



ABOUT TOWN - DECEMBER 15, 2023

UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



STATE OF THE TOWN MAYOR'S LUNCH ADDRESS



On Wednesday, December 13, outgoing Mayor Renata Sos delivered a "State of the Town" address to over 230 guests at Saint Mary's College's Soda Center. The event began with welcoming comments from Interim College President Brother Thomas and Saint Mary's men's basketball Head Coach Randy Bennett. Mayor Sos provided an overview of several projects and achievements that took place throughout 2023. She also offered a glimpse of several exciting land use developments and community improvements that are planned for 2024. In addition, this

luncheon served to kick off what will become a year-long celebration of the Town of Moraga's 50th Anniversary which will be in November 2024. Please continue to visit the Town's website for more information about the different celebration events that will take place.



TOYS FOR TOTS

The Moraga Police Officers Association has begun their annual toy drive to benefit the United States Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Through the efforts of our officers and many residents, thousands of toys and over \$10,000 have been collected to benefit this program and provide toys to many children who otherwise might not receive gifts at Christmas. Collection bins are at the Town Hall, Ace Hardware, Safeway, OSH, TJ Maxx, and Campolindo High School. Please consider donating unwrapped toys to benefit children in need throughout the Bay Area.



BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER

The community's continued support of the Buy-A-Bulb Fundraiser is a testament to the giving spirit of the Moraga community. The \$6,000 annual fundraising goal ensures this tradition can continue. A minimum donation of \$30 per bulb is appreciated; however, any amount would be most welcome. We encourage you to donate online at [MoragaRec](#) by clicking the holiday tree "Buy-A-Bulb" button to help continue to lite our iconic holiday tree through the end of December.



HELP PREVENT HOLIDAY SEASON CRIMES

Remember that criminals like to shop during the holiday season...although they shop at your house, from your car and at your business at your expense. We can all prevent most holiday crimes. Please ensure that doors and windows are closed and locked when you are not at home. Do not leave valuables exposed in your car and lock doors and windows. Ensure that delivered packages are not left unattended on your front porch. If you are not home, have them delivered to your work or to an Amazon locker or other pickup location. Use the Moraga Police Vacation Watch program if you are going to be away. Also, report suspicious activities and persons so that an officer can investigate. Call Dispatch at 925-284-5010 to report crimes and suspicious activity. Call the Moraga Police at 925-888-7055 for more information about how to prevent crimes. For EMERGENCIES, Call 9-1-1.



SEE'S CANDY HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER



The Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley has been selling See's candy during the holiday season annually since 2010. Their fundraiser store is open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm through December 24 in the Rheem Shopping Center near CVS with 100% of the net proceeds going to local charities and organizations that benefit the Moraga community. Thanks to the generous support of the community members, over the past three years, the Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley has donated over \$170,000 to local organizations. For more information visit the [Kiwanis website](#).



TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON DECEMBER 13, 2023

TOWN COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

The Town Council elected Teresa Onoda as Mayor and Steve Woehleke as the Vice Mayor for the 2024 calendar year. The Town recognized outgoing Mayor Sos with an honorary gavel and her fellow Council members all presented her with unique and heartfelt gifts that were handmade by each. Representative Don Tatzin, from Senator Steve Glazer's office, was in attendance to present the Mayor with a Certificate of Recognition from the CA State Senate. The Town of Moraga is grateful to Mayor Sos for her service and commitment to moving Moraga into the future while honoring its past.



FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 MINIMUM WAGE AMENDMENT

The Town Council adopted a Resolution increasing the minimum hourly wage from \$15.50 to \$16.00 an hour. This action increases the hourly rate for Recreation Leaders, Facilities Attendants, and Interns and complies with the State of California minimum wage increase that takes effect on January 1, 2024.

2023 ZONING CODE UPDATE ORDINANCE

The Town Council approved minor updates to various sections of the Moraga Municipal Code Title 8. The Planning Department periodically updates the code to align with new Federal and State Laws. The updates also include alignment with the recently adopted Housing Element policies. View the [Staff Report](#).

HAULING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS ORDINANCE

The Town Council approved the streamlining of 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. Town staff will now administratively review and approval Hauling permit applications per the approved detailed policy. This will save significant staff time over the previous process. View the [Staff Report](#).

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING CONSULTANT SERVICES

The Town Council awarded a Professional Services Agreement to Parametrix, Inc. (Berkeley, CA), a Traffic Engineering Consultant for the Moraga Road Traffic Safety Study. Moraga Road is a major arterial road connecting Moraga residents, businesses, and Saint Mary's College students/faculty with Lafayette to State Highway 24. The study will focus on analyzing and providing recommendations for traffic safety, calming and congestion issues on Moraga Road from the Town limits (near Via Granada) to Woodford Drive. This new Moraga Road Traffic Safety study complements the other ongoing Livable Moraga Road study (Campolindo Drive to St. Mary's Road). View the [Staff Report](#).



RHEEM SHOPPING CENTER UPDATE

On December 12, 2023, the Planning Commission approved partial redevelopment of the Rheem Valley Shopping Center. The applicant, US Realty Partners, proposed an approximately 17,000 square foot new grocery store in current vacant space in the main shopping center. Additionally, two new free-standing pad buildings are proposed, one is adjacent to Moraga Motors and the other is adjacent to

Starbucks. The applicant is also proposing landscaping upgrades, outdoor seating areas, and parking lot improvements. View the [Staff Report](#) and the meeting.



WINTER/SPRING RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Winter and spring recreation program and event registration (including Spring Break Camp) is now open! Do the youth in your life want to participate in arts and crafts or a sports program? Are you (or your dog) wanting to learn a new skill? Interested in advanced sale Bunnies & Brews tickets? Or maybe you want to join a relaxing Paint & Pint Night with your friends. Whatever it is, we have something for everyone! Visit [MoragaRec](#) to sign up!



LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Please help us with the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Update; Connect with the County Office of Emergency Services through the following linked confidential survey! You can also participate in a voluntary online questionnaire. Feedback from the confidential 10-minute survey will enable Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services to better serve residents and businesses before, during, and after an emergency or disaster. The survey is available in English and Spanish. Complete the questionnaire [here](#). El cuestionario está disponible en inglés y español. Para completarlo, por favor visite [aquí](#).



SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR HOMELESS POINT IN TIME COUNT



Contra Costa Health, Housing and Homeless (H3) Team and Contra Costa County's Continuum of Care are seeking volunteers to help identify people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on **Wednesday, January 24, 2024** for the homeless Point in Time (PIT) Count. The PIT Count provides a one-day snapshot of homelessness in Contra Costa, impacts funding, and helps improve our understanding of the size and characteristics of our homeless population. Volunteers will be in pairs and either drive or capture data on an iPhone-based app, be able to choose the area where they will do the count (with some limitations), need to be available between 5:30 am and 9:00 am on Wednesday, January 24, and need to complete an IN PERSON volunteer training the week of January 8, 2024 (details TBA). Click on the registration form [here](#) for much more information! Please consider participating as this count is a very important part of how our community gets resources to support people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.



HOLIDAY CLOSURE OF TOWN OFFICES

The Town offices and the Hacienda de las Flores will be closed Thursday, December 21, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024 for the winter holidays, reopening on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 2, 6:30 pm – [Planning Commission](#), CANCELLED

Monday, January 8, 6:30 pm – [Park & Recreation Commission](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 pm – [Town Council](#), Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 16, 6:30 pm – [Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers

Tuesday (**TENTATIVE DATE CHANGE**), January 23, 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/@TownofMoraga335/streams> to view these meetings.



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