



# Moraga Civic News

## Public Meetings

### Town Council

Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 22, 7 p.m.  
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,  
1010 Camino Pablo

### Planning Commission

Monday, May 20, 7 p.m.  
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd.

### Design Review

Monday, May 13, 7 p.m.  
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd.

### School Board Meeting

**Moraga School District**  
Tuesday, May 14, 7:30 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



## Police Report

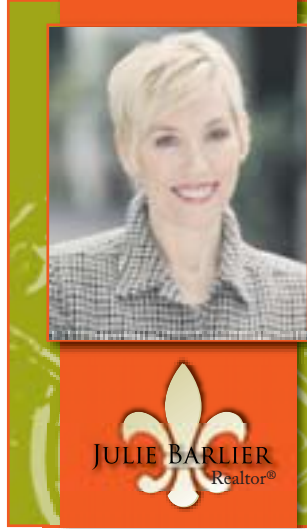
### Scam alert from Chief Robert Priebe:

Two messages have been received by the Moraga Police Department reporting phone calls received by a caller claiming to be soliciting donations for the Moraga Police or for the Moraga Police Department's Fraternal Order of Police (which does not exist). One of the callers identified himself as an officer. We have investigated the incidents and believe they are a telemarketing scam, possibly using Caller ID Spoofing to hide the actual phone number they are calling from. No agency is authorized to collect donations for the Moraga Police Department or any affiliated Moraga Police Associations. Please do not send any money to anyone asking for donations on behalf of the Moraga Police Department - it is a scam.

Report of a large party, 4/27/13 It wasn't even lunchtime when police were called to check out a large party on the Saint Mary's College campus. "Gaelapalooza" is an annual school sponsored party to celebrate the end of the academic year in style. Just nice to have cops there as a visual reminder for potentially wacky students to behave themselves; turns out they were busy.

Missing items after SMC party, 4/27/13 A student called police to say he hosted a party in his dorm room, and as the party ended the student was missing 10 to 15 shot glasses. The host suspected one of the subjects who was arrested while attending a campus party.

Gaelapalooza shoving match, 4/27/13 While responding to a disturbance at the Saint Mary's campus party, cops were flagged down by a female who reported that she was pushed in the chest by an unknown male. The reporting person said she responded by punching the male in the face. SMC's public safety officer reported that both parties were later contacted and both ultimately declined to press charges for mutual battery and were released.



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## Is Moraga Unsustainable?

### How One Bay Area may affect one small town

By Sophie Braccini

There is much controversy in the Bay Area revolving around the housing and transportation master plan, known as One Bay Area, that the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission recently released for public comment.

The philosophy of the plan is to aggregate housing and jobs close to existing and new public transit to accommodate population growth while reducing transportation pollution. On April 23, the Moraga Town Council debated how One Bay Area might affect Moraga and whether or not it should submit comments on the plan.

Although the town does not have anything to complain about regarding its housing obligation, it could find itself excluded from transportation funds and grant money; the council agreed that Moraga should request certain modifications in an attempt to

protect its interests.

At stake is the lion's share of investment in maintaining the existing road system, coming from the One Bay Area grant program and other federal infrastructure funding. One of the plan's goals is to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions from cars and light trucks, so it looks to foster development where housing is close to jobs and/or mass transit and not encourage development in suburbs that rely almost exclusively on cars. Moraga's growth is not considered sustainable under this plan, mostly due to its lack of public transportation.

"Cities that are located next to BART stations, like Orinda and Lafayette, have high numbers of housing to plan for," said Shawna Brekke-Read, Moraga's planning director, "but for Moraga, the number dropped." Under One Bay Area, Moraga is expected to build 790

housing units between now and the year 2040; but the town has already planned for 1,000 units in the Moraga Center alone.

But while fulfilling the housing requirement is a condition for infrastructure grants, there are other elements in the plan that could hurt the town. Funding will be directed mostly toward Priority Development Areas, or PDAs; Moraga has only one, the Moraga Center. Brekke-Read tried to have the Rheem Center area declared a PDA as well, but that was denied because of insufficient public transportation services; she said that she is not giving up her pursuit of this goal.

"For me it's all about funneling federal funding toward established urban areas, and we get the short end of the stick," said Council Member Mike Metcalf who represents Moraga at the Contra Costa Transportation

Authority. He added that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission understands the need for smaller communities such as Moraga, Danville, and Clayton to maintain their infrastructure even if they are not seeking to grow.

Furthermore, Brekke-Read said that not only would transportation funding go first to PDAs, but the county's Measure J money could go that way as well—a decision that would heavily penalize Moraga, especially if Rheem is not recognized as a PDA.

Another dangerous change for Moraga would be that agencies would only look at the number of new homes actually built in PDAs, not at the number of homes that have been planned for. The Moraga Center PDA is mostly located on private land belonging to the Bruzzone family.

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## Council Balks at Supporting Bag Ban

By Sophie Braccini

The Moraga Town Council took a cautious approach to a statewide ban on plastic bags. The state senate will soon consider legislation that would ban loose plastic bags in large retail stores by 2015 and in small ones by 2016. The council considered and rejected the idea of sending a letter supporting the ban, at least until local businesses have a chance to weigh in.

The discussion began with Mayor Dave Trotter and Council Member Mike Metcalf speaking in support of a statewide bag ban. Trotter said he was not interested in local legislation to ban plastic bags in Moraga, but that it made sense at the state

level. "Plastic bags don't add mass to the landfill, recycling them is costly and recyclers do not get much diversion credit for them, so the best way to protect the environment is a statewide ban," said Trotter.

"Tim Argenti from Allied Waste came to a Kiwanis meeting recently and explained to us what a nightmare plastic bags are because they get entangled in recycling machines," added Metcalf in support of banning bags rather than recycling them.

But the support stopped there. Vice Mayor Ken Chew said there were more important pollutants than plastic bags, such as plastic bottles,

and machines could be modified to accommodate plastic bags.

"We discussed this on the town's Climate Action Task Force," added Council Member Roger Wykle. "Four voted for it, one opposed and two abstained; I was one of them." He thinks that Moraga's business owners should be consulted before the council makes a decision on this issue. Council Member Phil Arth agreed and proposed to reach out to the Chamber of Commerce.

Bill Durkin of Sustainable Moraga commented after the meeting that he was disappointed in the decision. "I can't understand why the

town council does not want Moraga to take any kind of leadership role in being earth-friendly in any way," he said. "They will only do something if required, and then do so kicking and screaming." Back in 2007, Sustainable Moraga launched a reusable bag campaign, selling green bags in front of Safeway. "It is nice to see that most businesses now offer (sell) reusable shopping bags," he said, "but we are a very long way from making a dent in plastic bag use."

For more information on the pending legislation go to the California Legislative information site at [leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov) and search for SB-405.

Manhunt for trespasser, 4/27/13 Police responded to a Paseo Grande home on a report of an unknown male adult who jumped or fell from a neighboring tree and was somewhere on the property. The homeowner investigated and found the subject hiding in the bushes near his front door. Tree jumper fled on foot with the homeowner, and a furniture delivery guy who happened to be nearby, in hot pursuit. Moraga, Lafayette and East Bay Regional Parks Police—a ground unit and helicopter searched the area with negative results. It was later determined that no crime, other than possibly trespassing, had occurred.

Possession, 4/26/13 Cops pulled over a 1997 Lincoln Towncar that was speeding and had a broken brake lamp on Ascot Drive at Moraga Road in the middle of the afternoon. The 22-year-old driver from San Jose was found to have 0.57 grams of hashish. The hash was confiscated and forwarded to the lab for analysis. Presumably the fellow was arrested, although it's not mentioned in the police report.

Drunk in the parking lot, 4/27/13 Two juveniles were noticeably intoxicated at the rear parking area of the Moraga Country Club, one with extreme signs of inebriation. Cops came and called their parents; the 15-year-old was released to his mother and the 16-year-old was transported to John Muir Medical Center by ambulance after showing signs of alcohol poisoning. Club security conducted a search of the locker room and found a 1.75 liter bottle half-full of vodka with the teen's property.

## 2013 MORAGA COMMUNITY FAIRE

May 11 11am - 4pm

Join us for a day of fun at the

### Rheem Valley Shopping Center

#### Entertainment Schedule

- 11am C4EO (Chinese-American Dance Group)
- 11-2pm Monster Coloring Table
- 11:30am Dunk Tank of Moraga Celebrity
- 11:45am All-Star Jazz Ensemble
- 11:30-2pm Fingerprinting w/ Moraga PD
- 12:30pm Dunk Tank of Moraga Celebrity
- 12:45pm Town Hall Presents Mini-Drama
- 1:45pm Dunk Tank of Moraga Celebrity
- 2pm Oak Grove, a Bluegrass Family
- 3pm Dunk Tank of Moraga Celebrity
- 3:15pm Little Dogz II + I
- 3:30pm Carshow Trophies & Awards
- 3:45pm Dunk Tank of Moraga Celebrity

#### Ongoing Activities:

- Classic Car Show
- Climbing Wall
- Local Wine Tasting
- Food Trucks
- Art and Crafts Show
- Bounce House
- Carnival Games
- Fire Truck
- Explorer Passport

[www.moragachamber.org/faire](http://www.moragachamber.org/faire)