



MORAGA

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New Moraga mayor looks forward to serving the community



Photo provided

Moraga mayor Mike McCluer
By Vera Kochan

Mike McCluer was officially nominated and elected mayor of Moraga during the Dec. 9 town council meeting with Steve Woehleke nominated and elected as vice mayor. McCluer grew up in Pennsylvania and Chicago but

moved to Moraga with his family in the 1970s where he went on to attend Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School and Miramonte High School. "My career took me east, then the Midwest," he said. "During this time I would visit my family annually in Moraga and continue to monitor its progress. I returned to Moraga in 2002 with my daughters going to JM and Campolindo, so I've known this town for decades and have lived in town for over 25 years."

With a 30-year career in finance, McCluer began serving Moraga as a member of the Planning Commission and was later elected to the town council in 2018. His desire to be a community volunteer grew from concerns about the direction the town was taking and his aspiration to help.

When asked what aspects of his initial campaign platform he hoped to accomplish

as Moraga's new mayor, McCluer replied, "Well first, the goals we seek to accomplish are achieved as a team with my town council colleagues and our great staff. Having said that, I hope our team can continue on the progress of the last two years and focus on unfunded financial needs, fire prevention, traffic safety/congestion, attracting retail, preserving our semi-rural culture, recreation, and participate with community groups to address diversity and inclusion." McCluer added, "And, I feel it's incredibly important to continue our efforts to enhance communication with full transparency in everything we do!"

McCluer feels that his experiences on the town council, in addition to keeping an open channel with the community, have helped prepare him for his role as mayor. He does believe that "there are

always opportunities to continue learning, apply new skills, as well as sharpen skills, especially in a new role."

Some attributes McCluer credits himself with are a strong passion and skill set with regards to listening and understanding residents' issues in addition to working with a team to find solutions. "The most important requirement of a town council member is leadership," he stated. "Acting as the board of directors for the town, we have this responsibility to lead our community. And, I believe in the concept of a servant leader, a person who leads to serve the residents." McCluer is open to citizen input and is honored to lead his team in working for the community and making Moraga a better place to live.

Town council establishes a Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee

By Vera Kochan

In a year full of unprecedented global turmoil and disruption, and in response to local efforts to increase awareness about diversity issues, the Moraga Town Council formed a Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee Jan. 13 during its first meeting of the year.

Numerous national and local events were the driving force behind the need for such a committee, according to town staff, beginning with the May 25, 2020 death of George Floyd by Minneapolis police officers.

In response to that event, Campolindo and Miramonte high school students organized a peaceful rally in Moraga Commons Park on June 4, which drew approximately 500 Lamorinda residents, council members and town staff.

Shortly thereafter, Moraga Police Chief Jon King expressed his dismay over the actions of the Minneapolis police officers during the June 10 town council meeting and presented an update that included MPD's mission statement, policies and approach to the 8 Can't Wait police use of force campaign concerns.

On July 15, town staff attended a mandatory workshop on "Understanding and Mitigating Unconscious Bias." An optional "Allies and Accomplices" workshop was offered on Nov. 5.

In October, Campo students participated in a school cultural survey entitled "Campolindo Student Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Survey." The purpose of the survey was to gather data on the progress of the school's newly updated mission statement: "Campolindo strives to inspire and empower every student by fostering belonging, well-being, and accountability in an equitable learning environment." The survey revealed that 59% of students witnessed a racist act by another student either on campus or at a school event. Additionally, 52% of students surveyed witnessed a racist incident in Moraga perpetrated by a non-student.

The Campolindo Diversity and Inclusion Committee sponsored a Dec. 2 virtual film screening event and discussion with the founder of the national Not In Our Town movement, which attracted approximately 75 Zoom attendees.

A Dec. 4 incident, whereby a Black faculty

member's tire was allegedly vandalized while parked in Campolindo's parking lot, prompted nearly 30 participants during the Public Comment portion of the Dec. 9 town council meeting, with even more viewers watching the virtual proceedings. The common thread of outrage and pleas for the formation of an ad hoc committee to be discussed on a future agenda was quickly realized. According to King, as of Jan. 14 the investigation into the incident remains ongoing.

Moraga's town council voted unanimously for the formation of a Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee, composed of Mayor Mike McCluer and Council Member Renata Sos, in order to participate in the community-wide efforts to raise awareness about and address issues regarding diversity and inclusion in the town of Moraga.

The committee members will represent the town council at community meetings, discussions and workshops and report back to the council, as needed. The communication between the council and the community has a temporary term beginning Jan. 13 through June 30, 2022. There is no direct fiscal impact to this action.

Moraga's electric vehicle charging stations are up and running



Photo Vera Kochan

By Vera Kochan

In keeping with the town's Climate Action Plan goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, four electric vehicle charging stations are now fully functional within Moraga.

Two of the chargers are located in the parking lot of the Town Offices at 329 Rheem Blvd. The other two are in the main parking lot of Moraga Commons Park located at 1425 St. Mary's Rd.

The project fell behind schedule due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place mandates which delayed not only the construction and installation of the stations, but also delayed the permitting process.

The SemaConnect stations can be located through various free applications such as ChargeHub EV Map, PlugShare and the SemaConnect app. Additionally, users can see the availability of individual stations before making the trip out, only to discover that all ports are in use.

The town-owned stations are currently charging a tiered rate based on the time of day as shown in the attached table.

Time of Day	Cost per kWh
8 a.m. to noon	\$0.38
Noon to 6 p.m.	\$0.53
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.	\$0.38
10 p.m. to 8 a.m.	\$0.31

Moraga Commons Park EV charging stations



Town Council
 Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Planning Commission:
 Monday, Feb. 1, 7 p.m.
Park and Recreation Commission:
 Tuesday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m.,

Moraga School District Board Meetings:
 Special Board Meeting
 Tuesday, Feb. 9, 6 p.m.
 www.moraga.k12.ca.us
 See also AUHSD meeting page A2



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