




MORAGA

See public meetings schedule on this pages and 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

experience the difference





381 Donald Dr., Moraga

- Four bedrooms / 2 bath
- Great private yard with a pool
- In desirable Rheem Valley Manor.
- Lovely Rancher

**extremely well priced.....
Offered at \$1,295,000**

**Are you thinking of selling?
Call ANA for fast action.....**





ANA ZIMMANK
SRES
GLOBAL LUXURY SPECIALIST
M. 925.640.6008
ana.zimmank@camoves.com
CalBRE #00469962

2019-20 budget: Moraga in cash flow crisis no longer

By Nick Marnell

The town of Moraga forecasts a financially stable 2019-20 fiscal year, having come a long way from the fiscal emergency and cash flow crisis the town operated under two years ago. The receipt of federal reimbursements for expenses related to the Rheem sinkhole and the temporary Canyon Road bridge projects enabled the town to restore its general fund reserve to 50% of expenditures in 2018-19, where it is forecast to remain in 2019-20. Long-term financial concerns include the town's unfunded pension liability and insufficient funds to repair an aging

infrastructure.

The total proposed budget for 2019-20 equals \$18.24 million, including a \$10.3 million general fund operating budget, and a \$7.94 million capital budget. The budget projects a surplus of \$95,913 and a general fund reserve balance of \$4.7 million, \$362,000 more than 2018-19.

With Moraga having developed comprehensive pavement and storm drain plans in 2019, and having identified funding for each, there is no extraordinary pressure on operations to fund those projects beyond a \$145,000 contribution from the general fund. But with the

Audit and Finance Committee in 2015 having projected \$600,000 per year needed for deferred maintenance and asset replacement, and less than \$400,000 allotted in four years for those programs, the town plans to hire a consultant to reevaluate infrastructure needs.

Moraga provides a defined benefit retirement plan for its employees, the only Lamorinda municipality to do so. Because of investment losses and incorrect cost assumptions by the California Public Employees' Retirement System, the town pension administrator, Moraga carries an unfunded pension liability of nearly \$6 million. In order

to pay down the liability, the town must make a payment of \$392,000 in 2019-20, escalating to \$673,000 in five years, based on CalPERS' calculations. That figure is in addition to current retirement costs, which total \$357,000 for 2019-20 after employee cost sharing.

In her summary report, Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg said that the budget "includes funding to acquire outside actuarial analysis of the Town's anticipated contribution rate projections, including an asset return sensitivity study, and the options the Town may have to accelerate and/or smooth payment of unfunded liability." The

Moraga-Orinda Fire District used a similar strategy in 2017 and established a pension stabilization trust which it funds over and above the required payments to its pension manager.

With the general fund reserve projected to dip below 50% in five years, a placeholder was inserted into the budget in anticipation of a possible revenue-generating measure. Moraga put aside \$42,000 for a public opinion poll, \$25,000 for community outreach and \$33,000 for legal fees to be spent if the town council gives a go-ahead to pursue the measure.

Moraga mayor proclaims June as Pride Month



Photo Vera Kochan

Paige Love and Maddie House holding proclamation surrounded by council members and well wishers

By Vera Kochan

During the June 12 town council meeting, Moraga's

Mayor Roger Wykle introduced a proclamation acknowledging June as Pride Month.

Recognizing that the town

has a diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning community, the proclamation is intended to promote a healthy, safe and

supportive environment for all.

The proclamation noted that many of Moraga's LGBTQ citizens have made positive impacts to the enrichment of the town either as residents, students, business owners or town employees. By issuing this recognition Wykle said Moraga's civic leaders hoped to promote a climate of tolerance and to follow in the footsteps of many states, cities, businesses, schools and religious institutions in the stand against intolerance.

On hand to accept the proclamation were Campolindo High School students Paige Love and Maddie House, who are president and

vice president of Campo's 40-member Sexuality and Gender Alliance chapter. SAGA, a nationwide organization, is a club based on inclusiveness and education about the LGBTQ community. Campo's chapter was formed approximately four years ago to foster tolerance on campus.

Both Love and House expressed their gratitude to Matt Bostick, the Campolindo social studies and advanced placement psychology teacher who serves as SAGA's faculty advisor. "This proclamation will go to him," they said. "He's been very supportive and helpful."

Town council approves purchase of more radar speed signs

By Vera Kochan

In response to the increasing number of speeding violations and reckless driving complaints, Moraga will add

three new portable radar speed signs to its current roster of three.

The signs use radar to capture a vehicle's speed and display it for the driver to see,

thus hopefully educating the driver if they are exceeding the posted speed limit.

According to a staff report presented by Moraga Police Chief Jon King at the June

12 Moraga Town Council Meeting, "Staff has researched available radar speed signs that would complement the existing signs used by the town and has discovered new technology that provides the same traffic information to drivers as the current signs, but also captures the traffic data for future analysis."

The additional data includes the total number of vehicles passing by the sign at a particular time of day, the total and average numbers of speeding violations per hour or day, as well as minimum, average and highest speeds recorded. This kind of information helps police target areas where speeding is a concern.

Even though particular stretches of road are conducive to speeding, King stated, "The signs will be rotated around to different locations throughout the town."


The cost of the three new signs, which includes accessing data, management software, on-site training, solar power, applicable sales tax and shipping comes to \$8,706.



Photo Vera Kochan

Radar speed sign captures reading of law-abiding driver

The town has collected funds from a Public Safety Impact Fee derived from development maintained separately from the General Fund. There is currently \$74,933 available in the account. The purchase of the three new radar speed signs will have no impact to the General Fund



Local Knowledge

Extraordinary Results


COMPASS

COMPASS


Are You Considering Selling Your Home?

If so, please give us a call for assistance. We would be happy to provide you with a complimentary market analysis of your home's value, as well as a comprehensive marketing plan detailing how to get you the highest sale price in today's market!

Gary Bernie & Ken Ryerson



Gary Bernie
925.200.2222
gary.bernie@compass.com
DRE 00686144



Ken Ryerson
925.878.9685
ken.ryerson@compass.com
DRE 01418309

Town Council

Wednesday, June 26, 7 p.m.
 Wednesday, July 10, 7 p.m.
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room,
 335 Rheem Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, July 1, 7 p.m.
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Park and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, July 16, 7 p.m.
 Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.

Moraga School District Board Meetings

TBD
 Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
 www.moraga.k12.ca.us
 See also AUHSD meeting page A2