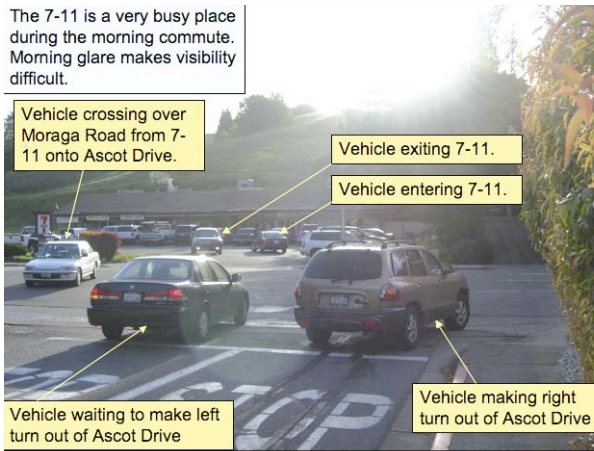
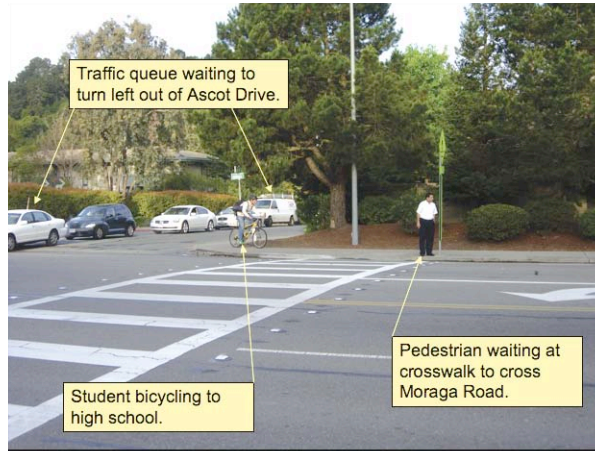
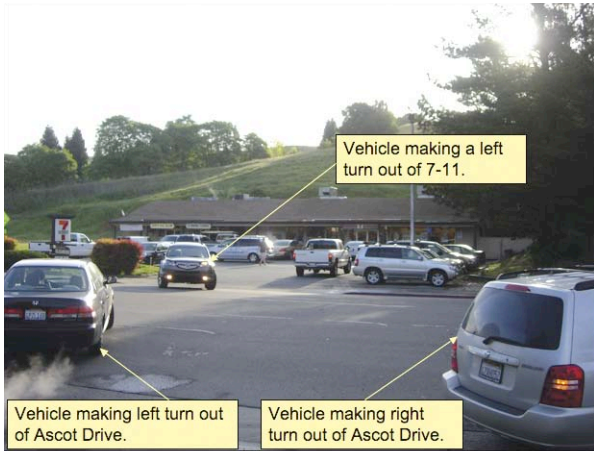


# Town Wins \$601,000 Grant for Ascot Signal

By Steve Angelides



**M**oraga Town Engineer Jill Mercurio announced at the Town Council meeting on June 27 that the Town has been awarded a \$601,425 state grant for a signal and other improvements at the corner of Ascot Drive and Moraga Road.

Of 335 grant applications statewide, only 78 were funded. 10 of those were in Contra Costa County. The next highest grant was for \$482,000.

“We did very well,” a beaming Mercurio said as she made her announcement, which was followed by a round of applause. Mercurio prepared the grant application on an expedited basis in just a couple of weeks after learning of the prospect for the state funds and obtaining approval from the Council to apply.

While commenting on Mercurio’s success when he spoke to the Moraga Chamber of Commerce a couple of days later, Town Manager Phil Vince heaped praise upon her. “We have a great Town Engineer,” said Vince, “and she’s one of the best grant writers I’ve ever met.”

According to Vince the signal at Ascot has been one of the Town’s priorities for the past several years. A previously prepared traffic study, along with photos she took, enabled Mercurio to win the grant on short notice.

The Town will match the state funds with \$67,000 of street improvement funds to complete the total \$668,000 cost of the project. Mercurio expects engineering work on the project to start in the fall.



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