



ABOUT TOWN - OCTOBER 12, 2023

UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



GENERAL PLAN KICKOFF MEETING

The Town Council and Planning Commission held a joint Study Session to kick off the General Plan 2040 update. It is common practice for California cities and towns to update their General Plan every 10 to 15 years. The update will allow the 2002 General Plan to remain relevant while updating it to address new concerns such as wildfire prevention, safety, economic development, resiliency and adaptation that were previously not anticipated. The Council and Commission provided high level feedback on General Plan Values and Guiding Principles, a proposed Economic Vitality Element and a proposed Evacuation Study. The staff report is [linked here](#). The Town invites all residents and businesses to participate in meetings. Please sign up at makemoragahome.org to subscribe.



PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVES WIRELESS IN SANDERS RANCH

On October 3, 2023, the Planning Commission approved by a 5-0 vote a new wireless communication facility to be located on an existing PG&E transmission tower on an open space parcel within the Sanders Ranch Subdivision. The new facility will increase data service for public safety personnel and residents, and wireless coverage in southern Moraga. The facility includes new antennas installed on the tower, an equipment enclosure within the footprint of the tower, an emergency generator and an access road.



TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON OCTOBER 11, 2023

FINANCIAL ADVISOR SELECTION AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE BONDS REFUNDING

Town Council approved the selection of Kosmont Financial Services to serve as the Town's Municipal Financial Advisor and directed the Town Manager to form a financing team to commence with the potential refunding of the Town existing public infrastructure bonds ("Certificates of Participation") that were issued in 2013 to fund a series of capital improvement projects, including repaving streets and reconstructing storm drains. This refunding is similar to how a homeowner refinances their existing mortgage to take advantage of lower interest rates. This transaction is anticipated to save taxpayers up to \$300,000 over the next ten years, or up to \$30,000 per year.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM TOWN CLERK AND INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR

Due to recent retirements, Town Council ratified the selection of Ms. Marty McInturf to serve as Interim Town Clerk and Ms. Lisa Malek-Zadeh to serve as Interim Administrative Services Director during the

recruitment process to fill both vacancies. Ms. McInturf grew up in Orinda/Moraga and previously served as City Clerk for Pleasant Hill and Town Clerk for Moraga. Ms. Malek-Zadeh grew up in Lafayette and previously served as West County Wastewater General Manager/CEO, and City of El Cerrito Finance Director/City Treasurer. Both of these talented local government professionals will stay on board until the new permanent Directors are selected and begin service to the community.

STIP FUNDING TO COMPLETE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

The Town Council authorized a filing of a \$10,539,000 grant application for State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Funding with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC). The community has expressed concerns about safety at St. Mary's Road intersections of Rheem Boulevard and Bollinger Canyon Road since 2007. The project would install traffic signals at the Rheem Boulevard intersection and a dedicated left turn lane onto Bollinger Canyon Road, along with studying future options for stop signs or traffic signal-controlled intersections. A great benefit of this project is the multimodal improvements for safety for pedestrians and cyclists to access the adjacent Lafayette – Moraga Regional Trail. The 2024 STIP funding allocation requires approval from three governing transportation funding agencies: 1) Contra Costa Transportation Authority, approved on September 13, 2023; 2) MTC in the process; and lastly, 3) California Transportation Commission, expected in March 2024. For additional information, see the [staff report](#).

SMART SIGNALS FUNDING AGREEMENT

The Town Council approved a Shared Cost Funding Agreement with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) for the two grant-funded Smart Signals projects in Moraga. The Town has a total of 8.5 traffic signalized intersections, with the Moraga Way and Ivy Drive intersection shared with the City of Orinda. The existing signal system is antiquated and needs frequent repair and servicing. It lacks the required infrastructure, such as fiber and cellular/wireless-based communications, to implement traffic signal synchronization and coordination. The existing traffic signal systems do not include signal control and prioritization technologies to reduce delays for transit, increase safety for multimodal users, coordinate evacuation routes, and reduce emergency response times. Additional details about the improvements and the funding agreements can be found in the [staff report](#).



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 17, 6:30 PM – [Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, October 25, 6:30 PM – [Town Council](#), Council Chambers

Tuesday, November 7, 6:30 PM – [Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 PM – [Town Council](#), Council Chambers

The Town Council Chambers are located at [335 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556](#).

The Casita, La Sala Room, and Hacienda de las Flores are 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.

How to watch live streaming of the Town Council meetings

The Town of Moraga Livestreams Town Council and Planning Commission meetings using YouTube. Click here to [view live streaming of meetings](#) or type or paste this link in your browser <https://www.youtube.com/@TownofMoraga335streams> to view these meetings.



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