

Citizen's Land Use Academy

A frequent complaint of Moragans to Town staff and community leaders has been, "It is so hard to know what is going on in Moraga." Of course, for the last few months your friendly neighborhood newspaper has attempted to remedy this situation. Now Moraga's Planning Director, Lori Salamack, is stepping up to the plate by offering a Citizen's Land Use Academy (CLUA) to better inform Moragans of the rules and regulations governing land use and planning in the Town of Moraga. The Academy will be presented once a week, immediately prior to a regularly scheduled Planning meeting, from September 24 – October 15. The CLUA is intended to give residents a better understanding how Moraga works and what is required if someone wants to change something in town.

All sessions will be con-

ducted from 5:45 to 7:15 pm at the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive. Participants who attend all 4 sessions will receive a certificate of completion.

The format for each session is intended to be interactive, and Salamack will be responding to questions from the audience. When asked what prompted her to create the program, Salamack said, "I know that our residents are interested in the planning process, but often feel frustrated by the formality of a public hearing process where there is no opportunity for interaction between the residents and the decision makers. My purpose in doing this is to create a forum so residents can get the information that they need in order to contribute to the planning process and create and maintain the kind of community and quality of life that the community envisions."


Citizen's Land Use Academy Schedule:

- **9/24:** The Design Guidelines and Design Review Process (precedes a Special Joint Meeting of the Planning Commission and Design Review Board on the topic of Green Building)
- **10/1:** The California Environmental Quality Act (precedes a Planning Commission meeting on the Draft Hillside Ordinance)
- **10/09:** The Moraga Municipal Code with special emphasis on the Sign Ordinance (precedes a Special Joint Meeting of the Design Review Board and the Economic Development Advisory Committee on the Draft Sign Ordinance)
- **10/15:** The General Plan, with special emphasis on the Housing Element (precedes a Planning Commission meeting, topic TBD).


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