



## Moraga

### Public Meetings

#### City Council

Wednesday, April 27, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 11, 7 p.m.  
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

#### Planning Commission

Monday, May 2, 7 p.m.  
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

#### Design Review

Monday, April 25, 7 p.m.  
Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

#### School Board Meetings

**Moraga School District**  
Tuesday, May 10, 7 p.m.  
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium  
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga  
www.moraga.k12.ca.us  
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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 Report March 23 - April 5



**Larceny 3/30/16:** Someone entered an unlocked Acura MDX parked overnight in an apartment carport on Moraga Road and stole several items after ransacking the glove box and center console. Jewelry, shoes and cologne which had been left in the rear of the vehicle were taken, but the thief left something behind – a 12-inch knife sharpening rod on the right front seat. No other evidence was found. Estimated loss \$225.

**Shoplifting 3/30/16:** Safeway's loss prevention professional preformed a citizen's arrest on a mystery suspect, who was taken into custody, but was later cited and released at the scene. All the unspecified property was returned to the store.

**Out at the light 4/2/16:** At about 11 p.m. police found a woman passed out with the car running at an unspecified intersection. Despite being less than alert, she managed to have a foot on the brake pedal. Cops were able to rouse the driver with the assistance of fire department personnel. The "driver" initially lied about her name and birth date, but cops were able to ID her by using a fingerprint reader. She was found to have a \$34,500 warrant for forgery, identity theft and drug possession – so she was arrested and the car was towed.

**Pocked pair 4/2/16:** A Paseo Grande resident reported that two vehicles parked in front of her residence had been struck by multiple projectiles, causing damage. Cops took a close look and determined that the damage was done by a BB or pellet gun. Nothing was seen or heard, so there are no suspects or leads at this time.

**Loud party 4/3/16:** An anonymous report of approximately 100 college-age people inside and outside an Ascot Drive residence came in at midnight. Coincidentally, the popular party street is also home to many local college kids. Alas, police party poopers encouraged folks to leave and issued the hosting residents a Town of Moraga Warning Notice.

**DVD theft 4/04/16:** The Safeway assistant manager on duty around lunchtime reported an approximately 30-years-old male wearing a dark shirt and camouflage pants who left the store after placing a number of DVDs into a backpack and bypassing the check stands. Apparently the camouflage pants did not help him blend into the suburban retail environment. The fellow headed out towards Orinda in a white Cadillac SUV. The car was stopped in Orinda by Orinda

# Palos Colorados Finally Gets Green Light

By Sophie Braccini



Palos Colorados final map as approved.

It was a monumental moment when the Moraga City Council approved the final map of the Palos Colorados development.

Over 20 years of negotiations ended in a 15 minute-legislative process, opening the door to the construction of 123 homes on 460 acres at the border with Lafayette, located east of Moraga Road and south of Sky Hy Drive.

Vice mayor Dave Trotter seemed to be the one most impressed on the council with what was happening on this night of March 23. "It's the end of a very long process. Twenty-three years ago I started working on this as a

planning commissioner," Trotter said. "It's an historic moment in the history of the town."

Almost immediately, trucks and construction material congregated at a staging area along Moraga Road, where major work will start soon.

That night's decision awarded Bigbury Company the development rights as well as approving the agreements satisfying all the conditions of the project, including an open space easement, and the creation of public trails, many of them dedicated to the East Bay Regional Park District. The final map reflects these agreements, in-

cluding a trail link to cross Moraga Road and continue to the Lafayette Reservoir.

Lori Suggang, Moraga's town engineer, confirmed that the developer had completed all the requirements.

Cecilia Marquee, who owns 28 acres next to Palos Colorados, asked if the proposed trails were not assumed to cross her property to connect to the Moraga-Lafayette trail. The answer was that the map was compliant with previously approved configuration.

The single-family lots range in size from 12,000 square feet to about one acre. During the Precise

Development Plan approval process in 2009 the town accepted the plans of 123 semi-custom homes with a maximum size of 5,500 square foot on the larger lots.

The homes should also reach 90 points in the "Built-It-Green" notation system, a good score. This standard addresses aspects such as water use, energy use and type of material used in construction.

The Design Review Board approved the home plans in 2009; the property developer could now start to build with no need for more public approval.

Images provided

## Town: Sinkhole Repairs Will Take Until September

By Sophie Braccini

Work to repair the sinkhole that formed over a month ago in Moraga is moving according to plan, but final repairs will not be made until fall.

Town Public Works Director Edric Kwan said that his team has worked diligently to analyze all the elements of the incident, including subsurface exploration and laboratory testing.

One of the main problems the city faces, however, is paying for the repairs. Kwan stressed the fact that the forensic report is key to getting the necessary state funding. He said he recalled how in Richmond, where a larger hole formed under his watch, the state first denied the emergency funding. "Getting the forensic (plan) together helped the state change its mind," he said.

The forensic study will be completed in time for a report to be presented to the Moraga Town Council on April 27.

At the meeting Kwan will present repair options. He said he plans to expedite the bid process that will be presented to the council at its May 11 meeting. A few contractors will compete to get the repair work that should start in June. Kwan expects the repair itself to take three months, which puts the finished product sometime in September.

Kwan said he knows that everyone is eager to see repairs start, but he added that even if the town had all the money in the world it would still need to assess the extent and reasons for the damage, including what is happening with the 96-inch Laguna Creek culvert that runs deep at the crossing.

It was the same culvert that broke on the other side of the Moraga Road/Rheem Boulevard intersection 10 years ago. The incident had less civic impact in part because no other utilities were damaged in the first sinkhole.

In the meantime, staff is working at finding funding sources for the repairs. Even if the state declares the emergency, the town will have to front the money. The town council will determine what source of funding will be used, such as the town's reserves, the Palos Colorados fund or Measure K money.

Kwan said that each option will have consequences. There are other ongoing infrastructure projects to be completed, such as the repair of

Bollinger Canyon, Larch Avenue and Corliss Drive.

The state will reimburse the town if it recognizes the Moraga emergency. "(It's a) very lengthy process," Kwan said. As of April 15 the director had not yet been given a date for a visit from the California Office of Emergency Services' representatives.

The whole town staff is mobilized on the issue, from Amy Cunningham, the administrative

director working on the budget and capital improvement plan, to Interim Town Manager Bob Priebe, who is lobbying Sacramento staff and elected officials to speed the process. City staff is also working at improving the signage around the Rheem Shopping Center (See story on page A1), and also at communicating with Lafayette and Orinda that Moraga is still open for business.

## Just Listed in Moraga!



### 308 Corte Gabriel, Moraga

Situated on Corte Gabriel, this stunning townhome has 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms with an additional office/bonus room. This home has a fabulous floor plan and is conveniently located minutes from shopping, schools, parks and BART.

**Offered at \$799,000 | Call us for more details!**



### Bernie & Ryerson Team

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