A Town Divided....By Speed Bumps By Lee Borrowman

Rew issues in recent memory have caused the Town of Moraga to be so bitterly divided as the now infamous speed bumps on Camino Pablo. Mayor Mike Metcalf confirmed last week that the Town is in receipt of a letter from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, in which the Fire District indicates the recently installed speed tables will have an impact on the response time of emergency personnel to the area.

Although Fire District Chief Pete Nowicki downplayed the controversy in the past, the District's position appeared to have taken a turn at the last meeting of the Board. Nowicki could not be immediately reached for comment, and we were unable to obtain a copy of the letter or specific information as to the degree of impediment (stay tuned).

The Town recently took steps to modify the speed tables, smoothing them down to reduce

their profile and installing better signage and lighting. The lights themselves are interesting, with photo-sensitive bulbs that turn on automatically at night, and batteries that recharge during the day.

The bumps were originally built as a traffic calming measure and are strongly supported by the Moraga School District and many local parents for their positive impact on pedestrian safety. Metcalf said of the public comments he has received, over half are in favor of the speed bumps. Those opposed claim the bumps cause more problems than they alleviate.

The Town is continuing with an assessment period to determine whether the bumps are an effective and viable addition to the Town. Metcalf said the Fire District's recommendations will be taken into consideration during the assessment process.

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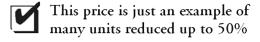
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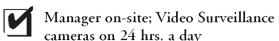
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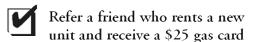
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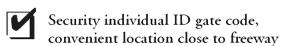


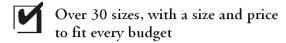
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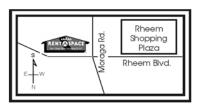












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