



Moraga Civic News

Public Meetings

Town Council

Special Meeting:

Wednesday, July 16, 7 p.m.

Regular Meeting:

Wednesday, July 23, 7 p.m.

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,
1010 Camino Pablo

Planning Commission

Monday, July 21, 7 p.m.

Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

Design Review

Monday, July 28, 7 p.m.

Moraga Library, 1500 St. Mary's Rd.

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Phone: (925) 888-7022

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



Moraga Police Department

Possession of paraphernalia, 7/03/14 Two gentlemen parked on Larch Avenue at Canyon Road made "consensual" contact with cops (actual lingo from police report) who saw the passenger put his hand in his pants to hide something as they rolled up, also lingering in the air was the odor of non-burnt marijuana. A small glass container fell out of the subject's pants during a pat-down search, which held several Xanax tablets and two oxycodone pills. The subject also had paraphernalia used to smoke oxycodone. He was taken to the Moraga Police Department and later transported to the main detention facility in Martinez for possession of a controlled substance and paraphernalia.

Violation of child custody, 7/05/14 A woman on Camino Ricardo stated her ex-husband didn't return their daughter according to the terms of their agreement. He had emailed that he would drop her off at noon, and later said it would be more like 10:30 a.m. Turns out she was actually dropped off at 9:45 a.m.

Auto burglary, 7/04/14 Unpatriotic unknown suspect smashed the window of a pick-up truck parked on Miramonte Drive at 8:30 p.m. and multiple tools were stolen. Currently no suspects or witnesses, perhaps neighbors were more interested in watching the fireworks.

Mulholland pot smoking, 7/05/14 Two males were parked in a Ford Explorer, near the entrance to Mulholland Ridge, when one of the occupants tossed a baggie out the passenger side window. Cops noticed the smell of marijuana, and asked the 17-year-old driver to step out of the car. After a brief struggle the subject was taken into custody. Turns out, marijuana was found in the tossed baggie, along with tobacco products and marijuana paraphernalia. The young man was released to his dad after signing a Juvenile Affidavit, and the car was towed.

Danger to self, 7/06/14 Police responded to a report of an uncontrollable juvenile at an apartment on Ascot Drive. Apparently the 17-year-old girl was cursing and calling her mother names. Upon contact with the police, the juvenile began screaming and threw an object at the cops. She appeared to be delusional and was transported to the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center by MOFD for a mental health evaluation.

In addition, the following crimes were reported between June 30 and July 8:

False Alarms 9

Domestic Dispute

Kinston Ct
Crossbrook Dr

Traffic Incident

Moraga Wy
Moraga Rd

Civil Dispute

Camino Peral

Lost Property

St. Mary's Rd

Identity Theft

Brookfield Dr

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Gary Bernie & Ken Ryerson

August Start for Pavement Project

Information session for residents July 24

By Sophie Braccini

Moraga's 2014 pavement campaign gets underway in August and when the dust settles in November, 28 street segments will be ready for prime time. The neighborhood roads repair project is funded by Measure K, the 1 percent sales tax approved by voters in 2012.

Last year the town addressed about 50 percent of its neighborhood streets, those that were in fair condition. This year it will reconstruct streets that are in poor condition; failed roads will be tackled in 2015.

The reconstruction of certain roads, including Rimer, Larch, the lower part of Alta Mesa, and Calle La Mesa, will impact not only residents of the affected streets but those living nearby who need to use these streets as transit paths. At an informational meeting July 10 a representative from construction management company Ghirardelli Associates said that only one side of each street will be closed to traffic at any given time, unless the street is a small court or something unexpected happens.

As it did last year, the town and its contractors are setting in place an extensive communication program to minimize the inconvenience to residents. This week volunteers began going door to door on affected streets to distribute information, and out-

reach sessions will be held at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. on July 24 at the Hacienda de las Flores, 2100 Donald Dr. In addition, residents should receive a letter from the town approximately three weeks before work begins.

The meeting that took place on July 10 was designed for the volunteers who are out pounding the pavement. Edric Kwan, public works director, explained to volunteers the different phases of the work that will start in August.

First, teams will do base repairs on streets that need them – such as excavating and repairing pot holes – then cracks will be sealed. The next step will consist of building the concrete ADA compliant curb ramps that are now required by law. This preliminary work will impact only a small portion of the streets and will not require any closures.

As the project progresses, residents will see single-lane closures on some streets as they are milled to remove the layers of asphalt that have built up over the years, slowly raising the height of the streets. Still other streets will need only their edges ground, but that will also require a machine chugging slowly along.

Once the streets are milled, residents will be able to drive on the roads that will feel rough and unfinished,

until the final phase begins – the repaving process.

Kwan explained that because the town received very competitive bids, he was able to recommend the use of rubberized hot mix asphalt overlays for a majority of the streets. He said that this road treatment costs 10 percent more than the regular hot mix asphalt, but it lasts twice as long. "Rubberized hot mix asphalt has a lot of great properties," he said. "It retards cracks from coming back through, and it dampens sounds, so when cars drive on it you won't hear it as much."

Residents will experience the biggest impact while their streets are being repaved. Instructional signage will be posted five days prior to the start of the work; then three days before repaving begins, "No Parking" signs will be installed.

During the 2013 campaign, the police department did not need to tow any vehicles to clear the way for paving crews. Volunteer John Haffner recalls, "Last year we ran across a parked car whose owner was in Europe for six weeks. His neighbor was able to contact him and get the information on the location of a spare key, so the car was moved in time." Ghirardelli Associates project manager Mary Erchul, the liaison between

the construction company and residents, said she will do everything possible to avoid towing any cars.

There are several ways residents can stay informed about the project's progress. On the ground, Erchul will be the person to contact for the latest information. She uses Twitter – the account is @MoragaMeasureK for direct questions. The Public Works department will regularly update the three-week outlook on the town's website, www.moraga.ca.us/paving. Kwan said the project's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MoragaMeasureK, will be updated daily and can be viewed without creating a Facebook account. Questions can be asked by phone or email, (925) 888-7026 or publicworks@moraga.ca.us.

Town Council Meeting Tonight

The Moraga Town Council will decide July 16 whether or not to award the roughly \$3.3 million contract for the pavement construction project to Bay Cities, the lowest bidder. The council is also scheduled to make a decision regarding the formation of a Geologic Hazard Abatement District.

SMC Parking and Traffic Impacts Concern Council

By Sophie Braccini

Barry Behr was not happy May 24. It was commencement day at Saint Mary's College and 758 students – the largest graduating class in the history of the college – received their diplomas. For the Moraga resident who was just trying to get out of town it was a difficult experience, as proud parents parked anywhere they could and sped on foot, counter to traffic, to get to the big event on time.

Behr came to the Moraga Town Council on June 25 to share his frustration. Council members who live near SMC acknowledged that there

was a problem due to unmanaged excessive traffic and parking. Although nobody wanted to antagonize the town's college partner, the council recognized that traffic issues are the cost of success for a college that keeps growing and it would like to learn how SMC plans to solve the problem.

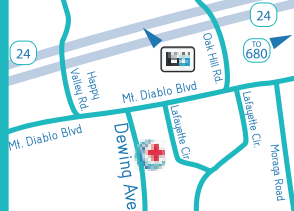
Additional parking may be in the college's future, but not for a while. Michael McAlpin, director of media relations, indicated that SMC's master plan will be affected by a five-year strategic plan currently being crafted

under the leadership of new president James Donahue. Moraga's planning director, Shawna Brekke-Read, explained that the college's target date for completion of the plan is in flux, but she confirmed that when the document is ready it will have to be approved by the town's planning commission.

Not one to sit idly and wait, police chief Robert Priebe reached out to his SMC counterpart, public safety chief Adan Tejada, and two men started working on ways to control the problem. The chiefs agreed that Moraga police officers will, in the near future,

train the campus' safety officers to direct traffic. "Our officers will direct traffic at (the campus') intersection with St. Mary's Road and can go to the Rheem Boulevard/St. Mary's Road intersection," explained Tejada.

In addition, Tejada said that he had provided input for SMC's master plan and that additional parking will be constructed within the college's boundaries. SMC's next big events are the move-in day this fall and a career fair in October, but parking will be accommodated onsite according to Tejada.



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