



City Manager's Updates

May 21, 2025

As the weather slowly warms up, our beach will be busier. To ensure safety, lifeguards will report to duty starting Memorial Day through October 5. Morro Bay continues to receive national recognitions. We are pleased to learn that Morro Bay has been identified by USA Today as #5 best small beach towns. Check out this article. <https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/best-coastal-small-town/>

On a journey of learning, I attended a clean energy conference offered by the California Community Choice Association (Cal CCA) representing Morro Bay and the Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) operation board member. As a first-time attendee, I was surrounded by 870 participants at the CCA conference which has become one of the largest energy conferences. The seminars touched upon energy market conditions, renewable technologies, regional markets, virtual power plants, and artificial intelligence. I learned with much interested about California's significant progress on hydrogen power: [Whats-Next-For-Green-Hydrogen-in-California.pdf](#) Interested in going electric without paying high bills? Check out this presentation and contact 3CE [Electrification Friendly Rate Design](#) For those who is not familiar with 3CE, Morro Bay joined 3CE in 2018 to pursue choices in the electricity market and the purposes of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, proving potential rate savings, supporting energy efficiency, promoting regional collaboration, and contributing to economic development. To learn about 3CE and their programs: www.3cenergy.org. Both the "Community Choice Aggregation" program and renewable energy are innovative concepts. It is exciting that Morro Bay is part of both.

Please read on for important updates on street paving and utilities projects, as well as progress made by each department. As always, please feel free to share your story and comments.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Kimball, City Manager
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Police

POLICE OPERATIONS

Patrol Operations April 23 – May 20, 2025

This month was busy with several events in town during our weekends. Officers continued to experience a high level of calls each day of the week as Morro Bay remained busy. As we approach our busy summer months, patrol officers will work to prioritize calls as they are reported. Memorial Day Weekend begins our patrol saturation details that brings an additional officer to work on Saturdays and Sundays. The summer saturation detail runs through Labor Day weekend. Residents and visitors will see officers performing crime prevention patrols to combat crimes of opportunity (vehicle thefts, petty thefts, trespassing) and traffic enforcement details to help keep our city safe this spring and summer season.

- Priority 7 = CODE 1 Routine (Crime Reports, patrol checks)
- Priority 8 = CODE 2 Urgent (Alarms, Trespass, Disturbance)
- Priority 9 = CODE 3 Emergency (Subject down, traffic collision, assault)
- Priority 12 = CODE 3 Life Threatening (In progress violent crime)
- Priority 14 = Phone Report Priority 15/44 = Administrative details

Priority	Description
7	LAW CODE 1
8	LAW CODE 2
9	LAW CODE 3
10	LOBBY TRAFFIC
12	LAW CODE 3 LIFE THREAT
14	10-21 REPORT
15	MORE TO FOLLOW LAW
44	ADMIN

Day of Week	Priority								Total
	7	8	9	10	12	14	15	44	
Sunday	35	41	0	6	0	4	0	1	87
Monday	38	76	1	4	0	11	0	0	130
Tuesday	28	47	0	4	0	6	0	2	87
Wednesday	37	75	0	3	0	11	0	4	130
Thursday	38	58	0	6	0	20	0	3	125
Friday	38	59	2	8	0	10	0	3	120
Saturday	36	65	1	6	0	4	0	1	113
Total	250	421	4	37	0	66	0	14	792

Senior Officer Jason Ta Sworn in with San Jose PD

This month we said farewell to Senior Officer Ta. Jason has worked for Morro Bay PD for five years. Jason worked an array of assignments for the department including Regional SWAT team member, department Range Team, Field Training Officer, and Senior Officer. We are sad to see Jason go but we wish him the very best. Jason is originally from the bay area and is returning to be closer to his family and experience what San Jose PD has to offer.



Morro Bay Kite Festival

This year, the Morro Bay Police Department's Administration, Officers, Police Cadets, and Volunteers worked alongside Kite Festival Organizers to help manage the rock parking lot in efforts to develop a traffic management plan for large scale events in the future. The rock parking lot was stripped to designate parking stalls, delineators and signage were used to manage traffic flow, and volunteers were in place to help direct traffic through the lot. The event was a big success and the traffic management plan worked well as we welcomed over two thousand calls and thousands of visitors to the event. Thank you to MBPD, Shaun Farmer, Visitor Morro Bay, and Morro Bay in Bloom for the hard work and commitment to this year's event.





COMMUNITY EVENTS

Battle of the Badges Blood Drive

The Morro Bay Police Department competed in this year's SLO County Battle of the Badges Blood Drive in partnership with Vitalant Blood Donation. The Battle of the Badges is a friendly competition to see which department, or first responder group can host the largest blood drive. MBPD's Commander Tony Mosqueda worked hard to schedule donors and was able to bring more donor stations to the Morro Bay Community Center for the event. For the second year in a row, Morro Bay Police and Harbor Department came in second place behind SLO County Probation. Thank you to everyone who came out to donate this year. Your donation truly saves lives. Hope to see you next year as we work toward winning first place.



Peace Officer Memorial Week

On May 15, 2025, the Morro Bay Police Department hosted this year's Peace Officer Memorial Day ceremony, honoring the fallen officers killed in the line of duty in 2024. The ceremony was attended by San Luis Obispo County Law Enforcement Agencies and many other attendees who came to honor the fallen heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice giving their lives in the service and protection of others.

The ceremony consisted of a helicopter flyover from California Highway Patrol, presentation of colors from county law enforcement honor guard members, bagpipes, riderless horse, 21 Gun Volley and the playing of taps.

During the ceremony we honored past San Luis Obispo County fallen officers and three fallen officers in California in 2024 with the reading of their names, placing of roses, and ringing of the honor bell.

Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week is an observance in the United States that pays tribute to the local, state, and federal peace officers who have died, or who have been disabled, in the line of duty. It is celebrated on May 15 of each year. The holiday was created on October 1, 1961, when Congress authorized the president to designate May 15 to honor peace officers. John F. Kennedy signed the bill into law on October 1, 1962.



Fire

Response Statistics

The Morro Bay Fire Department totaled 152 responses from April 1 through April 30, 2025. These responses include,

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| • Series 100 (Fires) | 2 incidents |
| • Series 200 (Overpressure, rupture, explosion, no fire) | 0 incidents |
| • Series 300 (Rescue & EMS incident) | 109 incidents |
| • Series 400 (Hazardous condition no fire) | 4 incidents |
| • Series 500 (Service call) | 12 incidents |
| • Series 600 (Good intent call) | 11 incidents |
| • Series 700 (False alarm & false call) | 11 incidents |
| • Series 800 (Severe weather & natural disaster) | 0 incidents |
| • Series 900 (Special incident type) | 1 incident |
| • Total 152 incidents | |

Fire Chief Update

The Morro Bay Fire Department has been busy gearing up for the upcoming fire season. Crews are conducting their annual wildland refresher training that emphasizes the safety components of operating in a wildfire environment. Fire personnel completed more than 658 hours of training in April including elevator rescue, ocean rescue, medical training and a multitude of other topics. We have hired 3 Seasonal Firefighters, Cole Berkeland, Blake Alspach, and Mikial Choboian. The three of them will begin training on Monday May 19th. We will be presenting the State Fire Marshal's updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone map to the City Council on Tuesday May 27th at the regular council meeting.



Public events

The Fire Department participated in the Morro Bay car show the first weekend of May handing out fire helmets and stickers to the children and answering questions to the community. On May 13th, the Morro Bay City Council recognized the week of May 18-24 as EMS week. The theme for this year's EMS week is

“We Care. For Everyone” as a reminder of the important role that EMS providers play in the healthcare system and that we provide care regardless of the situation.



Harbor

HARBOR VITALITY DIRECTOR UPDATE

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's dredge vessel Yaquina entered Morro Bay Harbor on May 12th. They are planning to do 26 days of work.
- The Army Civil Works Program FY 2025 Work Plan for Operations and Maintenance includes the full \$4.419 million that was originally recommended. There were many instances where the work plan did not include the amount recommended for funding, so this is good news for Morro Bay. These funds will allow the continued dredging of Morro Bay's entry and main channel.
- PG&E notified City staff that they plan to replace the PG&E owned light post fixtures on the Embarcadero and waterfront with new LED fixtures. City staff are reviewing the proposal. More details to come.
- The Harbor Director attended the Spring CMANC meeting in Ventura, May 14-16. Some of the valuable takeaways included strategies for dredging, permitting, sea level rise, eelgrass mitigation, and navigating the changes under the current administration.
- Department staff met with multiple regulatory agencies to discuss the beneficial use of dredged material for the State Park Marina. Staff and Anchor QEA plan to meet with multiple agencies at an upcoming Dredged Material Management Team (DMMT) to discuss options and feasibility.



USACE Dredge Vessel Yaquina on the North T-Pier



Light Fixtures Proposed to be Replaced by PG&E



Morro Bay State Park Marina

Harbor Patrol Statistics for April 1- April 30, 2025

Bay Patrol	Land Patrol	Calls for Service	Emergency Response	Assist other Agency	Enforcement Contact	Training	Maintenance Action	Weather Advisory
101	263	147	17	63	51	33	325	11

Events

On Friday May 16th the Harbor Department staff promoted and participated in “Wear your Life Jacket at Work Day” to kick off National Safe Boating week!



National Safe Boating week is an annual campaign that promotes safe boating to reduce water-related accidents. This year, the week runs May 17-23, just before the peak boating season. On Saturday May 17th, the Harbor Department collaborated with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, CA Fish & Wildlife and the SLO County Sheriff's department at the North T-pier providing the public with valuable boating safety information, boat rides, exchanged life jackets and conducted vessel safety checks at the Morro Bay boat launch ramp.



Public Works

Consolidated Maintenance Division

The City earned Tree City USA recognition and a Growth Award. The growth award is particularly meaningful because the major points came from our staff's willingness to expand skills, attending a weeklong arborist training and certification, tree planting, tree work (the City performed work on 114 trees in 2024) and our strong partnership with Morro Bay in Bloom who helped us share the load of maintaining new trees. We had 100% survival rate on all the trees planted in 2024. This could not have happened without our partnership with Morro Bay in Bloom.

Trolley Season is Upon Us!

As noted in last month's update, on June 1, the SLO Regional Transit Authority (RTA) will begin operating the City's local transit system and the RTA will kick off the summer trolley season on Saturday, June 7. The trolleys travel to the campgrounds, Saturday Farmers Market, the Embarcadero, the Downtown, to the supermarket, and more.



A new service that will be added to the Morro Bay trolley system is "Estimated Arrival Times" provided through the RTA's Transit Tracker system. Each trolley stop will have a small sign that provides a four-digit number to identify the stop. When a rider texts this number to the Transit Tracker phone number listed on the sign, the system will send back a text message with an estimated arrival time for the trolley at that stop.

Check out the Morro Bay Trolley brochure for more information on routes, days, and hours.

[MB-Trolley-schedule-brochure-2025.pdf](#)

Administration (HR and City Clerk)

City Clerk, Dana Swanson, received the Luminary Award at the 2025 Morro Bay Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Gala. This Award recognizes a city employee who has made a meaningful contribution to the city operation and the community.



Photo Credit: Dean Sullivan

Dina Lundquist, MB Chamber of Commerce CEO; Dana Swanson, City Clerk and the Luminary Award recipient; Yvonne Kimball, City Manager.

HIRING NOW



FULL TIME OPENINGS

- City Attorney
- City Engineer
- Police Officer - Lateral or POST Academy Graduate Only

PART TIME TEMPORARY OPENINGS

- Community Development Intern
- Junior Guard Coordinator
- Pool Lifeguard
- Reserve Harbor Patrol Officer
- Sports Official
- Swim Instructor

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



Finance

Fiscal Year 2025/26 PROPOSED Budget

The draft Fiscal Year 2025/2026 (July 2025 – June 2026) Budget is available on City website. The Council workshop will be at 3 pm on Wednesday, May 28, at the Morro Bay Veterans Hall. Staff will present information on the various City funds and go into detail on the City departmental budgets. This year's budget looks to be balanced and meets the required level of reserves, thanks in part to moderate revenue increases in property, sales and transient occupancy taxes, interest earnings, as well as cost saving measures and efficiency efforts. While the next budget year looks favorable, the City is facing significant challenges in trying to meet ongoing infrastructure needs. City Council will review the 5-year financial forecast at its May 28 meeting. The Council is set to adopt the budget at its June 24 Regular Meeting. You can review the proposed FY 2025/2026 Budget at: [Public Officials & Leadership | FY2026 Proposed](#)

Recreation

APRIL SNAPSHOT	
# OF PERMITS CREATED	62
Facility Rental Hour	616
Senior Center Activities	3252
Sports Participation Hours	693
Kids Club Registrations	1827
#of Aquatics Programs Passes	1531
#of Rec Classes/Club Passes	375

April was a strong month for Morro Bay Recreation Services, marked by high community engagement and increasing program participation. Facility usage remained high across key locations, including the Morro Bay Community Center, Veterans Memorial Building, and the Morro Bay Senior Center, demonstrating strong public interest and support. Aquatics participation is steadily increasing as we head into the summer season, while Youth Services and Kids Club continue to see rising attendance. Adult Sports also saw great activity in April, maintaining steady participation. Overall, April reflected positive momentum across all services and a growing connection with our community.

Sports

Coast Girls Softball wrapped up the season in style with end of season tournaments for all divisions above six and under. We hosted the 10U silver and the 12U gold divisions at Lila Keiser Park and Morro Bay High School JV Field. Winners got rings and teams celebrated a long successful season.



Flag football practices are underway as we have wrapped up registration. Our Estero Bay Flag Football Program uses NFL Flag affiliate rules and uniforms and received a corporate sponsorship from Toyota. We have 20 teams and over 150 players signed up for Flag Football on the Coast.



Youth Services

May 9th was National Childcare Provider Appreciation Day!

This special day honors the incredible work of childcare professionals—teachers, nannies, and caregivers—who play a vital role in supporting working families and shaping young lives. It's a time to recognize their dedication and the meaningful impact they have on their communities.

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our AMAZING Youth Services Staff for their compassion, commitment, and unwavering dedication to making a difference. Their efforts help make Kids' Club and Camp the best place to be—and we are so grateful for all that they do!



Kids' Camp registration is now open, and we have over 150 families already pre-registered for our summer program.

This summer will be full of fun and adventure, with activities including swimming at the Morro Bay Aquatics Center, exploring local beaches and parks, and working our way through an exciting Summer Bucket List.

We can't wait to kick off a Summer of Fun and Adventure!

<p>Morro Bay Recreation's Kids' Camp Childcare & Recreational Enrichment for Children 4 - 12 yrs. old Located at Del Mar Elementary Campus 501 Sequoia, Morro Bay Hours: 7:00 am – 6:00 pm Contact Info: (805)772-6279 ajepsen@morrobayca.gov</p>	<p>Join us for a Summer of Fun & Adventure! June 16 – August 8 2025</p>
<p>*\$50 Registration Fee* Weekly Prices: Full Week - \$190 4 Days - \$ 155 3 Days - \$125 2 Days - \$85 Daily Rate - \$50 Summer School Package - \$80/Week *Scholarship's Available through CFEB*</p>	<p>PRE-Register!</p>

Special Events

On Saturday, May 18th, Recreation Services, in partnership with Mark Tognazzini and the team at Dockside Too, proudly hosted our 18th Annual Mermaid, Sea Creature, and Pirate Parade!

We welcomed over 150 mermaids, sea creatures, and pirates—along with their families—for a fun-filled day by the bay. Participants enjoyed a lively pre-parade festival featuring nautical-themed activities, a visit to the treasure chest for a goodie bag, and the ever-popular Parrot’s Prize Wheel!

The parade concluded at Tognazzini’s Dockside Too, where everyone gathered for a festive “Shell-ebration” to cap off a magical day on the waterfront.



**Mermaid,
Sea Creature &
Pirate Parade
2025**



THANK YOU!

UNDER THE SEA GALLERY

**THANK YOU
TOGNAZZINI'S
DOCKSIDE
CREW!**



Community Development

Waterfront Master Plan Update

In March 2025, the City received 10 proposals from highly qualified consultants to update the 1996 Waterfront Master Plan. In April 2025, the Department convened a selection committee of stakeholders and staff to review the proposals and interview consultants. Earlier this month, Department staff held meet and greet interviews with the top three consultants. We have decided on a consultant and will be bringing a contract with the recommended consultant to the City Council for consideration on June 10, 2025.

The first meeting of the Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee (WMPAC) is scheduled on June 5, 2025. The WMPAC will meet the first Thursday of every month at 3 PM to serve as a steering committee to provide policy direction during the planning process.

Earlier this month, the Community Development Department also worked with a Cal Poly class (CRP 341) on an academic exercise to prepare various land use concepts for the Waterfront Master Plan expansion areas, including the Vistra property, former wastewater treatment plan area, and Morro Dunes RV Park area. The class presented some very creative and thoughtful ideas that will provide great value to the process as we kick-off of the official Waterfront Master Plan update.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission held a regular hearing on May 20, 2025, and reviewed Coastal Development Permit No. CDP24-041, a request to demolish an existing concrete batch plant and ancillary structures at 180 Atascadero Road. The Commission voted to approve the project unanimously (with one absence), paving the way for the property to realize its full potential as a recently designated Visitor Serving Commercial (VSC) parcel.

The Commission also heard a presentation on the City's allocation of Water Equivalency Units (WEU) for Fiscal Year 2025/2026, where it was recommended by staff to maintain the same allocation as the previous year. By a 4-0 vote, the Commissioners adopted this recommendation and allocated 50 WEUs for residential development (30 for single-family homes and 20 for multi-family homes) and 65 for commercial development, for a total of 115 WEUs for FY2025/26.

The June 3, 2025 Planning Commission will be cancelled. The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting is June 17 at 6 PM at the Morro Bay Community Center.

Permit Statistics

New fees and cases in Community Development have remained steady over the past few months. There was a small uptick in Planning cases in April.

BUILDING	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25
Permits Issued	36	39	48	44
Inspections	292	138	303	496
New Applications	14	15	13	12
Valuation	\$1,930,904	\$460,511	\$676,679	\$1,182,279
Fees Collected	\$132,933	\$22,244	\$36,557	\$74,991
PLANNING	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25
Coastal Development Permits	3	1	1	4
Use Permits	0	0	0	0
Sign Permits	0	0	2	1
Temporary Use Permits	0	0	0	0
Lot / Parcel Map	0	0	0	0
Min/Maj Modification/Revision	2	0	0	0
Certificate of Compliance	0	0	1	0
Sidewalk Vending License	0	0	0	0
Zoning Clearance	0	0	0	0
Comm Cannabis Renewal	0	0	0	0
Admin Design Review	1	3	0	1
Variance	5	0	0	0
Total	11	4	4	6
Fees Collected	\$17,196.50	\$16,691	\$16,691	\$9,873.00