



ABOUT TOWN - FEBRUARY 18, 2022 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



HOUSING OPPORTUNITY SITES - SPECIAL JOINT MEETING MARCH 2 AT 6 PM

A Special Joint meeting is scheduled for the Town Council and the Planning Commission on March 2, 2022 at 6:00 pm via Zoom to discuss potential Housing Opportunity Sites in Moraga. Following input from this group, a community meeting will be scheduled to gather input from residents and property owners. The meetings will review which sites could accommodate additional development, the amount of development the sites could accommodate, and solicit discussion regarding where housing should be allowed in Moraga in the future.

This initiative is part of the Town's Housing Element Update which requires jurisdictions to ensure that local zoning supports the potential development of the State mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA). Moraga's allocation for the 2023 – 2031 period is 1,118 new units.

Moraga, like most jurisdictions in the Bay Area, received a significantly larger RHNA this cycle compared to the last cycle. The Town is now working to evaluate where these new units may be located or zoned.

[More Information](#)

The Housing Needs Assessment is a tool to evaluate local demographics, housing conditions, and market dynamics which are essential to better understand local housing needs. The findings of the Needs Assessment will provide the Town a foundation for policies and actions that ensure the Housing Element responds to local—as well as regional—housing needs.

The Town of Moraga's 2023-2031 Housing Element Update will provide a roadmap for how the community can meet growth and housing challenges. Required by the state, the Housing Element identifies existing housing conditions and community needs, reiterates goals, and creates a plan for more housing. The Housing Element is an integral part of the General Plan, which guides the policies of the Town of Moraga.

If you haven't taken the Moraga Housing survey, please take the short 3-minute survey now.

[Take the Survey](#)



COMPOSTING BECOMES LAW IN CALIFORNIA

Starting January 1, 2022, all California residents, including multifamily complexes, and businesses are required to recycle organic waste such as food scraps, yard trimmings and

uncoated food-soiled paper. The goal of the law, [Senate Bill 1383](#), is to reduce the amount of organic waste in landfills by 75 percent by 2025.

Why does composting matter? When your food waste - veggie trimmings, coffee grounds, chicken bones, even pizza boxes - goes into the trash, it ends up decomposing in the landfill *without* oxygen. And without oxygen, the decaying organic waste emits methane, a greenhouse gas that's many times more potent than carbon dioxide. Currently, about *one-third* of the content of California landfills is organics, producing 20 percent of our state's total methane emissions. Recycling organics has benefits far beyond the critical need to reduce the amount of methane in the atmosphere.

- Compost is a rich, complex mix of trace minerals, fungi, and microbes as well as the decaying organic matter. Practically all our food comes from the soil, so composting is simply returning the favor.
- Adding compost to the soil reduces the need for fertilizers and pesticides.
- Compost-rich soil holds water better.



How to recycle your organics

Backyard Composting: Residents can purchase a compost bin, receive a quarterly home composting discount on your Republic Services bill (single-family only) and find additional resources. Worm composting is a simple, compact option for small spaces!

Green Organics Cart: Place organics including all food scraps, yard trimmings and uncoated food-soiled paper in your green organics cart and Republic Services will compost the material at a commercial composting facility. Call Republic Services at 925-685-4711 to request a free kitchen food scrap container ([townhome organics service](#) is coming soon!). For residents in apartments/condos, or businesses, email a request for organics service or additional resources to recyclecoordinators@republicservices.com.

[More Information](#)



STAY CONNECTED

The Town has renewed its commitment to transparent public information and is working hard to engage the community and create opportunities for residents to provide input and feedback. In addition to the weekly releases of the About Town newsletter, please don't miss out on these other important platforms to receive the most up to date information from the Town!





WE ARE HIRING!

Police Lieutenant (Full-Time)

The Town is seeking an innovative, collaborative, seasoned, hands-on law enforcement professional to become the next Police Lieutenant for the Moraga Police Department. The Lieutenant serves as the second in command of the Department and manages investigations and patrol functions of the Department. The Lieutenant must be an inclusive and ethical leader, able to establish relationships throughout the community, and be willing to participate in community discussions regarding policing and current issues.

RESCUE 1 FOUNDATION

The RESCUE 1 FOUNDATION is inviting residents of the Moraga Orinda-Fire District to view its new website. Residents will find interesting and helpful information on this new website. Learn about the beginning of RESCUE 1 FOUNDATION almost 45 years ago and how this non-profit supports the Town's wonderful first responders of the MOFD.

[View Website](#)



MORAGA SCHOOL DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

The Moraga School District (MSD) is proud to be celebrating Black Excellence Month! The teachers are working to develop lessons that highlight the many contributions of African Americans from yesterday and today. This is an exciting opportunity to honor diversity in our schools and create an environment that embraces belonging for all students.

Moraga School District has announced two solar projects at JM and Donald Rheem are nearing completion on the energy efficiency solar projects! The new solar panels will produce clean energy and offset district costs.

MSD received news this week that school masking and COVID guidelines will be addressed on February 28th. Since the peak of the omicron surge COVID rates in Moraga School District have returned to low levels. The school district will continue tracking California Department of Public Health updates closely and will communicate information with families as soon as possible.

Seasonal Maintenance Worker (30 Hours)

This seasonal position is an excellent opportunity to gain insight and experience for a rewarding career in local government. This entry level position has a focus on park maintenance and landscaping work and provides assistance to other program areas including building, streets, and storm drain maintenance. The position begins late April/early May and runs through August/September. Additional details on the hourly salary and potential work scheduled are available on the Town website.



