

# Solar Skin for Moraga

By Sophie Braccini



Solar lighting shading analysis at 10 a.m. on Corliss Drive

Moraga may be small, but it's big on innovation. In October the Town Council approved the installation of two new off-the-grid streetlights sheathed in a 'skin' that absorbs sunlight and transforms it into electricity. The potential for savings is staggering and the two lights will be a key test. If proved efficient they could lead to more solar innovations in town.

"Technological advances are

making these types of lights more reliable and cost effective," explained Moraga Town Engineer and Public Works Director Edric Kwan. "LED streetlights require much less power, so it is easier to get them fed through solar cells."

Kwan was completing improvements to the pedestrian crossings at Moraga Road and Woodford Drive, and at Moraga Road and Corliss Drive, but no

new lights had been included in the project. "The cost estimate we received for two conventionally-powered streetlights was \$97,639; for two solar-powered, off-grid streetlights, the cost was \$28,160," said Kwan.

"The Design Series streetlights that Moraga chose are wrapped in a photovoltaic fabric," explained Inovus' Nick Kawaguchi.

... continued on page A9



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# Veterans Day Celebration in Moraga



Photo Sophie Braccini

Veterans, Boy Scouts, Town officials and residents will meet at the granite memorial that stands in the Moraga Commons Park at 11 a.m. November 11 to honor our veterans. Speakers will include John Haffner, CAPT, SC, USN (ret), RADM Vince Anzilotti, and Mayor Mike Metcalf. Moraga Boy Scout Troops 212, 234, and 246 will participate. The memorial is located by the public trail that crosses the park, just west of the parking lot. Set into the stone are brass plaques engraved with the emblems of the seven uniformed services of the United States. The Moraga Garden Club maintains the flower display around the rock.

S.Braccini

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