



**EXPERIENCE MATTERS**

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LINDA EHRICH



**Community Meeting  
Future Hacienda Use**

**Thurs. 10/3 6pm**

**MORAGA**

**moragarec.com**

**925-888-7045**



# Moraga Center Specific Plan meeting provides clearer vision

By Vera Kochan

During the third MCSP Citizens Advisory Committee meeting held Sept. 19 at the Saint Mary's College Rheem Campus, participants who were tasked to advise about issues involving zoning and development standards were given 80 minutes to discuss 17 topics involving two development scenarios: one with

a hillside residential focus and another that leaned toward a mixed-use core.

The groups agreed that both scenarios portrayed full build-out developmental potential allowed under the MCSP and a focus on historic preservation of Moraga Ranch in regards to a proposed hotel. All groups additionally agreed that both scenarios should extend

School Street to Moraga Road with a suggestion of roundabouts.

Each group was given the opportunity to present their conclusions to the assemblage through a group spokesperson following the discussion period. Members of the public preferred the mixed-use core for housing allocation, the addition of new retail establishments

versus revitalization of existing shopping centers, and 40-foot scenic corridor setbacks on Moraga Way and Moraga Road.

When discussing a pedestrian trail southeast of the creek, the Creek Bridge vote was split between pedestrian only and mixed-vehicle pedestrian, with the public vote wanting a bike-use lane. The hotel location most preferred was at Moraga

Ranch and along the interior site on School Street. A suggested possibility was to locate it closer to Saint Mary's College.

The fourth and final CAC meeting was held on Oct. 1, after Lamorinda Weekly went to press. Additional information about the two scenarios can be found at <http://www.moraga.ca.us/dept/planning/MCSP>

# Moraga Safeway's struggles with bad behavior

By Vera Kochan

In the first week of the new school year, the Safeway store on Moraga Way had already experienced minors stealing candy and other small items, hiding things in their backpacks, observed a theft from the deli section, and stopped a couple of students who were riding their scooters down the store aisles, according to Store Director Jennifer Carter.

John Park, owner of AFC Franchise Corporation's sushi section, operates indepen-

dently from Safeway. Over the past four years he estimates that his items have been stolen between 200 to 300 times. "I see kids take something and pretend to go to the store's main checkout only to keep walking and go out of the store at the other end without paying," Park stated. "I have come to recognize their faces, and I make them pay at the deli register now."

According to the Director of Public and Government Affairs for Safeway's Northern California Division, Wendy Gutshall, Safeway

employs a number of security measures at their stores, including visible deterrents and others that are not immediately apparent. "Theft affects everyone," she said. "Like other retailers, our policy places a premium on employee, customer and bystander safety," adding that for proprietary reasons, they cannot provide step-by-step detail of their shoplifter policy, "because we want to avoid someone using this information to their advantage."

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# Solar-powered streetlights to be installed at two busy Moraga intersections


By Vera Kochan

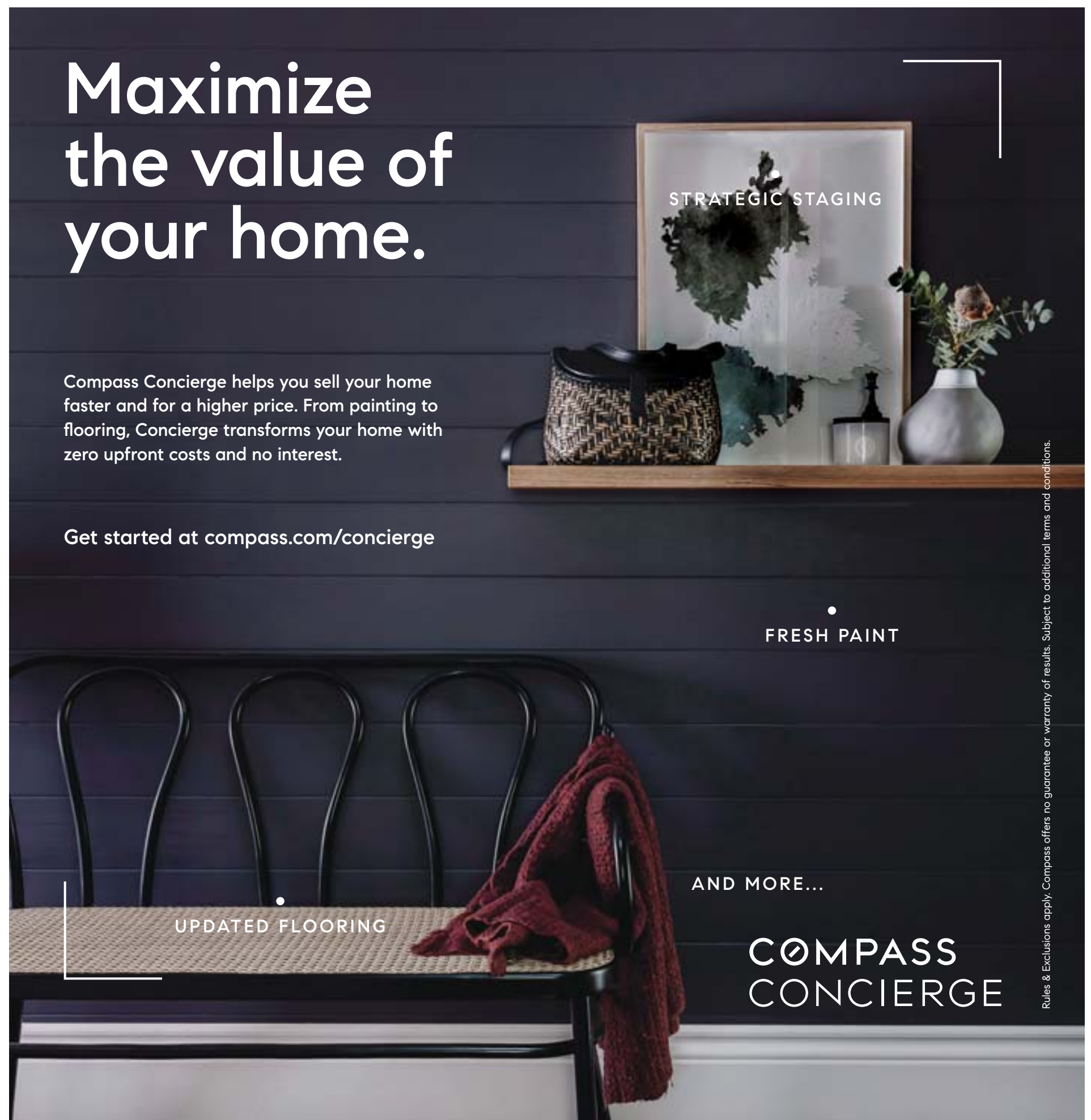
As work on the intersection improvements at Canyon Road/Camino Pablo continues, the Moraga Town Council approved appropriating \$86,000 from Property Tax Lighting Special District to purchase and install three solar-powered streetlights by Ghilotti Construction Com-

pany, the firm currently involved with intersection and road improvements.

Two lights would be incorporated into the upcoming intersection project at the Moraga Road/Alta Mesa crosswalk, and an additional streetlight would be located at the intersection of Canyon Road and Country Club Drive.

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 <p><b>Town Council</b> Wednesday, Oct. 9, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Planning Commission</b> Monday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Park and Recreation Commission</b> Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. Council Chambers and Community Meeting Room, 335 Rheem Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Moraga School District Board Meetings</b> Thursday, Oct. 10, 7 p.m. Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium, 1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga <a href="http://www.moraga.k12.ca.us">www.moraga.k12.ca.us</a> See also AUHSD meeting page A2</p>
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