff has been reviewing potentially viable options, and will be pursuing as many as we can with the time constraints given and our limited resources. Taking that approach, the Town has been focusing on transportation funding, since we have readily discrete projects already planned and the restrictive deadlines are imminent. Staff will further analyze other possible funding after the transportation project is into the State for review.

Although the actual amount of money that the Town will get toward this work is still fluctuating, we currently anticipate approximately \$609,000 to put toward a pavement rehabilitation project, and another \$80,000 for the elevator at 329 Rheem Boulevard (where the Police Department and Planning Department is located.)

**Why not Rheem Boulevard? That really needs repair!**

Because of the "shovel-ready" requirement, Rheem Boulevard repairs could not meet the deadlines in the ARRA. Staff understands the need for work on Rheem Boulevard, and is continuing to pursue other funding options through local, state, and federal funding possibilities. The entire Rheem repair is estimated to require ~\$8M for environmental permitting, design, and construction - which would include repair of the underlying landslide as well as repaving the road from Moraga Road to St. Mary's Road.