



ABOUT TOWN - MARCH 30, 2018 UPDATE FROM MORAGA TOWN STAFF



STORMWATER FEE BALLOTS MAILED OUT TODAY

Stormwater fee ballots were mailed today and should arrive in the next few days. This is being done in response to the community priority surveys (August 2016 and October 2017). Survey results expressed that Moraga homeowners were interested in a local funding option for the following stormwater priorities:

1. Address deteriorating pipes, infrastructure, and sinkholes;
2. Protect drinking water sources from pollutants; and
3. Prevent local flooding due to insufficient capacity or condition.

An average home in Moraga would be assessed \$120 annually (or \$10 per month), with rates varying for other property types. An updated [Frequently Asked Question](#) document has been posted on the Town's [Storm Drain Funding](#) webpage to guide property owners on the Moraga Stormwater Fee Measure, which follows the voter-approved Proposition 218 property-related fee ballot procedure. Ballots are due by 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2018.



SUMMER ACTIVITY GUIDE AVAILABLE NOW

The Summer 2018 Moraga [Activity Guide](#) is available online and [registration](#) for camps and classes is open now! The Town of Moraga Parks and Recreation Department offers classes and activities for all ages. Copies of the Activity Guide will be available for pick up at the Hacienda de las Flores, Moraga Library, and Town offices starting Wednesday, April 4. As a reminder, Activity Guides are no longer mailed to every home in Moraga. You can opt-in to still receive a hard copy in the mail by filling out the online form found [here](#). We hope to see you this summer at one of our many classes, camps, or events! Visit moragarec.com for additional information.



UPDATE ON THE TOWN'S STATUS OF FISCAL EMERGENCY

The Town, keeping with the philosophy of minimal government and fiscal prudence, consistently practices fiscal discipline, especially pursuing cost savings since the Rheem Boulevard sinkhole and the Canyon Road bridge collapse in March 2016 and April 2017 respectively, in order to restore the Town's fund balance (General Fund Reserves) to the Town's target of 50%. The FY 2016/17 budget ended with a \$765,000 surplus, increasing the General Fund Reserves from 18% to 27%. The mid-year budget adjustments approved by the Town Council in February 2018 added an additional \$120,000 to the General Fund Reserves. Reimbursement of the Rheem sinkhole expenses from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Emergency Relief program is projected to be received in Fiscal Year 2018/19 and should restore the General Fund Reserves to approximately \$3.83 million or 45%, close to the 50% goal. A more in-depth assessment of the Town's status of fiscal emergency is scheduled to be reviewed by the Audit and Finance Committee on April 24, 2018. Visit the [Declaration of Fiscal Emergency](#) page on the Town's website for more information.



FIREARMS SAFETY

Recently, the Town Council approved a Firearms Safe Storage Ordinance requiring that firearms be safely stored. However, it is important to talk with your children and educate them about firearms safety. Consider teaching children these 4 rules if they find a firearm: 1. STOP what you're doing. 2. DON'T TOUCH IT. 3. LEAVE THE AREA. 4. TELL AN ADULT. The Moraga Police Department (MPD) supplies FREE gunlocks and will dispose of unwanted firearms at no cost. Please contact MPD for more information at 925-888-7055.



CONGRATULATIONS DEREK FARMER, PLANNING DIRECTOR



Derek Farmer, who has served as Acting Planning Director since December 2017, has been appointed as the Town of Moraga's Planning Director. Derek has been managing the Town's Hillside and Ridgeline Regulations initiative and leading the Planning Department in processing the large number of development applications currently in progress. Derek has 20 years' experience in land use planning, including new residential and university campus planning and development. In addition to working for a number of Bay Area city and county governments, he also has worked for an international consulting firm on various land use projects.



RECENT TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS on MARCH 28

VERIZON WIRELESS APPEAL

The Town Council considered an appeal filed by Verizon Wireless of the Planning Commission's decision to deny a variance for the construction and operation of a new wireless communication facility on an existing 76 foot tall PG&E utility tower located at 262 Rheem Boulevard. The proposed project includes construction of a new 13.5 foot x 13.5 foot equipment enclosure within the base of the tower and mounting of six, 6 foot tall antennas at the top of the tower, raising the height of the tower to 83 feet. The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for reduced setbacks from residential buildings and property lines, and Design Review findings, for the wireless communication facility but denied the height variance. After deliberation, the Town Council upheld the appeal and granted a variance for height.

PROCLAMATION HONORING ROTARY CLUB OF MORAGA FOR ALL-ACCESS PLAYGROUND

Moraga Rotary members Dianne Wilson (President), Kevin Reneau, John Erickson and Frank May accepted a proclamation from the Council in honor of the Club's outstanding work and dedication in establishing the All-Access Playground at the Moraga Commons Park which was specifically designed to create opportunities for all ages and ability levels to enjoy. The completion of the playground was made possible by the generous contribution of funds and volunteers provided by the Rotary Club of Moraga who donated over \$340,000 to fund the construction. Since its opening on January 28, 2018, the All-Access Playground has been used daily by many children and families. Thank you Moraga Rotary for your hard work.

PROCLAMATION HONORING CAMPOLINDO VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

The Campolindo Varsity Football Team was honored by the Town Council for another stellar season! After advancing to post-season play after a grueling schedule, the Cougars defeated Washington High School (Fremont), Maria Carrillo High School (Santa Rosa) and Windsor High School before beating Granada High School (Livermore) 42-7 to win their 4th consecutive NCS Championship title. They moved on to the NorCal Championship game where they narrowly lost to Milpitas High School. In recognition of the team's continuing, excellent performance and 4th consecutive NCS Championship, the Town Council proclaimed March 28, 2018 as Campolindo High School Varsity Football Team Day.



MORAGA'S POTHOLE HOTLINE

Report a pothole quickly and easily by sending a text or email to potholes@moraga.ca.us which will allow staff to better track repair requests. Please send pictures, when possible, which make locating and prioritizing the repair much more efficient. Please include your name, the street address of the pothole, as well as any landmarks to assist in locating the pothole. Public Works staff will schedule pothole repairs within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays. Thank you for helping us keep our streets safe!



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

REMINDER - Please help save a life and make a donation! The Town of Moraga is hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross on Wednesday, April 11, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Hacienda de las Flores, La Sala Building, 2100 Donald Drive, Moraga. Schedule an appointment at [Red Cross](#) (sponsor code: townofmoraga) or call 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767). Contact [Kelly Clancy](#) or 925-888-7040 for more information.



HILLSIDE AND RIDGELINE REGULATIONS - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

The Town Council will consider introducing an ordinance amending Hillside and Ridgeline regulations on Wednesday, April 11, at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers. The regulations include amendments to the General Plan, Municipal Code, MOSO Guidelines and Design Guidelines. These regulations have been developed through an extensive community process initiated in 2014, were recommended for adoption by the Planning Commission, and were analyzed in three Town Council study sessions. The [staff report](#) and [PowerPoint presentation](#) from the March 7, 2018 study session are available for review. For more information, contact [Derek Farmer, Planning Director](#).



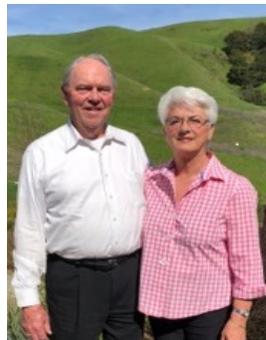
ROCK BAND SHOWCASE - FRIDAY, APRIL 27



A Brighter Day, along with the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee, Lafayette Youth Commission, and Orinda Teen Advisory Council, is excited to host a free [Rock Band Showcase](#) for high school students on Friday, April 27, at 7:30 pm at the Lafayette Community Center. Bands will perform a short set and be judged by local musicians. Every participating band will receive a special gift as a thank you and the winning band will receive studio time! The primary goal of [A Brighter Day](#) is to provide resources for teenagers to address depression and related issues, using local teenage bands in a showcase format.



MORAGA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR EVENT - SATURDAY, APRIL 28



The Lamorinda Weekly, the Moraga Chamber of Commerce, Saint Mary's College, and the Moraga Valley Kiwanis Club are pleased to announce that Sam and Susan Sperry have been selected as the 2018 Moraga Citizens of the Year for their outstanding community service. The Sperrys will be honored at the Citizen of the Year celebration dinner on Saturday, April 28, 6:00pm to 9:00pm, at Saint Mary's College, Soda Center. Join your neighbors, as well as some of the past winners and community leaders to celebrate the Sperrys' service to Moraga. Tickets (\$60 per person) are available through the [Moraga Chamber of Commerce website](#).



WHAT IS THE NPDES FUND?

In 1993, Contra Costa County established Stormwater Utility Areas to collect and distribute funds to all of its cities, including Moraga, to address cleanwater requirements and operate and maintain their storm drain systems. This NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Fund provides \$235,000 annually to the Town, and has been capped at this amount since Fiscal Year 2003/04. Over the past 15 years, cleanwater regulations and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) needs have significantly increased. The adopted 2015 Storm Drain Master Plan determined that an adequate O&M program requires \$240,000 in additional funding. The amended 2016 NPDES permit issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board requires an additional \$155,000 to address new cleanwater unfunded mandates. These shortfalls would be funded by a portion of the proposed stormwater fee. For more information, please visit the [Storm Drain Funding](#) webpage.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Monday, April 2 – [Planning Commission](#), **CANCELLED**

Monday, April 9 – [Design Review Board](#), **CANCELLED**

Monday, April 9, 7:00 pm – [Special Planning Commission](#), Council Chambers

Wednesday, April 11, 7:00 pm – [Town Council](#), Council Chambers

Thursday, April 12, 7:00 pm – [Moraga Youth Involvement Committee](#), Hacienda de las Flores

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.



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