



Town of Moraga

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING

PRESS RELEASE

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Canyon Road Bridge Opening Ceremony **January 20, 2022 at 10 AM**

The public is invited to attend the bridge opening and ribbon cutting ceremony planned for 10:00 am on Thursday, January 20, 2022. Stop by between 10:00 and 10:30 am to hear short presentations from Renata Sos, Mayor of Moraga; Candace Andersen, Contra Costa County Supervisor; David Ambuehl, Chief Deputy, Caltrans District 4; and Teresa Geringer, Contra Costa Transportation Commission (CCTA) Board Chair and Mayor of Lafayette. The public is encouraged to be a part of this historic event. Parking is available on Camino Pablo or in the Saint Monica's church parking lot. Be one of the first to walk across the new bridge prior to its opening to two-way traffic later in the day.

The bridge over Moraga Creek connects the Town of Moraga to the community of Canyon east of the Oakland Hills. It is the only exit route out of Moraga to the South, and it provides access to services for the residents of the community of Canyon.

The original bridge, built-in 1936, was determined to be structurally deficient by Caltrans in 2013. The Federal Highway Bridge Program approved funding for the Canyon Road Bridge Replacement Project in 2013. The original bridge was damaged in April 2017 by landslides before the replacement bridge could be constructed, and a temporary bridge was installed to maintain limited access. Without this federal aid, construction, design, and environmental compliance work on this \$12.7 million new bridge would not have been feasible.

The new bridge includes bike lanes as well as a pedestrian walkway with access to the East Bay Regional Park District path nearby. Restoration of the nearby creek habitat and embankment was included in the Project.

Replacement of the Canyon Road Bridge is the largest public works project completed in the Town of Moraga's history. In less than five years, this small Town showed its agility, tenacity, and capability by constructing a temporary bridge and a permanent bridge to keep traffic flowing while navigating a nearby landslide, funding challenges, and supply shortages due to the pandemic.

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