



## ABOUT TOWN - NOVEMBER 13, 2023

### UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



### STATE OF THE TOWN LUNCHEON - DECEMBER 13, 2023



Mayor Sos will kick off the upcoming year-long celebration of the Town's 50th Anniversary on December 13, 2023 at Saint Mary's College Soda Center (De La Salle Drive, Moraga) from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. She will provide an overview of the Town's achievements in 2023 and touch on the exciting opportunities coming to Moraga in 2024. Sponsor a table for \$500 or purchase individual tickets for \$35. Seating is limited. Go to [moraga.ca.us/50thAnniversary](http://moraga.ca.us/50thAnniversary) to register and for more information.



### TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON NOVEMBER 8, 2023

#### ***PROCLAMATION DECLARING UNITED AGAINST HATE WEEK***

The Town Council declared November 12 to 18, 2023, to be United Against Hate Week in Moraga. The Town has committed to showing support for all members of the 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. View the [Proclamation](#).



#### ***FALL WALKING CHALLENGE 2023 RESULTS***

The Town of Moraga employees took first place among 14 cities and towns that competed in the October 2023 Municipal Pooling Authority (MPA) "Fall Walking Challenge." The MPA is a Joint Powers Authority that provides liability insurance to local governments throughout the Contra Costa County region. The first place Town of Moraga averaged 322,334 daily steps followed by Orinda, San Ramon, Pinole and Lafayette. Of the 385 individual participants, the top performer was our very own Police Department Support Services Coordinator, Cathy Ghiselli, with 913,352 total steps (or 29,463 average daily steps). Just another example of how the Town of Moraga and its employees lead by example!

#### ***HAULING PERMIT ORDINANCE***

The Town Council held a public hearing to streamline the Hauling Permit Ordinance to allow the Town Engineer to administratively approve hauling permits. The Town has an established Policy for regulating the movement of 500 cubic yards or more of earthen material through Moraga. Currently the Town Council reviews permit application staff reports and approves the hauling permit. Significant staff time is spent preparing the hauling permit application reports for a permit that already has a detailed policy on the conditions to issue the permit. The Council will adopt the streamlined Hauling Permit Ordinance revisions at a future meeting. View the [Staff Report](#).

#### ***2023 ZONING CODE UPDATE ORDINANCE***

The Town Council waived the first reading for the minor Zoning Code updates to the Moraga Municipal Code and updates to the Design Guidelines. These amendments consist of ongoing minor updates to various sections of the code to bring it into alignment with State and Federal laws, meet Housing Element goals and to provide clarification and consistency. The Town Council will adopt the Municipal Code updates at a future meeting. View the [Staff Report](#) and the [Power Point](#).

## **COMPREHENSIVE ADVANCED PLANNING INITIATIVE “GENERAL PLAN 2040”**

The Town Council provided feedback on the draft Guiding Principles. The Guiding Principles are the cornerstone that will guide the rest of the General Plan document. The principles are aspirational statements that will become a common thread throughout the document. Guiding Principles will also become the foundation upon which the Town will build goals, policies, and actions. View the [Staff Report](#) and [Power Point](#).

## **LAGUNA CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT PHASE 2**

The Council approved amending professional services agreement with BKF Engineers authorizing Phase 2 (100% Design, Bid Support, and Construction Engineering Support) to proceed, as detailed in the [Laguna Creek Restoration Project](#) staff report. Additionally, Council was supportive of substituting the \$399,980 California River Parkways (CRP) grant with the Town’s recently awarded \$399,980 Department of Water Resource’s Floodplain Management, Protection, and Risk Awareness (FMPRA) grant. The FMPRA grant aligns better with the project scope, goals and budget. View the [Power Point](#).

## **DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICY**

The Town Council approved a formal [Debt Management Policy](#). This action, along with the October approval of a financial advisor and legal counsel, is the next step in the refinancing process of the Town’s 2013 debt issuance. The refinancing is projected to save the Town approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000 annually with the savings being used to fund essential Town functions. By adopting the new Debt Policy, the Town is now in compliance with the current required Policy guidelines that were revised in 2017. The Town may now proceed with the debt refinancing process, which is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

## **FY 2022-23 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT COMPLETION**

The Council has accepted this pavement rehabilitation project as completed and directed staff to post a 35-day notice of completion. The Town is retaining a one-year maintenance and warranty bond to address any defects. This is the first construction project of the Town’s “Worst Streets First” residential pavement program, which rehabilitated approximately 22 streets in various neighborhoods. This was the largest Moraga pavement rehabilitation project ever, with a construction contract awarded of \$3,813,318 and the largest number of completed reconstructed street segments since Measure K Sales Tax was passed supporting the maintenance of our roadways. The Town is currently working on the construction plans for the next two “Worst Streets First” projects scheduled for the years 2024 and 2025. View the [Staff Report](#).



## **CYCLE RECYCLE**

Over the last 24 years Bobbie and Tom Preston collected over 3,700 repairable bikes. This year, partnering with Moraga Troop 246, bikes and more can be dropped off at the Scout Hut (across from the fire station). New and/or used bicycles in working or repairable order, or useable bike parts/clothing may be delivered behind the Scout Hut at 1279 Moraga Way. Please no skateboards, scooters, tricycles, or plastic/rusty bikes. The bikes will be given to various charitable organizations to refurbish and distribute to those in need for the holidays.



## **TREE LIGHTING - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30**



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, November 30 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 the 2023 holiday season.



## MORAGA GARDEN CLUB- WATERWISE GARDENING- NOVEMBER 16

Proper and efficient watering is crucial to the vibrancy of your garden and noticeable in your watering bill. "Water in your Garden. Taking Control!" will be the theme of the Speaker, UC Master Gardener, Lori Palmquist. Join the Garden Club on Thursday, November 16, at 9:30 am (Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, Moraga) for socializing followed by a free program and learn to enhance your garden know-how. Learn more at: [www.moragaqardenclub.org](http://www.moragaqardenclub.org).



## MENTAL A3 CRISIS RESPONSE - ANYONE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME



Anyone living in Contra Costa County who experiences a mental or emotional crisis can get help, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Individuals can call the County's 24-hour Access Line at **1-888-678-7277**. You can also call the National Suicide and Crisis Hotline at 988 or text 'HOPE' to 20121. Between 8:00 am and 12:30 am daily, you can also call the [A3 Miles Hall Crisis Call Center](#) at **844-844-5544**. A3 is the County's new innovative approach to provide timely and appropriate mental and behavioral health crisis services to anyone, anywhere at any time in the county. When someone is in a crisis — a fire, crime, or medical emergency — they call **911**, expecting immediate emergency services. When that emergency is a mental or behavioral health crisis, A3 addresses the critical need by making mental and behavioral health a pivotal part of the emergency response system.



## STORM PREPAREDNESS AND SANDBAGS

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.



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, November 13, 6:30 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), Council Chambers

Tuesday, November 21, 6:30 pm – [Planning Commission](#), CANCELLED

Wednesday, November 22, 6:30 pm – [Town Council](#), CANCELLED

Wednesday, December 6, 5:00 pm – [Audit and Finance Committee](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, December 6, 6:30 pm – Special [Town Council](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, December 13, 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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