

### Civic News Moraga

## Moraga Planning Commission Says Climate Action Plan Needs More Work

... continued from page A4

"We didn't expect the whole package to be passed in mass because there is no cost associated with it," said Crossley.

Commissioners were split as they considered the draft plan. "(Moraga) could be a model," said Teresa Onoda, who added that the plan should be discussed by the whole town and that stronger requirements could be made for new developments to include renewable energy sources. Tom Marnane said he thought that the plan was a hodgepodge and some proposals were laudable while others were silly. "This is not ready to come to us, not ready to be sent to the town council;

we should stop right now," he said. All of the planning commissioners agreed that it was premature to send the draft to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District for review before a cost-benefits analysis had been done.

The commission decided to forward the plan to the Town Council, but not to the BAAQMD; it recommended that the plan not be adopted without a better understanding of the costs and benefits associated with each element, along with a prioritization of the strategies. The commission also asked that the council consider additional community discussion, including scientific input.

#### Moraga's draft climate action plan includes these recommendations, among others:

##### Land Use and Transportation

- Increase bike ridership by 5 percent
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Achieve a 10 percent, or more, reduction in car trips to schools
- Support Lamorinda's Connectivity Shuttle Program
- Work with the CCTA to implement a carpool/rideshare program
- Support the transition to hybrids and alternative fuel vehicles
- Increase employer participation in Transportation Demand Management programs
- Encourage and allow individuals to raise food at home and in community gardens

##### Residential Energy Use

- Adopt a green building ordinance impacting all new construction
- Support upgrades of major home appliances to high efficiency models
- Partner with energy service providers to host energy efficiency fairs, workshops, and demonstrations
- Support development of best practices that streamline the solar permitting process
- Support the installation of solar thermal (domestic hot water) on existing buildings

##### Commercial Energy Use

- Target small and medium businesses with retrofit and rebate opportunities
- Conduct targeted outreach to large commercial and industrial utility customers to encourage greater adoption of energy efficiency

##### Solid Waste

- Increase landfill diversion rate to 75 percent by the year 2020
- Adopt a mandatory recycling ordinance for multifamily and commercial properties

##### Water and Wastewater

- Develop a local efficient landscape ordinance that exceeds the state's Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance
- Encourage water audits on remodels
- Encourage schools and town to use bay-friendly landscaping

##### Municipal Operations

- Purchase alternative fuel or fuel efficient vehicles
- Install renewable generation systems on town facilities
- Adopt an Energy Efficient Procurement Policy for major building system equipment

## Moraga School District Plans for the Future

... continued from page A5

"Each category is presented as a tree, and each time we reach a goal, we add a fruit in the tree." The four trees are named Student Achievement, Community Inclusiveness, Fiscal Stability, and Curriculum and Instruction.

On the community tree, the "collaboration with Saint Mary's College pear" now hangs; on the fiscal tree, the "apple of successful parcel tax" has been attached; and on the curriculum tree, the "peach of implementation of the math and English Common Core standards" hangs proudly, among many others.

"Our plan is set for three years and not five because our environment changes rapidly," says Burns, "and now we will transition to the Local Control Accountability Plan that we have to submit every year." In the area of change, one of the big "ifs" is funding. "The LCFF is set to bring us back in 2020 to the level of funding we had in 2007-08, depending on positive economic growth," says Burns. He adds that MEF funding and the parcel tax have given the district some stability.

Enrollment is also a big if. "We have three to five years of solid projections for the district; after that all we have are generalized estimates,"

says Burns. "The number of developments that are proposed in the town is such that we need to make sure we will have the capacity for the new residents."

The superintendent was not aware that in 2008, when the Moraga Center Specific Plan was approved, the environmental impact study prepared by the town's consultant found that the school district had enough capacity for the number of new homes proposed. "We have hired a demographer who will look at birthrates, enrollment trends, proposed development, and will estimate a 'student generation rate.'" Burns says that the heart of the district's concern is the facilities that haven't had significant attention since the mid '90s. "We need to look at renovation, seismic retrofit, and if we need to increase capacity we will have to build new classrooms." The alternative would be to increase class size— Burns notes that in the '70s, when the district was teaching almost 1,000 more students than it is today, the average class size was more than 30 students, rather than the 20-something of today.

The Moraga School District's strategic plan can be found online at www.moraga.k12.ca.us.

## Bragging Rights

What's the highest height in Lamorinda? The largest home? The longest road, fastest runner, most expensive meal? *Lamorinda Weekly* is seeking your suggestions for a New Year's Eve newspaper edition. Send your thoughts to cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com by Nov. 30.

## Why Buy A New Car?



2015

\$52,950 +

- Higher Insurance Costs \$
- Higher Financing Fees \$\$
- Higher DMV Fees \$\$\$

Does your current car still fit your needs?

Studies indicate it is more economical to repair vs replace.



2008

PAID FOR

Do you need a free honest consultation about weather or not your vehicle is worth keeping?

Our services cost less than you may think!

## Orinda Motors

Your Affordable One-Stop Solution for Service You Can Trust!

63 Orinda Way, Orinda, Ca. 94563 (925) 254-2012

### 5A'S FALL SPECIAL

# 20% OFF FOR 2 MONTHS!\*



FROM OUR SELECTED UNITS IN STOCK\*

4 X 6 REG. \$91 NOW ONLY...\$72.<sup>80</sup>

8 X 7 REG. \$166 NOW ONLY...\$132.<sup>80</sup>

RENT A UNIT & MOVE IN WITH OUR VAN FREE!



CHECK OUR UPCOMING EVENTS ON OUR 5A SOCIAL MEDIA

\* SELECT UNITS LIMITED; 1ST COME, 1ST SERVED. OFFERS EXP. 10/31/14



455 MORAGA ROAD, SUITE F (925) 631-7000 WWW.5ASPACE.COM

ASK FOR YOUR 2014 NEIGHBORHOOD COUPONS WHEN YOU COME VISIT US!

