



ABOUT TOWN - NOVEMBER 20, 2020 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



CANYON ROAD BRIDGE - PHASE 1 OPENING

Phase 1 of the Canyon Road Bridge project, the inbound lane, has been completed. A soft opening was held on November 10. Thank you to everyone who came out and walked/biked across the new portion of the bridge. [View a video of the event.](#) The Town looks forward to Phase 2 (outbound vehicle lane, bike lanes and pedestrian walkway) construction, expected to start as early as April 2021.



CANYON ROAD BRIDGE - REMOVAL OF TEMPORARY BRIDGE



The temporary one-lane steel truss bridge removal process started this week. On Wednesday, the bridge was lifted off the bridge abutment and removed. The steel bridge is now being disassembled and will be transported out of Moraga next week. The contractor was able to keep the bridge open throughout much of the bridge removal. The removal of the temporary bridge allows the Town to save on the bridge's lease cost, which is just over \$11,000 per month. Please check the [Canyon Road Bridge](#) webpage for information and project updates.

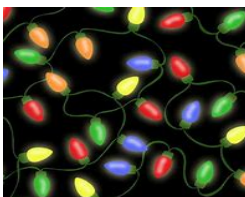


WINTER ACTIVITY GUIDE

The Parks and Recreation Department has released the Winter 2020/21 Activity Guide. The release is an abbreviated version of the traditional activity guide, and is available [online](#). The activity guide will be available in an electronic format only given the limited offerings due to COVID-19 restrictions. Check out the Winter Activity Guide for details on NEW holiday activities including Letters to Santa and Winter Break Camp. Make new traditions and sign up now for Family Gingerbread House Decorating! Bring your household and enjoy a private room at the Hacienda de las Flores with everything you need to create your very own edible dream home.



BUY-A-BULB FUNDRAISER



Help light the Holiday Tree in the Commons Park again this December! The community support received through the Buy-a-Bulb Fundraiser allows the Town to provide this wonderful tradition. Donate [online](#) or send a check made payable to the Town of Moraga, Attn: Buy-a-Bulb, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga, CA 94556. Your assistance in reaching the \$6,000 fundraising goal is appreciated.



ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS IN MORAGA

There are now three electric vehicle public charging stations in Moraga open 24 hours a day. The charging stations, each with two Level 2 chargers, can be found at the Town offices at 329 Rheem Boulevard, at the Commons Park, and at Chase Bank at 1299 School Street. The Town's chargers use SemaConnect software and the cost is between \$0.31 and \$0.53 per kilowatt hour depending upon the time of day. The ChargePoint chargers at Chase Bank are currently free to the public.



RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS ON NOVEMBER 10 AND 18, 2020

MCSP-IP ZONING CODE AND DESIGN GUIDELINES IMPLEMENTED



On November 10, Town Council approved the second reading and adoption of the [Moraga Center Specific Plan Implementation Project](#) (MCSP-IP) Zoning Ordinance by a unanimous vote. The Council also unanimously adopted the updates and revisions to the [Moraga Design Guidelines](#) which primarily updates Chapter 11, the Moraga Center Specific Plan area.

USE OF COUNCILMEMBER TITLES

The Council discussed the use of Councilmember titles in public communications that do not pertain to Town business based on concerns regarding the Mayor’s use of her title in an October 2020 letter to the editor and requested a future agenda item to discuss amendment to Town Council Protocol 10.2 *Communications with the Public*.

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019/20

The Town Council reviewed and filed the annual independent audit report of the Town’s financial statements. The Town’s independent auditors, Maze & Associates, conducted their audit in accordance with the auditing standards and rendered an unmodified (“clean”) opinion. The Town’s General Fund-General Purpose Unassigned Fund Balance of \$4.99 million is \$122,000 higher when compared to the \$4.87 million projected in the adopted budget due to slightly higher revenues when compared to budget and expenditures falling below the budgeted amounts. From a reserve policy perspective, the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance resulted in a reserve level of 54.5% of the FY 2019/20 adopted budget. For FY 2019/20, the reserve policy of 50% has been met.

ADA IMPROVEMENTS AT THE HACIENDA DE LAS FLORES



The Town Council accepted the new Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Restroom project as completed and directed staff to file a Notice of Completion. The project added an additional restroom to the first floor of the Hacienda, between the Fireside Room and Dance Room. The project was primarily funded by a County Community Development Block Grant. In addition to the restroom project, the Town continues work on the ADA walkway improvement project at the Hacienda, which is currently in the design phase.

TREE CITY USA

The Town Council considered and supported submitting an application to the Tree City USA program to reinstate the Town’s status as a Tree City USA community. The current work being done as part of the Town’s tree program meets the program criteria for healthy, urban forestry. Participation in the program provides numerous benefits including access to resources, community education, and awareness around the importance of trees as a crucial ecological resource in reducing energy use and costs.



COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACT AND UPDATE

Town Council received an update on COVID-19’s impact to the Town’s budget and programs. For FY2019/20, revenues from both property, sales taxes (Bradley Burns and Measure K) and recreation programs were slightly higher than originally projected when compared to the adjusted budget amounts which included assumptions regarding COVID-19’s impact on the Town’s revenue and expenditures. The revenue projections for FY2020/21, which are based upon the assumption of continuing pandemic-related economic impacts due to consumer behaviors and business regulations, will continue to be monitored and will be adjusted as necessary during the mid-year budget report.



GHAD BOARD MEETING

The Moraga Geologic Hazard Abatement District (GHAD) Board of Directors met on November 19, 2020, to appoint a GHAD Attorney and enter into an agreement with the Town for professional services. The GHAD, an independent entity, was formed in 2015 to enable local residents to collectively mitigate geological hazards which pose a threat to their properties. To date, the GHAD has been funded by the Hetfield Estates, Bellavista and Palos Colorados developers. As parcels are annexed into the GHAD, property assessments will pay for GHAD prevention, mitigation and abatement efforts.



PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATES

On December 7, 2020, the Planning Commission will hold a Zoom Webinar to review the Moraga Country Clubhouse Facility Expansion which includes a new 6,650 square-foot fitness facility, 4,300 square-foot courtside grille, 860 square-foot recreation pavilion, improvements to the sport court area, additional parking, and a new emergency vehicle access area. The Planning Commission will also review updates to the Moraga Municipal Code, Chapter 8.124, Accessory Dwelling Units Ordinance to be in compliance with changes in State law.



MORAGA KIWANIS AND SEE'S CANDIES ONLINE



With everyone's safety in mind this holiday season, the Moraga Valley Kiwanis Club will continue the tradition of the See's Candy Fundraiser for local charities online instead of in person. Candy prices are the same as See's stores, but 100% of the profits are returned to the community through donations and grants. Popular selections will arrive holiday wrapped. The online store will close on Friday, December 4 and shipping is free in the continental U.S. for orders of \$65 and above. To order your See's candy and for more information about who Kiwanis serves, go to [Moraga Valley Kiwanis](https://www.moragavalleykiwanis.org).



BEWARE OF HOLIDAY CRIME

Crime does not take a day off for the holidays! Package deliveries are prime targets for porch pirates. Prevent thefts by getting packages inside ASAP and reporting suspicious vehicles and persons in your neighborhood. Scammers are already taking advantage of your holiday spirit to get you to make fake donations, pay "fees/taxes" for your winning Publishers Clearinghouse entry or pay your PG&E bill with gift or money cards. Be suspicious of things that appear too good to be true and always verify requests for payment by calling the vendor on a number that you have or can locate. Contact Moraga Police Department for more information at 925-888-7055.



VETERANS DAY THANK YOU



Thanks to the generosity and participation of the community, over 150 letters were delivered to Lamorinda veterans this year. The letter writing campaign replaced the traditional Veterans Day Ceremony held in the Moraga Commons Park which was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thank you to our partners: the Moraga iKind Project; Moraga Boy Scouts of America Troops 212, 234, and 246; Orinda-Moraga Girl Scouts Service Unit #327; and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 8063 who partnered with the Town on this endeavor.



TOWN OFFICES CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Town offices remain closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic; staff is available to meet by appointment only. The Town offices and the Hacienda de las Flores will be closed for business during the Thanksgiving holiday from Wednesday through Friday, November 25 to 27.



CAMPOLINDO PARENTS CLUB HOSTING A FILM SCREENING

The Campolindo DNI (Diversity & Inclusion) Parents Club is hosting a community event on Wednesday, December 2, from 7:00 to 8:15 pm. This event will include a virtual film screening and panel discussion of [Not In Our Town](#). The panel will consist of people who live, work or go to school in Moraga. Not In Our Town is a national movement to help build safe, inclusive communities for all and has inspired numerous communities across the country to unite. Please register for the event at the [registration link](#). This event is open to everyone in Moraga including the Campolindo High School and Saint Mary's College communities.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Wednesday, November 25 – [Town Council](#), **CANCELLED**

Monday, December 7, 7:00 pm – [Planning Commission](#), TELECONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), TELECONFERENCE

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 Livestreaming of meetings](#).



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