

# ABOUT TOWN



OCTOBER 24, 2024

Updates from Moraga Town Staff

## Town of Moraga Mural Ribbon Cutting



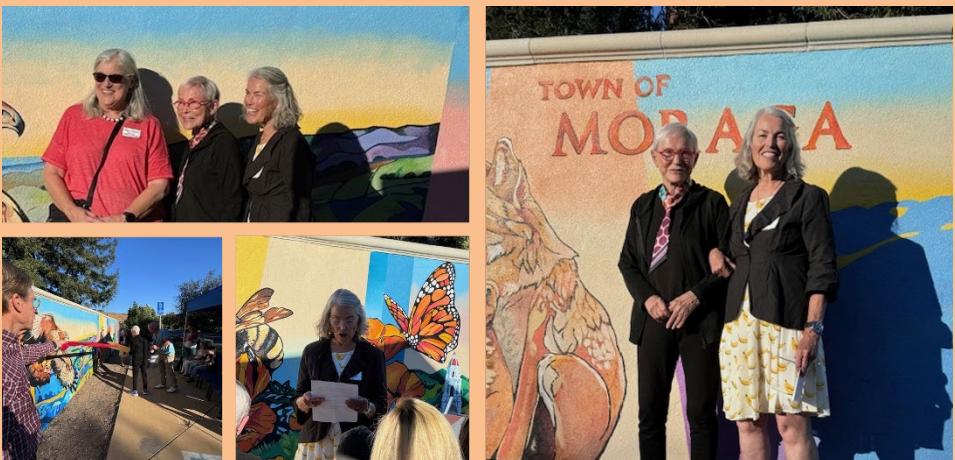
Town Officials, Staff and Community members were in attendance Wednesday afternoon to celebrate the Town of Moraga's new mural!

**A Special Thanks to Sue Olsen** who continues to be instrumental in supporting Moraga's vibrant art culture. Sue did the honors and cut the ribbon!

The beautiful mural representing all that is Moraga was painted by the talented Josué Rojas. His work can be found here: <https://www.josuerojasart.com/>

The mural is located outside of Town Council Chambers at 335 Rheem Blvd.

**Shoutout to Tangelo for providing the tasty FroYo!**





## TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON OCTOBER 23, 2024

### PRESENTATIONS:

#### Introduction of SMC President, Dr. Roger Thompson

The Town of Moraga had the honor of officially meeting Saint Mary's College President, Dr. Roger Thompson at the October 23, 2024 Council meeting. Dr. Thompson discussed plans for the college's future and the importance of the partnership between SMC and the Town of Moraga.

### SMC Museum

Dean, Library and Academic Resources Director, Lauren MacDonald and Museum Curator, Britt Royer presented on behalf of the Saint Mary's College Museum.

**Upcoming Museum Events:** Ensemble Assemblage, October 26 at 3pm, November 2 at 11am, November 22 at 3pm and December 7 at 3pm; Haunts & Lore, October 31 at 2pm; Family Day, December 7 from 11am – 2pm; Public Tours are select Thursdays at 11am and Saturdays at 2pm.

### DEPARTMENT REPORT:

#### Pro-Housing Designation Draft Application to California Housing and Community Development

The Town will be applying for a Pro-Housing Designation through the State. Receiving a Pro-Housing Designation means the Town will be implementing Housing Element policies that have already been adopted, and recognizes the work that has already been done by the Town to address housing and affordability. The Town has already enacted several policies including zoning modifications, objective design standards and an affordability ordinance. A Pro-Housing Designation enables the Town to receive priority funding when applying for grants, including Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC), Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG), Transformative Climate Communities (TCC), and more.

[View The Staff Report](#)

### STUDY SESSION:

#### Study Session on Draft General Plan 2040

The Town Council held a Study Session on the General Plan 2040 update on October 23, 2024. The Town Council has held a robust community engagement effort with 30 meetings by the time the Plan will be adopted on November 13. The Plan update was necessary to align the Plan with the direction set by the Housing Element, and ensure the General Plan remains relevant and forward-thinking. The Town Council has directed that sustainability and climate change be a major focus of the updated General Plan. Additional additions are to the Transportation and Community Design Elements. The Town welcomes public input and feedback.

[View The Staff Report](#)



## TOMORROW! \* THE (NOT SO) HAUNTED HACIENDA \* FRIDAY 10/25!

### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

#### Movie Under the Stars Featuring:

Disney's Haunted Mansion

Movie Begins at 6:00 PM



#### Costume Contest

Spooky Swag for the First 100 kids UNDER 11

Trunk or Treat

FAMILY FUN!!!



**(NOT-SO) HAUNTED HACIENDA**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH**  
**5:00PM – 8:30PM**

Don't miss this enchanting evening filled with Halloween spirit, laughter, and community fun. Perfect for kids and adults alike, the Haunted Hacienda promises a (not so) spooky experience for all ages. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs for the movie. We can't wait to see you there in your best Halloween costumes!

- Movie Under the Stars
  - Disney's "The Haunted Mansion"
  - Movie begins at 6:30 PM
- Costume Contest
- Spooky Swag
  - First 100 kids under 11
- Trunk or Treat
- More Family Fun!





## COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY RECAP - SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

**2024 Community Service Day** was another huge success with new records set, hundreds of volunteers and thousands of Humanitarian products sent locally, regionally and internationally for Developing Nations.

**Setting new records** were our Lady Bug program assembling hygiene kits for homeless and underserved women, and our eyeglass assembly serving developing nations internationally. **New projects** were a big hit starting with the first ever remembered Celebration of 19 Moraga Community Groups and their Presidents/Leaders.

A summary of Projects Includes:

- NEW THIS YEAR: Letters of Love and Kindness to Ukrainian Families and Kids. Hundreds of letters written and to be delivered within Ukraine and surrounding refugee camps;
- Rock and Pot Painting with kindness – donated to local seniors and victims of abuse;
- Knitting love of caps/scarves;
- Blood and clothing donations.



SMC students attended in support of several projects and many community members joined their Sustainable Gardening projects. Gardening lovers persevered the record warmth and beautified the Commons and Rheem Gateway. *Judgment was used to reschedule MSD elementary beautification, a Campolindo gardening and service student event, Bike Fair, and painting the new Laguna park fence. These wonderful ideas live on and are expected to be rescheduled. We thank you for helping us to help the less fortunate, our schools and beautify the Community!*



## Defensible Space Grants Available!



### Defensible Space Grants Available for MOFD Residents

The California Fire Safe Council has recently awarded a \$100,000 grant to Fire Safe Moraga-Orinda

- Fire Safe Moraga-Orinda (FSMO) will award grants of up to \$10k for fire fuels removal to groups of at least 5 neighbors that will work together to reduce fuel on their properties.
  - 50/50 cost share for each group of homes
  - Extra prioritization for group of homes which include homeowners who require help (physical or financial limitations)
- Requires a leader for the group to coordinate the project
- Homeowner group selects licensed contractor(s) for completion of the work. All contractors must be licensed & insured.
- Apply now at [firesafemoragaorinda.org](http://firesafemoragaorinda.org). Deadline Jan 31, 2025
- Approved projects to be completed by May 31, 2025



Fire Safe Moraga Orinda (FSMO) is a newly formed nonprofit dedicated to providing wildfire prevention financial assistance to neighborhoods in the Moraga Orinda Fire District.

Funding provided by a grant from the Cooperative Fire Program of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Pacific Southwest Region, through the California Fire Safe Council.  
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



## Autumn Is Great Time for a NEW Hobby!

Join Moraga's Knitting & Crochet Club at the Moraga Library!

Join enthusiastic beginning and experienced knitters and crocheters - Click the graphic for more information!

(there's still time to get those holiday projects going!)

This drop-in program is open to everyone; all skill levels are welcome!

Bring a knitting or crochet project to the library where you can give and receive tips and techniques from others. Enjoy a relaxing and creative atmosphere.



**Reservations:** No reservations necessary!

**Date/Time:** The 2nd Tuesday of every month from 6:00pm-7:30pm

**Where:** The Moraga Library | 1500 St. Mary's Road | Moraga, CA 94556



## County Connection Life Program & Travel Training

**County Connection's Low Income Fare Equity (LIFE) program** ➔

This program offers free paratransit to passengers with a low income.

Please click on the **graphic to the RIGHT** for more info!

← **County Connection's Travel Training program**

This program helps navigate the public transit system, technology for locating your bus and paying your fare and provides useful safety and security tips!

Please click on the **graphic to the LEFT** for more info!



## Moraga General Plan 2040 Update



The Town is encouraging all residents, business owners and property owners to attend the upcoming General Plan 2040 meetings. An important aspect of the General Plan is the Values and Guiding Principles which were initially discussed in October and November 2023 and will be updated in the new General Plan. Staff have conducted over 16 community outreach, workshops and meetings to

date on the General Plan. Going forward the Council will discuss the entirety of the General Plan including the Values and Guiding Principles.

The formal meetings will be held as follows:

- ~~August 28, 2024: Focused discussion on the Transportation Element~~ ✓
- ~~September 11, 2024: Joint TC and PC Meeting with a Pre-view Draft of the entire General Plan~~ ✓
- ~~October 15, 2024: Planning Commission Study Session on Draft General Plan~~ ✓
- ~~October 22, 2024: Planning Commission Recommendation to Adopt General Plan~~ ✓
- ~~October 23, 2024: Town Council Study Session on Draft General Plan~~ ✓
- ~~November 13, 2024: Town Council Meeting on Adoption of General Plan~~

To learn more about the General Plan initiative, go to [makemoragahome.org](http://makemoragahome.org). If you have any questions, please contact [Afshan Hamid](mailto:ahamid@moraga.ca.us), at <mailto:ahamid@moraga.ca.us>.



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

**Tuesday, 11/5/24 6:30 PM** Planning Commission, Council Chambers

**Wednesday, 11/13/24 5:30 PM** Town Council Regular Meeting, Council Chambers

**Tuesday, 11/19/24 6:30 PM** Planning Commission, Council Chambers

Town Council Chambers are located at 335 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556.

The Casita, Terrace Room, 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.

### **HELP SHARE THE TOWN NEWS!**

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