



## City Manager's Update

**August 1, 2024**

I trust everyone had a wonderful July. Our City had its 60<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 17, marking six decades as a vibrant and passionate municipality. Morro Bay remains young, strong, and full of community spirit. I witness that daily in my work for and interaction with this wonderful community. I believe you will also feel the strong sense of community throughout this issue of the CM Update.

To honor the 60<sup>th</sup> year milestone, a three-day celebration has been planned for September 5, 6, and 7. This timing allows us to build on July's signature events and dedicate the necessary planning and attention to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary festivities. A quick preview of the highly anticipated activities is as follows: Thursday, September 5: Enhanced Tunes at Tidelands; Friday September 6: Art/Garden Show supported by Morro Bay Art Association; Saturday, September 7: Community Parade followed by Founder's Day at Tidelands Park. A "Save the Dates" has been distributed as well as a press release. Both can be found on the city's website and social media outlets. Those 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary events are sure to impress. A Thank-you goes to the City's Recreation Office, Mayor Wixom, various community members, and city departments, for their planning efforts. Stay tuned for more details.

As alluded to earlier, July has always been one of the busiest months for the city in terms of events. The City's Recreation Office successfully hosted two series of signature events in July. On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 200 bikes participated in the Red, White and Blue bike parade and 1500 people attended Family Fun Day. Two weeks later on July 20<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the 54th Brian Waterbury Rock to Pier Walk/ Run event which saw over thousand contenders, marking this year the largest attendance ever. Recreation Manager Kirk Carmichael and his staff deserve special recognition for their dedication and sacrifice of personal time, which have made these events a treasured tradition for our residents and visitors year after year. If you want to send Kirk a thank-you note, he can be reached at [kcarmichael@morrobayca.gov](mailto:kcarmichael@morrobayca.gov)

With visitors and special events, comes with debris and clean up. In Morro Bay, debris clean up does not have to keep city staff up at night, thanks to the dedication of our community volunteers. For example, on July 5<sup>th</sup> following all the activities from Independence Day, the National Estuary Program had a successful cleanup day at the Morro Rock parking lot, where volunteers collected an incredible 14 pounds of trash.

This amazing work helps keep our ocean clean and our community inviting. Morro Bay In Bloom's volunteers also faithfully attend to those highly visible spots on Embarcadero and beach area day after day by pulling weeds, sprucing plants and more. In addition to those organized volunteer efforts, I learned about a few dedicated residents who have been quietly cleaning up Embarcadero every early Monday morning for years. Their work is especially appreciated after a summer weekend. Helen B., a core member of this small group, embodies their spirit of selfless contribution and unwavering love for our community. Although Helen prefers to remain uncelebrated, I want to take this opportunity to thank her and her companions for their invaluable efforts. Volunteer work truly makes a difference in our quality of life.

Aside from festivities, the month of July was quite exciting. Here is a recap of significant happenings that I was personally involved:

Early July, we learned that the World Triathlon Corporation (WTC) decided to cancel the three-year agreement with the city one year early. As a result, the city will not be hosting the 2025 Ironman event. The cancellation was unexpected. I had the pleasure of witnessing how my team of city staff, city council and our community came together to embrace and support the Ironman event this year. Our community had done an outstanding job hosting this international event, successfully two years in a row. WTC's termination letter suggested that their decision was driven by business model change and was not a reflection of city's partnership. For more information on this subject, click here for discussions at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> council meeting: <https://pub-morrobay.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=1b42f24f-373c-4ec2-9c08-ad158ae3428b&lang=English&Agenda=Agenda&Item=26&Tab=attachments>

Also in July, we heard that the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Grants Pass v. Johnson*, in favor of preserving local control and upholding local ordinances regulating camping on public property. The decision highlighted the complexities of the homeless crisis and overruled a previous lower court decision in *Martin v. Boise* on this same issue, which had determined cities could not enforce public camping ordinances against "involuntarily" homeless people if there were more homeless persons than "practically available" shelter beds. Morro Bay adopted a well written and legally sound camping ordinance in January 2024. Here is some information on the ordinance ([December 12, 2023 CC meeting, Item C2](#)). With the supreme court decision in favor of cities, our ordinance remains legally sound and enforceable. For instance, in July, through the partnership with Caltrans, encampments in certain areas along Hwy 1 were cleared. However, cleaning up encampments is only one facet of addressing the homelessness crisis. The city continues to respond to calls for encampment issues while looking for ways for support services and housing to address homelessness issues in a comprehensive approach. Please direct your concerns and questions to Police Chief Watkins. She, along with our entire executive team and the City Council, are working together to respond to this complex issue.

In July, I took advantage of the break between council meetings to work at the Harbor office. This opportunity allowed me to get to know the employees better and further assess the department's strengths and needs. The last few weeks were well spent. I formed a better understanding of infrastructure work, such as dredging, dock repair; I saw parking challenges on our waterfront; I witnessed harbor employees and coast guards training together, observed mooring inspections, experienced beach rescues, assisted boats check-in and checkouts, met with the boating community members, and walked up down Embarcadero to discuss tidelands leases. I was amazed by the breadth of services the Harbor Department provides. The office opens to the public 6 am to 7 pm daily, joining the city's police, fire and other essential service departments to protect the safety and wellbeing of visitors, residents, and businesses on both water and shore. The department maintains city owned slips, moorings, and docks. The department serves transient visitors as well as long-term liveaboards, oversees Tidelands ground leases, provides seasonal lifeguard programs, responds to safety and rescue calls on the water and beach,

patrols parking lots, provides first aids to visitors, coordinates with US Coast Guards, manages small boats and commercial fishing dockage, conducts boater safety training and lifeguards training, coordinates with other city departments in issuing event permits, and assists with special events at the harbor and Embarcadero.

Having stationed at the Harbor Department, I would like to highlight a few useful websites I encountered. These resources are invaluable for both staff and the public. One of the key websites is [Beach Water Quality Monitoring \(ca.gov\)](#) This site provides information on timely press releases on beach closures, sampling results, and historical sampling data. Recently, when the Harbor Department assisted County Health department to respond to a sewer spill into the beach and the ocean, the Department used information on this website to inform the public and to stay current with beach water quality status for countywide beach water. Another interesting website is [MarineTraffic: Global Ship Tracking Intelligence | AIS Marine Traffic](#) This is one of the free websites that offers a live map where users can discover vessel positions for vessels that are equipped with AIS (automatic identification system) around the world, including those in Morro Bay Harbor. Since Morro Bay Harbor is a safe harbor on this stretch of the coast and we generally do not deny vessels use of our facilities, Harbor staff use this website to track vessels out in the ocean and plan for incoming ships. The Harbor Department has one patrol boat that has AIS installed and is trackable on marine traffic websites.

Looking ahead to August and September, we have much to look forward to. Approximately \$4 million worth of road paving work is slated for the fall, with more details to be released by Public Works Department. We also have the National Night Out community event on August 6 (see the following pages for details), and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Sept. to plan for. I count my good fortunes every day for how privileged and honored I am to be part of this vibrant community and to lead my incredible city team, whose work has made every accomplishment possible.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Kimball

City Manager – [ykimball@morrobayca.gov](mailto:ykimball@morrobayca.gov); cell: 805-440-4450



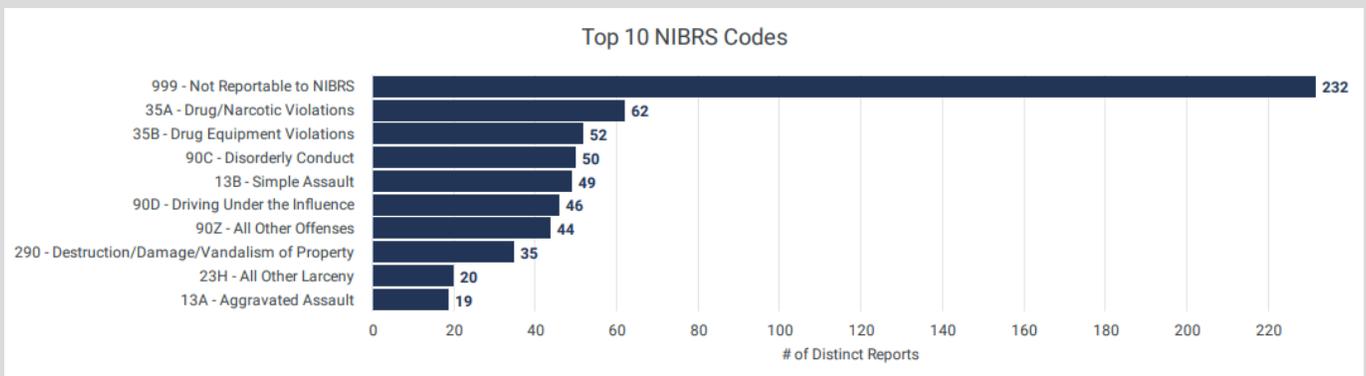
*City-wide  
employee  
BBQ  
lunch at  
Lila Keiser  
Park*

# Police

The Morro Bay Police Department has remained busy throughout the first half of this year. The department continues ongoing efforts to reduce DUI traffic collisions through proactive enforcement; the apprehension of law violators through technology; crime reduction strategies with use of technology and patrol techniques; and increased services to our unhoused population. The department has also continued its dedication to community policing and being responsive to your needs with events such as coffee with a cop, community forums, attendance in community events, and the neighborhood cop program.

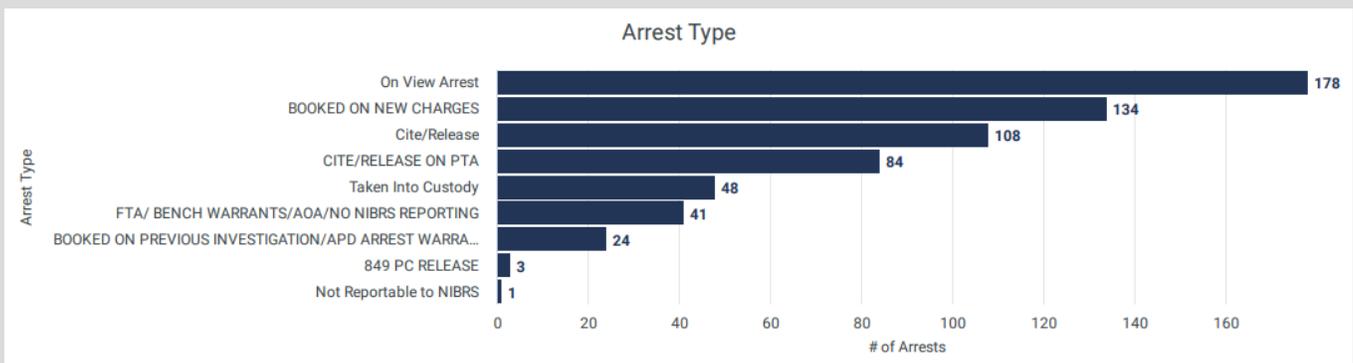
## Crime Statistics

Here are some crime statistics for this year to date in 2024.



A total of 724 reports have been taken by officers with 524 of those reports being crime related. The crime report categories are listed in the table above.

A total of 621 offenses resulted in arrests made by MBPD officers to date this year. The categories of those arrests are listed below in the Arrest Type table.



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Operations

The Morro Bay Police Department had a wonderful time at this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade. Over 200 cyclists came out to ride their decorated bikes showing true patriotism. MBPD performed a rolling roadblock to allow for safe passage of parade goers and vehicles along the Embarcadero.



After the parade, Morro Bay PD joined the Family Fun Day event at Tidelands Park. We enjoyed the celebration and handed out fun items for kids of all ages.



### **Motorcycle Officers Out in the Community**

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, Morro Bay PD officially put two new BMW motorcycles in service. We have been waiting patiently for the arrival of these two motorcycles the department ordered back in August 2023. The mission of the MBPD Motor Unit is to enforce the vehicle code and educate the public in an effort to reduce collisions, improve pedestrian safety, and avoid traffic fatalities.

The department receives a large number of traffic related complaints each month from our community. School starts August 15<sup>th</sup>, and MBPD Motors Unit will be out making sure drivers are paying attention to school buses and speeds in school zones.



## Traffic Statistics

2024 – January through July

- 47 Traffic Collisions (collision factors below)
  - 21% Right of Way violation
  - 21% Unsafe Speed
  - 17% Improper Turning
  - 14% DUI

2023 – January through July

- 44 Traffic Collision (collision factors below)
  - 27% Unsafe Speed
  - 20% Improper Turning
  - 11% Right of Way violation
  - 9% DUI

## **Congratulations Officer Cambronero - MADD Award Recipient**

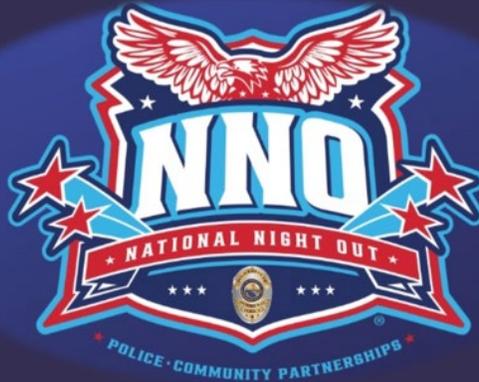
Morro Bay Police Officer Mario Cambronero was among those recognized on July 17th at the Tri-Counties Law Enforcement Recognition Gala in Santa Barbara, hosted by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Officers, prosecutors, volunteers, EMS, and youth from the Counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo were honored for their efforts to combat drunk driving. Officer Cambronero received his award for leading the Morro Bay Police Department with 17 DUI arrests this past year. We are very proud of Officer Cambronero for his dedication and hard work to help keep our streets safer.



## **National Night Out**

Please join us for this year's National Night Out event. We will be serving free hotdogs and shaved ice. Prizes for the kids, a bounce house, and other fun attractions from all of your Morro Bay public safety and city services. The fun begins at 5:00 pm at Cloisters Park.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.



The 41st Annual  
**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

5:00—7:00 pm

Cloisters Park

2501 Coral Ave., Morro Bay



Come enjoy a free hot dog, chips, and shave ice courtesy of Morro Bay POA. Participate in fun exhibits, a bounce house, and meet your Morro Bay PD, Public Safety Partners, and all the Morro Bay City Departments.

## Fire

### Fire Chief Update

July has been a very busy month for the Fire department. Deputy Chief Matt Vierra completed the weed abatement inspections and is working with the non-compliant parcel owners to complete the hazard fuel removal. The seasonal Firefighters have completed the annual fire hose testing, and painting of all the fire hydrants in town. Morro Bay Fire staff gave a community presentation to the staff and residents at Casa De Flores assisted living facility. The presentation came at the request of facility staff on fire safety, fall prevention, 911 utilization, and many other topics.



Morro Bay Fire received its first wildland fire engine due to an apparatus exchange with Atascadero Fire Department. This engine was placed in service on Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> and was immediately requested to cover San Luis Obispo County fire stations in the north county as part of a mutual aid cover assignment. Captain Jeff Simpson has been assigned to the Shelly fire in Siskiyou County near the Pacific Crest Trail since July 6<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Chief Vierra and the Fire Department UTV were assigned to the Shelly Fire on July 17<sup>th</sup>.



On July 27, 2024, at approximately 12:20 am, the Morro Bay Fire Department responded to a residential structure fire in the 500 block of Kings Avenue. The incident was supported by CAL FIRE/ San Luis Obispo County Fire, San Luis Obispo City Fire, California Men’s Colony Fire, San Luis Ambulance, Morro Bay Police Department and San Luis Obispo County Sheriff’s Department. We regret to announce that there was one confirmed fatality. The victim’s identity is being withheld pending identification and notification of next of kin. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Morro Bay Fire Department in partnership with the San Luis Obispo Fire Investigation Strike Team (SLOFIST). We wish to thank our regional partners for their support in responding to the incident. We extend our deepest condolences to the victim’s family and friends during this difficult time.

## Harbor

### JULY STATISTICS

Bay Patrols	Land Patrols	Emerg. Response	Service Calls	Assist Other Agency	Enforce Actions	Training	Maint. Actions
89	243	28	160	63	80	44	244

Over the past few months, the Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department launched a word-of-mouth campaign to raise funds for a state-of-the-art rescue UTV. The campaign resonated deeply with the community, garnering donations from near and far. On July 1st, the UTV was put in service with Lifeguard staff at Morro Rock. Lifeguards and Harbor Patrol have completed specialized training to drive the UTV. Its features include improved agility on sandy terrains, and vital lifesaving equipment providing a safer environment for all beachgoers. The smaller footprint on the beach is also good for crowded days.



Harbor Patrol Officer Howland secured a second Life Jacket Loaner Station from the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways. It has been placed at Coleman Beach to help provide a safe and legal way for folks to paddle/boat in the harbor. Life jackets are required for all vessels including canoes, kayaks

and stand-up paddleboards. There is a loaner station at the launch ramp also. Special thanks to the Friends of the Harbor Department volunteer, Dave Naumann for driving to Sacramento to pick it up.



Harbor Patrol boats and Coast Guard set out on multiple search and rescue missions in July for a missing person, a capsized kayaker, a reckless vehicle involved in an officer pursuit on the sandspit and reports of dangerous marine animals. These collaborative efforts not only provide safety to those on the mission but create a better scan for those they are looking for. We are grateful to our partners in boating safety.



In 2022, the City of Morro Bay was notified by the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) of the availability of funding available for installation of electric vehicle charging stations on the Embarcadero. The City applied for the funding and was awarded partial funding in the amount of \$24,160.00. Total cost of the project was \$29,622.00. Construction of the charging station was completed in April 2024 and went live in June 2024. Ample staff time from Public Works and Harbor saw this project to completion. APCD confirmed the installation complies with the Grant requirements in July 2024 and the Grant funding will be provided to partially reimburse the city for construction costs. You will find it next to Crill's Saltwater Taffy.



## Public Works

### CROSS DEPARTMENTAL INITIATIVES:

- EV: Installation of the **Electric Vehicle Charging Station** on the Embarcadero, next to the restrooms at the north T pier is complete and operational. In 2022, the City of Morro Bay was notified by the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) of the availability of funding for installation of electric vehicle charging stations on the Embarcadero. The City applied for the funding and was awarded partial funding in the amount of \$24,160.00. Total cost of the project was \$29,622.00.
- Fire Hydrants: Utilities division worked with the Fire Department to secure seasonal Firefighters who painting of all the fire hydrants in town.
- Harbor Boat Yard Cleanup: Utilities needed to perform a sonic boring in the harbor boat yard area. The two divisions worked together to get the area cleaned up and cleared out to allow the boring drill access to perform the archeological and hydrogeological testing for the recycled water component of the Water Reclamation Facility Program.

## **ENGINEERING:**

- The **Pavement Rehabilitation** contract was advertised for bids on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Bids are due August 15<sup>th</sup>. Funding for the project, which includes the design consultant fees, construction management fees and construction costs, is approximately \$4,600,000.00. Construction is estimated to begin September 9<sup>th</sup> and be completed mid-December.
- The **Lift Station 1 Force Main Replacement** bids were received July 11<sup>th</sup>. Award of the construction contract is expected following the August 13 City Council meeting. Construction is estimated to begin in early September and to be complete by mid-October.
- The **Sequoia Court Storm Drain Replacement** bids were received July 10<sup>th</sup>. Award of the construction contract is expected following the August 13 City Council meeting. Construction is estimated to begin in early September and to be complete by mid-October.



- The City continues to work with FEMA to provide documentation required to secure Federal Grant reimbursement for costs incurred during the 2023 storms.
- A portion of the **Coastal Access Walkway** has been closed due to safety concerns. Approximately fifty feet of the Coastal Access Walkway located on the privately owned property at 1099 Embarcadero has pavement failures due to soil settlement resulting in unsafe conditions. The property owner has been cooperative and has restricted access on their property. The walkway will remain closed until the property owner completes construction work required to stabilize the subgrade.



### **Maintenance:**

- The Public Works Maintenance Division has been working on trimming trees in downtown Morro Bay. Streets where trees have been trimmed include Main St, Pacific St, Harbor St, Morro Bay Blvd, and Napa St. The work is being conducted by both City Staff and Private Tree Contractors.
- The Division has focused its street repair efforts in the month of July on north Morro Bay and Little Morro Creek Road.
- Below are before and after pictures of the tree and street work





## New ATV

The maintenance team has recently acquired an ATV, which is helping us provide more efficient service to Embarcadero. During busy weekends, it can be challenging to travel up and down Embarcadero and address maintenance issues. The ATV, with its smaller footprint, allows for a faster response.



## July Work Orders Completed

Facilities		Restrooms and Trash	
ADA Work	2	Core Duties	7
Contractor Management	1	Custodial	2
Core Duties	61	Graffiti Removal	2
Custodial	3	Maintenance	4
Facilities Other	2	Sidewalks-Paths	
General Repair	1	ADA Work	4
Landscaping	1	Graffiti Removal	1
Plumbing	5	Install	2
Set-up / Break Down Meeting	1	Mark Lifts	1
Weed Abatement	1	Remove	1
Furniture		Repair	1
Install	1	Trim Bushes/Trees	1
Remove	1	Weed Abatement	1
Irrigation Systems		Street Trees	
Install	1	Evaluation	2
Remove	1	Removal	1
Repair	1	Tree Trimming	6
Landscape Areas		Streets	
Other	2	ADA Work	2
Weed Eater	1	Berm Repair	1
Parks		CMA Patch	1
ADA Work	4	HMA Patch	5
Concrete Work	1	Install	1
Custodial	3	Install Sign	1
Graffiti Removal	1	Other	1
Haul Debris	1	Replace Sign	1
Irrigation Repair	1	Utilities HMA Patch	2
Maintenance	5	Total	<b>181</b>
Mowing	11		
Other	5		
Playground Maintenance	1		
Weed Abatement	11		

## July Service Requests Received from Public and Completed

Banner Install or Remove Request	2
Curb Repair	1
Custodial Request	1
Graffiti	3
Maintenance Request	14
Pothole/Sinkhole	6
Safety Issue	2
Sidewalk Issue	1
Sign or Banner Missing/Damaged	2
Stop Sign Missing/Damaged	1
Tree Pruning/Trimming	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>36</b>

## **UTILITIES DIVISION:**

### **Utility Hole (Manhole) Rehabilitation**

The City's sewer manholes are used to facilitate sewer inspections and Maintenance, sewer lines joining together and changing direction. The manholes are constructed from concrete and, over time, deterioration of the concrete structures occurs due to hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) gas found in the sewer system. The byproduct of H<sub>2</sub>S leads to the formation of sulfuric acid, which breaks down concrete and leads to structural failures. These failures can allow ground water to infiltrate into the sewer system. Excess ground water into the sewer system costs the City money to treat this water and can overwhelm the system in times of severe storms. During FY 23/24 five manholes were rehabilitated to eliminate this intrusion of water. The Utilities division will continue with the manhole rehab project in FY 24/25.



Before rehabilitation



After rehabilitation

### **Recycled Water Project Progress Update**

The City recently completed archeological and hydrogeological testing for the recycled water component of the Water Reclamation Facility Program. The testing primarily consisted of sonic boring to collect core samples of geologic material at the proposed locations for the recycled water injection wells and pipelines. At the injection well sites core samples were collected to depths of ~100 feet and will be utilized to develop the final design for the injection wells. Photos of the archeological and hydrogeological testing are provided below:



Injection Well Site Testing – Sonic Boring



Injection Well Site after coring



Injection Well Site Core Samples



Pipeline Alignment Core Samples

Additionally, the City Council recently awarded the contract for the engineering design services for the recycled water injection wells and pipelines and continues to make progress toward the completion of the recycled water phase of the Water Reclamation Facility Program.

### **Pump Replacement at Water Resources Center**

One of the Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) feed pumps had to be removed from service and rebuilt due to damage caused during a plant power outage. The pump rebuild was covered under warranty, but City staff had to remove the pump and send it to the manufacturer's facility in Southern California. As part of the removal of the MBR feed pump, staff had to take half of the facilities Biological Nutrient Removal (BNR) process offline. We were able to make plant adjustments to ensure that the facility continued to meet all water quality requirements. The MBR feed pump is a critical piece of equipment as it feeds wastewater between the two main processes in the treatment facility. Staff worked with the pump vendor and a local electrician to troubleshoot the cause of the pump's failure and was able to get voltage conditioners supplied by the vendor at no cost installed to help prevent similar issues in the future. After the pump was rebuilt and sent back, staff was able to get the pump reinstalled and tested. At that point, the

empty BNR was reseeded with biology and allowed to reach the proper operating conditions before being put back in service. The plant's operators continue to monitor the rebuilt pump and make operational adjustments as needed. We are also looking at other areas that may need similar electrical protection to help prevent any future damage during power outages.

MBR Feed pump removal for repair



BNR basin down while pump was getting repaired

**Utility Operations statistics for June and July**

<b>June</b>		<b>July</b>	
<b>Water</b>		<b>Water</b>	
Leaks	3	Leaks	2
USAs	58	USAs	73
Meter shutoff due to Emergency	1	Meter shutoff due to Emergency	2
Meter re-reads	114	Meter re-reads	135
Chlorine residuals checked	22	Chlorine residuals checked	21
Tank inspections completed	50	Tank inspections completed	53
Meters exchanged	7	Meters exchanged	0
Water complaint	2	Water complaint	3
State Water purchased	32.1 MG	State Water purchased	33.3 MG
BWRO production	1.1 MG	BWRO production	0.5 MG
<b>Sewer</b>		<b>Sewer</b>	
Footage of sewer lines cleaned	1247 Ft	Footage of sewer lines cleaned	746 Ft
CCTV'd sewer lines	0 Ft	CCTV'd sewer lines	252 Ft
Lateral inspections	2	Lateral inspections	2
Lift Station call-out	6	Lift Station call-out	0
FOG inspection	10	FOG inspection	5
<b>WRC</b>		<b>WRC</b>	
Sewage Processed	25.3 gal	Sewage Processed	26.4 MG
Waste Hauled	108 tons	Waste Hauled	126 tons
Work Orders completed	76	Work Orders completed	147

**Water Resources Center Tours:**

Utilities Division hosted two community tours in June where 25 community members toured the facility. There were no tours held in July due to vacations. We have two more tours available in August, Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. There are only a few spots left for these tours so book your spot soon!

<https://www.morrobayca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/19148/MBTourinvite>

## Administration (HR and City Clerk)

### November 2024 General Election

The Clerk's Office is busy preparing for the November General Election! On Tuesday, November 5, 2024, the voters in Morro Bay will elect a Mayor for a 2-year term and (2) Council Members for 4-year terms. The nomination period for these offices began Monday, July 15, and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 9. If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the City are not filed by August 9, the voters shall have until August 14 to nominate candidates, other than the person(s) who are incumbents, for that office. Please visit the [City website](#) for more information, including a [list](#) of prospective candidates.

The November election also provides Morro Bay registered voters an opportunity to vote on [Measure A-24](#), a citizens initiative that, if passed, would amend Morro Bay's General Plan (Plan Morro Bay) to prohibit, unless approved by Morro Bay voters, any change to Land Use Designations of Visitor-Serving Commercial or Commercial/Recreational Fishing, on certain designated parcels within the City.

The full text of the measure, arguments for and against the measure, and the City Attorney's Impartial Analysis are available on the Election [webpage](#).

**CITY OF MORRO BAY**  
INCORPORATED JULY 17, 1964

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

BE A PART OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND BECOME A BOARD MEMBER. MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

**CITY AND COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD VACANCIES**

City - Citizens Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC)  
County - Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Friday, August 30, 2024 By 5 PM  
Contact us at (805) 772-6568 or [cityclerk@morrobayca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@morrobayca.gov)  
[www.morrobayca.gov/advisorybody](http://www.morrobayca.gov/advisorybody)

# HIRING NOW



## FULL TIME OPENINGS

- Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer
- Police Sergeant
- Office Assistant IV - Harbor Dept.

## PART TIME TEMPORARY OPENINGS

- Custodial/Maintenance Aide
- Pool Lifeguard
- Swim Instructor
- Sports Official
- Sports Maintenance Worker
- Engineering Intern
- Office Assistant - Finance Dept.

APPLY ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT  
[HTTPS://WWW.MORROBAYCA.GOV/832/EMPLOYMENT-OPPORTUNITIES](https://www.morrobayca.gov/832/EMPLOYMENT-OPPORTUNITIES)



## Recreation

### Facilities/Parks

Our parks and beaches are busy this August! Starting the month off, the Copa Cabana Beach Soccer Tournament will take place at the North Pit Beach Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will have 6 soccer fields set up along the beach and have food vendors as well. The beach directly next to the Rock will remain open to tourists and locals.



**Special Events**



A colorful poster celebrating Morro Bay's 60th anniversary. The background features wavy patterns in shades of blue, orange, and yellow. At the top left is a circular logo with 'MORRO BAY' at the top, a landscape illustration, and '1964-2024' at the bottom. The main text is centered and reads: '60 years of Waves, Wildlife, and Wonderful Memories'. Below this is 'Morro Bay's 60th Anniversary of Incorporation'. The dates 'SEPTEMBER 5TH, 6TH, AND 7TH' are prominently displayed in large, bold, black letters, flanked by colorful starburst graphics. The schedule of events is listed below: 'Thursday 9/5: Tunes at Tidelands Concert 5pm', 'Friday 9/6: Dahlias & Decades "A Soiree of Art, Wine, and Memories" Art Center Morro Bay 4-9pm', and 'Saturday 9/7: Founders Day Parade 10am & Founders Day Celebration at Tidelands Park 12pm'. At the bottom right is the official seal of the City of Morro Bay, which includes the text 'CITY OF MORRO BAY' and 'INCORPORATED JULY 17, 1964'.

### Youth Services

Kids' Camp 2024 has been busy but full of Fun and Adventure. Summer started with Recreation Services hiring 40 staff members and running a weeklong orientation. We have had over 150 families register for a camp spot this Summer and our highest number of campers in one day was 89. The campers spent the summer swimming, kayaking, crafting, and learning about different occupations. We had many different special guests from Park Rangers to a representative from Google sharing their career paths and how they got there. We have also ventured out to Avila Valley Barn, SLO for a movie trip and Children's Museum trip, and we will end the Summer at the Ravine Waterpark. We also had a chance to get all the campers and their parents together one evening for our annual Kids' Camp Variety Show and Potluck. We will end our Summer with a

visit from the local colleges, a Career Carnival, a fieldtrip to the Ravine Waterpark, and our End of The Summer Party.

Kristina started working in August 2019, as a Head Teacher at Kids' Club. She almost completed her first school year and then COVID hit. Kristina along with our resilient Youth Services staff continued to work through the Pandemic running our Schoolhouse. Kristina has continued to lead our Youth Services team through many school years and summers, she is a leader that every staff member loves to work for!

Kristina lives in Los Osos with her husband Andrew and her son Xavier and loves attending Dodger games with her parents and sister Valerie (who also worked for Recreation). Kristina also plays for our adult softball and kickball leagues and volunteered to coach a youth softball team this year.

When asked what her favorite part of her job is she said, "I have a lot of things I love about my job, but the kids are number one. I love how much they love our programs, and they are always excited to come back and play with us. The staff also make it so fun!"



**Sports Signups this year:**

Rock to Pier: 852

Half marathon: 240

Virtual Rock to Pier: 8

**Total: 1,100**

This year we featured the band “Silk Ocean” for the post-race event. Bay-Osos Kiwanis cooked the famous sausage and pancake breakfast for runners to enjoy after the race. The logo and shirts were designed by friend of the Waterbury family, Mike Phi. We partnered with FitnessWorks Gym to provide an energizing pre-race warmup for runners to get their feet moving on the sand.

We want to extend our gratitude to our sponsors and partners: Bay-Osos Kiwanis, FitnessWorks, Kitzman-Culligan Water, 3INK Screen Printing, Laurus College, and Orange Theory Gym. Photos from the event were captured by Captivating Photos.

Thanks to all who came out and enjoyed the Rock to Pier event this year!



This year marked the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Brian Waterbury “Rock to Pier” event, which included the 10<sup>th</sup> running of the Half Marathon.

## Aquatics



The Aquatics team has had a fun summer so far completing the third session for Swim lessons and wrapping up the Summer Experience class in partnership with the San Luis School District. And we are diving into the final session of the summer! We've had a successful Summer teaching the community valuable swim and safety skills.

We are happy to announce Katie Tucker as our new Recreation Specialist! Katie has been working for the City of Morro Bay as a recreation coordinator for over 6 years before moving to this full-time position. Katie brings with her over 20 years of experience in the aquatic field.

In addition to overseeing operations at the Morro Bay Aquatic Center at the Morro, Katie is also a Certified American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor. Katie has trained countless Lifeguards on the Central Coast through Lifeguarding courses, as well as training city staff in First Aid and CPR. Katie is the fearless leader

and inspiration for her team of top-notch lifeguards. Her team is vital in Aquatic Center operations and administering special events and programs for Recreation Services.

Katie lives in Morro Bay with her husband, Shawn. Katie also coaches for Puma Aquatics swim team and is the head coach for the Templeton High School Swim Team. When Katie is not working, she enjoys traveling to Hawaii (or anywhere tropical) and all things Disney. We are very proud to now have Katie as part of our full-time staff!



Katie shown on the left with lifeguarding staff

## Community Development

### **Vistra Battery Energy Storage System – Update**

The BESS Project webpage was updated to include a link to Vistra’s May 2024 Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis, known as the “Brattle Study.” On July 5, 2024, the City posted a Request for Proposals (RFP) to hire a consultant to 1) peer review the Brattle Study, and 2) determine the project’s fiscal impact when considering increased City costs to service the BESS project. The City’s economic and fiscal impact analysis will assist the City in our negotiations with Vistra on a community benefits agreement. At the closing of the RFP on July 25, 2024, the City received four proposals from land use economics firms. The City is reviewing the four proposals and plans to select a consultant by August 5, 2024.

On July 10, 2024, the City Council reviewed Vistra’s proposed Term Sheet, related to real property negotiations, and directed City staff to prepare a non-binding tentative response, which was sent to Vistra on July 17, 2024.

As City staff negotiates with Vistra on a benefits agreement, the Community Development Department is actively working with its environmental consultant to prepare responses to the 200 comment letters (over 1,000 pages), as well as verbal comments made during a Planning Commission workshop, on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the BESS Project. As required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Final Environmental Impact Report will include the City's written responses to all comments received on the Draft EIR. While finalizing the EIR, the City will also need to prepare a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, required findings, and recommended conditions (if staff recommends approval).

The City is in the process of preparing a timeline for the processing of the BESS Project entitlements, Final EIR, and Powerplant Master Plan. The timeline will identify key milestones, including the release of the Final EIR and estimated Planning Commission and City Council hearing dates.

### **Downtown Design District**

At their regularly scheduled meeting on July 23, 2024, the City Council heard and considered City staff recommendations related to the Downtown Design District Ad-hoc Subcommittee. The recommendations laid out an incremental approach to use existing planning tools and resources to stimulate housing and economic development in the downtown area while preserving community character, views of the bay and rock, and historic resources. The City Council directed staff to hold one additional meeting with the Ad-hoc Subcommittee and one public forum to present the final work of the Ad-hoc Subcommittee. The Community Development Department anticipates scheduling and hosting these meetings in the next two months.

### **Planning Commission**

There is currently one Planning Commission hearing item scheduled for August 6, 2024. The item is a request for a Coastal Development Permit and Conditional Use Permit to allow for an expansion of an existing second floor short-term rental unit from 970 square feet to 1,285 square feet with an 86 square-foot west-facing deck. The project is located at 1108 Front Street on a site zoned Visitor Serving Commercial / Residential Medium Density.

**Permit Statistics**

<b>BUILDING</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>
Permits Issued	40	35
Inspections	174	283
New Applications	18	15
<b>Valuation</b>	<b>\$2,339,160</b>	<b>\$736,523</b>
<b>Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$2,755</b>	<b>\$37,805</b>

<b>PLANNING</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>
Coastal Development Permits	4	3
Use Permits	1	1
Sign Permits	0	0
Temporary Use Permits	0	0
Lot / Parcel Map	0	3
Min/Maj Modification	0	2
Parking Exception	0	0
Sidewalk Vending License	1	0
Zoning Clearance	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Fees Collected</b>	<b>\$2,755</b>	<b>\$29,890</b>