



### MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
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## Recent land movement results in closure of Canyon Bridge pedestrian access



Canyon Bridge pedestrian access closed Photo Vera Kochan

### By Vera Kochan

Mother Nature's periodic burst of storms has taken its toll around Moraga. One such instance involves the beleaguered Canyon Bridge area.  
 On Feb. 13, the East Bay Municipal Utility District notified the town of renewed land movement that initially damaged the original bridge in 2017. While the temporary bridge itself is safe and open to vehicle and bicycle traffic, the pedestrian crossing is provisionally closed.  
 "The pedestrian bridge crossing is a separate structure that is attached to the west side of the temporary bridge," said Moraga Public Works Director Edric Kwan.

"The asphalt (AC) pathway on the southern side, because of the current land slide, began to push against the end of the pedestrian bridge. The town quickly mobilized an on-call contractor to remove the portions of the AC pathway that were pushing on the pedestrian bridge crossing. The removal necessitated the temporary closure."  
 Town staff and geotechnical engineers have evaluated the situation and determined the bridge itself is structurally sound. Kwan assured that "the temporary bridge deep stitch wall piers and bridge abutments continue to function as designed, protecting the bridge from adjacent land movement."  
 As a precaution, Moraga

notified the East Bay Regional Park District of the closure. According to the EBRP website trail notification status, "Until further notice, the Valle Vista to Canyon Bridge section of the Lafayette-Moraga Trail is closed. When bridge access is not available, it does not leave access to the trail."  
 Kwan stated, "Any expenses should fall under the Federal Highway Administration's emergency relief program for the temporary bridge."  
 As the town continues to monitor the bridge and surrounding land during the ongoing rainy season, it anticipates that the pedestrian access will be reopened by May of this year.

## Moraga Library HVAC woes continue

### By Vera Kochan

While libraries are known for their quiet atmosphere, the Moraga Library has been a little quieter since the heating system malfunctioned on Jan. 12.  
 Public Information Officer Brooke Converse with the Contra Costa County Library said, "Pickups and drop-offs remain steady for this time of year, but patron visit times are shorter, and three children's story time sessions were canceled early on. We have since moved story time activities to the main program area." She added that space heaters have been strate-


gically placed throughout the library.  
 Parks and Recreation Director Breyana Brandt gave a repair progress update during the Feb. 27 town council meeting, asking for council's authorization for Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg to award a construction contract to repair the HVAC system in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 from the Minor Capital Improvement Program.  
 Two separate contractors recommended that the full boiler needed replacement at a cost of roughly \$30,000. Brandt is in the process of obtaining a third contractor's opinion of

the situation.  
 The town manager has a threshold authorization of \$15,000 for the job. Any amount beyond that is above her authority. By asking the town council to grant her the authority to exceed that amount for repairs it is hoped that the process can begin much sooner.  
 Public Works Director Edric Kwan recognized that while the repair estimates came in at \$30,000, "the extra \$10,000 is important in order to have a slight contingency in case other problems are discovered in the course of repair." He added, "The funding

is identified in the Capital Improvement Project - a fund used for these specific cases. Whenever there's a failure of some of our minor assets we can come in there, utilize the money and make those necessary repairs."  
 Vice Mayor Kymberleigh Korpus questioned the thoroughness of the contractors' diagnoses by their "I can't make it work - it must be the boiler" assumptions.  
 Brandt assured Korpus that, "We have replaced main circuit boards and smaller circuit boards and have replaced everything that possibly could be replaced individually at this

point without proceeding and replacing the entire unit. The boiler is not getting power and the power is on."  
 Mayor Roger Wykle had paid a visit to the boiler room stating, "I can tell you the cabinet is fairly well corroded and the piping is corroded. It's got some serious issues inside of it."  
 Council Member Steve Woehleke had called the boiler's manufacturer and was told by a technician that he doesn't like the library's boiler model as it's a complex system with more components to it than average.  
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 <b>Town Council</b> Wednesday, March 13, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.	<b>Planning Commission</b> Monday, March 18, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.	<b>Design Review</b> Monday, March 11, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.	<b>Moraga School District Board Meetings</b> Tuesday, March 12, 7 p.m. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga www.moraga.k12.ca.us See also AUHSD meeting page A2
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