



# ABOUT TOWN - SEPTEMBER 11, 2020 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



## REMEMBERING 9/11



Friday marks the 19th anniversary of a day many of us pledged “We will never forget” – the 9/11 terrorist attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people and injured thousands more. Today we honor those who innocently went to work and the brave souls who responded to the emergency. Sandy Dahl, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl, shared these wise words that still ring true *“If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate.”*



## MCN CANDIDATES’ NIGHT - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

This year's Candidates' Night will be held virtually via Zoom on Wednesday, September 30, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Meet the five Moraga Town Council candidates – Kendall Langan, Teresa Onoda, David Stromberg, Renata Sos and Ursula Schilling - and hear them speak on important issues that affect all Moragans. Submit your questions to [MCN94556@gmail.com](mailto:MCN94556@gmail.com) by Friday, September 25. This free event is sponsored by the [Moraga Citizens Network](#).



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

With the many wildfires burning throughout California, this is a good time to ensure you are prepared for an emergency. Have you taken these three important steps?

- 1 - Register for the Community Warning System (CWS) at [CWS Alerts](#) to receive evacuation and other warnings,
- 2 - Sign up for [Nixle.com](#) to receive alerts, advisories and other information from the Moraga Police Department,
- 3 - Pack a go bag and be prepared to evacuate your home. Go to [Lamorinda CERT](#) or [Ready for Wildfire](#) for more information about emergency preparedness.



## FY 2020/21 BUDGET AT A GLANCE



Town Council received a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget at a Glance. This is the Town's second annual budget brief document that summarizes the recently adopted FY 2020/21 Operating and Capital Improvement Program budgets. The Budget at a Glance contains financial summaries, budget highlights and a budget message from the Town Council. It will be distributed to the Town residents in the upcoming September 16 issue of the Lamorinda Weekly. View the Budget at a Glance on the Town's [website](#).



## BALLOT DROP-OFF BOXES

Moraga will have one permanent ballot drop-off box installed at Saint Mary's College, 1928 St. Mary's Road, St. Albert Hall Library. The Moraga Library will serve as an early ballot drop-off location on Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday (Election Day). For more voting information, visit [cocovote.us](http://cocovote.us).



## RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

### **MORAGA DESIGN GUIDELINES**

The Town Council approved an amendment to the Town of Moraga Design Guidelines to delete Guideline CC3.11 in its entirety in order to allow a new Master Sign Program (MSP) for the Rheem Shopping Center as recommended by the Planning Commission on August 24, 2020. The Planning Commission approved an application for a new MSP for the Rheem Shopping Center to streamline and simplify the process for new businesses to open in Moraga.

### **PLAN BAY AREA 2050 HOUSING ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY**

Town Council adopted a resolution to support the Plan Bay Area 2050 Housing Allocation Methodology. In June 2020, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) determined that the nine bay area counties must accommodate 441,176 housing units over the upcoming 8-year housing element cycle (2022-2030). On August 6, 2020, the Contra Costa Mayors' Conference discussed and unanimously supported the Plan Bay Area 2050 Baseline Data Methodology. This methodology was recommended by the Contra Costa Public Managers' Association (PMA) as it more closely aligns housing assignments to job centers and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

### **AUTHORIZING AGENTS FOR THE FEMA DISASTER PROJECT**

The Town Council adopted a resolution designating the Town Manager, the Director of Public Works / Town Engineer, and the Town Clerk to sign grant-related documents for the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). An "Agent Resolution" is necessary for seeking grant reimbursements for the Laguna Creek Restoration Project at the Hacienda de las Flores.

### **UNIFORM PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION COST ACCOUNTING ORDINANCE**

The Town Council voted to introduce an Ordinance amending sections of Chapter 3.06 Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act Procedures (Construction Bidding Ordinance) and Chapter 3.04 Purchasing System of the Moraga Municipal Code to match current California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) code and clarify the Town Manager's purchasing authority. The CUPCCAA helps to reduce some administrative costs and construction bidding time. The proposed Ordinance amendments will be considered for adoption at the next Council meeting.

### **INSOURCING ENGINEERING SERVICES**

The Town manages 34 consultant services agreements that total over \$4 million annually. Insourcing a portion of the work reduces the cost of services and helps stabilize the department by providing additional staff to meet ongoing and unexpected needs currently handled by consultants. In 2019 the Town Council approved the creation of an Associate Engineer position to review and manage land development, storm drain, and street maintenance projects. On September 9, the Council received an update on the insourcing of engineering services. The analysis showed that the Town's Associate Engineer was able to provide better customer service while saving the Town, residents and customers \$63,956. For additional information about this matter, visit [Insourcing Engineering Services](#).

### **PROCLAMATION HONORING MARGARET DE PRIESTER**

Town Council remembered Margaret DePriester with a proclamation honoring her lasting legacy of service to the community of Moraga. Margaret was the first woman to serve on the Planning Commission and was elected twice to the Town Council with two terms as Moraga Mayor. She was instrumental in campaigning to incorporate the Town of Moraga in 1974; establishing "Moraga Beautiful" week; implementing the Moraga Open Space Ordinance in 1986; and preserving Moraga's history. Margaret's passing on August 19, 2020 leaves a void in the community which she served so faithfully and well, and she will be sorely missed by all who knew, loved and worked with her.



## FREE COMMUNITY MEALS DURING DISTANCE LEARNING

Acalanes Union High School District Food Service staff is offering a "free meals to the community program" during distance learning, to all children 18 years and younger. Featuring "Grab and Go" breakfast and lunch meals Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 1:30 pm at Acalanes High School, 1200 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette; Campolindo High School, 300 Moraga Road, Moraga; Las Lomas High School, 1460 So. Main Street, Walnut Creek; and Miramonte High School, 750 Moraga Way, Orinda. See the [flyer](#) for more details. For more information, visit the [Acalanes Union High School District](#) website.



## MCSP COMMUNITY MEETING OUTCOME

A Moraga Center Specific Plan Community Meeting was held on September 2, via Zoom adhering to the County Health guidelines for meetings. Cynthia Battenberg, Town Manager, Chief Winnacker from Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Chief King from the Police Department, Afshan Hamid, Director of Planning, Karen Murphy, Assistant Town Attorney (Burke, Williams & Sorensen) made presentations and then opened the meeting to let the public speak and voice their concerns. The objective of the meeting was to listen to the community and answer questions about outstanding concerns. Since it was a Community Meeting, no formal action was taken. A Planning Commission meeting via Zoom is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 21 to consider the proposed Design Guidelines.



## CAMINO PABLO ANNEXATION - PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION

On September 8, 2020, the Planning Commission held a Study Session to receive early public comments on the proposed residential subdivision and provide feedback to staff. The project property is located in unincorporated Contra Costa County on the southeastern edge of the Town of Moraga, fronting Camino Pablo and requires an annexation into the Town of Moraga. The applicant proposes to develop 13 single-family homes on the southern portion of the property. The proposed project would also permanently preserve 15.4 acres on the northern portion of the property. The public comment period for the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration will close on September 15, 2020.



## REC CLUB

The Parks and Recreation Department has launched a new distance learning program to assist Moraga families in need of childcare. REC Club (**R**emote-Learning Lab, **E**nrichment and **C**hildcare) is held at the Hacienda de las Flores from 8:10 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday. Limited spaces are available starting in October. Program details and information on the application process are available at [MoragaRec](#). The program follows social distancing, sanitation, and hygiene practices specified by Contra Costa Health Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



## KEEP YOUR RECYCLABLES CLEAN!



Empty. Clean. Dry. When you follow those three words you're helping to keep our recycling valuable. China's new policies have dramatically reduced the amount of recycling it is accepting and is requiring much cleaner materials. Bottles, cans and plastics that are dirty with leftover food and liquids can contaminate valuable recyclables. Please do your part to help meet strict quality requirements in this new era of recycling. Keep it clean and recycle smart! Learn more about how you can help keep it clean at [RecycleSmart](#).



## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Tuesday, September 15, 5:00 pm – [Art in Public Spaces](#), TELECONFERENCE ONLY  
Tuesday, September 15, 7:00 pm – [Park and Recreation Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE ONLY  
Monday, September 21, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE ONLY  
Wednesday, September 23, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), TELECONFERENCE ONLY

The Town Council Chambers are located at [335 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556](#).  
The Hacienda de las Flores is 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.  
The Town of Moraga Livestreams Town Council, Commission and Committee meetings using Vimeo. [View live streaming of meetings](#).



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