



August 8, 2025

Amazingly, it's already been 4 weeks since I joined the City of Morro Bay as the Interim City Manager. Typically, being in an Interim position means that you help maintain momentum and communication on priority projects and issues as well as deal with day-to-day operations and provide input/advice on the occasional hiccup along the way. As important as the business side is, working with the less tangible, human side of helping work through leadership change is also a priority.

Some of us get a bit fluttery about change, probably because it disrupts our routines, introduces uncertainty and requires effort to adopt. Our brains are wired to seek stability and familiarity, making change feel risky or stressful.

An Interim can help with these feelings by focusing on building trust, promoting clear communication and creating a supportive and positive work environment. Further the Interim may assist the City Council with the new City Manager selection process and recommend priorities/issues for the new City Manager to initially focus on.

The public may also feel some trepidation about a change in the City Management, wondering what exactly the Interim may be thinking, what is the timeline for a new City Manager and what exactly does the recruitment/hiring process look like. I would encourage you to stop by for a chat and ask any questions you may have. I have an open-door policy!

Finally, I have received such a warm welcome from the City Employees, Mayor and City Council and many of the residents, which is very much appreciated.

Onward and Upward,

Andrea Lueker
Interim City Manager
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Police

Police Chief Update

MBPD officers continue to work diligently to keep our streets and the community safe. This summer has been successful with several investigations leading to major arrests. On June 25th just after 10:00 pm, Officer Salgado conducted a traffic stop at Marina and Morro Avenues resulting in an arrest of a 40-year-old convicted felon from Bakersfield who possessed illegal firearms, ammunition, and Fentanyl for sales.

On July 21st around 5:45 am, a resident reported suspicious activity in north Morro Bay neighborhood. Officer Cambroner and Sergeant Hasslebach responded to the area and located one subject walking about and another subject in a nearby vehicle. Further investigation uncovered the subjects were in possession of illegal narcotics and stolen property from the neighborhood including mail and other goods. Thanks to the keen eye and reporting from the resident and fast response of officers, the thieves were caught in the act.

National Night Out

The police department enjoyed a wonderful turnout at this year's National Night Out held on August 5th at Cloisters Park. Over 600 estimated participants joined the festivities enjoying free food, giveaways, and public safety demonstrations. Thank you to all who joined and connected with us during the beautiful sunny summer evening. Thank you to the agencies who joined us; MB Fire, MB Harbor, MB Recreation, US Coast Guard Auxiliary, and SLO County Animal Services. Thank you to the Morro Bay Police Volunteers and Renee Osborne for organizing the event. A big thank you to the event sponsors for making this event possible.

Event Sponsors

Spencer's Fresh Market, Miner's Ace Hardware, Albertsons, Came Security Alarms, Reyes Coca Cola Distribution, Costco, La Katrina, Estero Bay News, SLO County Sheriff's Honor Farm, Morro Bay Volunteers, Morro Bay Peace Officers Association, Church of Christ.

Citizen's Academy

The police department is now accepting applications for this year's Citizen's Academy. The Academy, which is open to the public who live and/or work in Morro Bay, will be a series of interactive sessions where citizens can learn firsthand how their police department operates, and how law enforcement performs within the community of Morro Bay.

This year's academy starts on Wednesday, October 1st and runs through Wednesday, November 12th. The Academy will meet over seven (7) consecutive Wednesdays at the Police Department.

Citizens will receive an overview of law enforcement in Morro Bay, and demonstrations from a variety of instructors from the department. This is a great opportunity for MBPD officers to collaborate and interact with the community. This year's academy curriculum will provide a variety of presentations to highlight "how" and "why" police do what they do. We look forward to hosting this academy and spending time with the community to present exciting and informational curriculum prepared by the officers. The key to a safe community is found in a strong working relationship between the public and its police department. This is a good opportunity to come meet the individuals who protect your community and help make Morro Bay a safe place to live and work.

Fire

Response Statistics

The Morro Bay Fire Department totaled 162 responses from July 1 through July 31, 2025. These responses include,

- Series 100 (Fires) 5 incidents
- Series 200 (Overpressure, rupture, explosion, no fire) 0 incidents
- Series 300 (Rescue & EMS incident) 114 incidents
- Series 400 (Hazardous condition no fire) 4 incidents
- Series 500 (Service call) 18 incidents
- Series 600 (Good intent call) 13 incidents
- Series 700 (False alarm & false call) 8 incidents
- Series 800 (Severe weather & natural disaster) 0 incidents
- Series 900 (Special incident type) 0 incidents
- Total 162 incidents

Fire Chief Update

The Morro Bay fire Department has been very busy assisting with fires around the State. We had personnel assigned to the Madre Fire here in San Luis Obispo County, including me as a Liaison Officer, Captain Simpson as a Safety Officer and Engineer Hoese as a Fireline Paramedic. Chief Vierra was assigned to the Orleans Complex for two weeks and we currently have our UTV with Engineers Watson and Robertshaw assigned as a Paramedic REMS Module. There was a small fire in the City Hall Annex building, thanks to discovery and quick notification by Public Works staff the fire crew was able to contain the fire with minimal structural damage.



Harbor

Harbor Patrol Statistics for July 1- July 31, 2025

Bay Patrol	Land Patrol	Calls for Service	Emergency Response	Assist other Agency	Enforcement Contact	Training	Maintenance Action	Weather Advisory
95	240	139	14	66	64	65	169	13

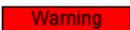
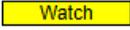
Noteworthy Harbor Patrol events in July:

Boat Fire

On July 5th, there was an emergency call for a vessel on fire off Cayucos with four people on board. Harbor Patrol Boat 3864 was able to put the fire out and the vessel ultimately sunk, while Coast Guard transported the passengers safely back to the harbor.

Tsunami

On July 29th, California was put on a Tsunami Watch from a large earthquake off Russia. San Luis Obispo County was upgraded to an Advisory level due to show effects beginning at 12:37am with continual tidal surges for up to 24 hours. The Harbor Department contacted all vessels known to have people living on them to evacuate as well as all slip holders. The Coast Guard and several commercial fishing vessels traveled miles offshore to safe water for the duration of the event. Harbor Patrol remained on scene throughout the night and witnessed above normal tidal surges with a 4-5 knot current with the largest effects around 2am. As a precaution, Embarcadero Road was closed out to Morro Rock. The National Weather Service lifted the Advisory the following day around 1:30pm. There was no significant damage in our area. The following chart shows the definitions of the different alert levels issued by the U.S. Tsunami Warning System and the National Weather Service.

Alert Level	Potential Hazard(s)	Public Action
 	Dangerous coastal flooding and powerful currents	Move to high ground or inland
 	Strong currents and waves dangerous to those in or very near water	Stay out of water, away from beaches and waterways
 	Not yet known	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay tuned for more information Be prepared to act
 	No threat or very distant event for which hazard has not been determined	No action suggested at this time

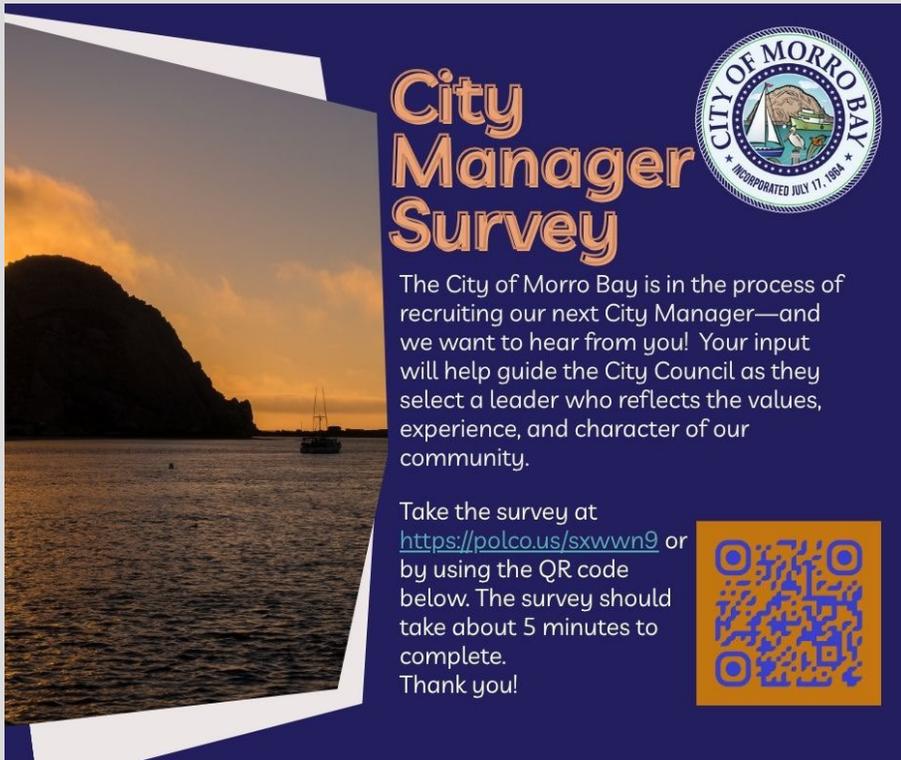
Public Works



The Morro Bay Veterans Hall has been going through some upgrades and maintenance over the past couple of months. The primary project in the building is the upgrade of the audio and visual systems that support the City's business meetings, including meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, Harbor Advisory Board, Public Works Advisory Board, Citizens Finance Advisory Committee, and Recreation & Parks Commission. The existing system was in need of a modernization upgrade to improve picture and sound quality and to make the system more reliable in general. Finally, the dais and new staff seating will have fixed monitors, and four 75" monitors are being wall mounted for improved viewing for audience members of presentations during meetings. We expect these upgrades to be finalized by the end of August. We appreciate the support of AGP, inc., who has assisted and accommodated the City during this upgrade process. We also appreciate the Lions Club and other facility users who've graciously worked around the worksite while serving the Morro Bay community.

There have also been maintenance upgrades to the facility. A new acoustic ceiling has been installed to improve sound quality, and HVAC system has been rerouted to allow for quieter operation. Additionally, the interior walls and doors of the main room have a fresh new finish with a new coat of paint. Future maintenance upgrades to the building will be performed as budget allows.



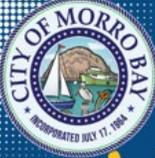


City Manager Survey



The City of Morro Bay is in the process of recruiting our next City Manager—and we want to hear from you! Your input will help guide the City Council as they select a leader who reflects the values, experience, and character of our community.

Take the survey at <https://polco.us/sxwwn9> or by using the QR code below. The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete. Thank you!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



BE A PART OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

CURRENT VACANCY

PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday, September 12, 2025 By 5 PM

Contact us at (805) 772-6568 or cityclerk@morrobayca.gov

www.morrobayca.gov/advisorybody



Administrative Services (Finance and IT)

The Finance Department has continued efforts to improve the business tax certificate application and renewal process. Since January 1st, over 700 business tax certificates have been issued! There are over 100 currently in process, some simply pending payment and others making their way through the review process with other City departments. This has been a great team effort within the Finance team, as well as with our colleagues in other departments. We are learning a lot and working hard to make this a good experience for our business community.

A new fiscal year means it is once again time to close the books on the prior year. The interim audit kicked off July 1st and staff is busy reviewing and reconciling records and providing requested data to auditors. This is a big team effort requiring high levels of attention and accuracy, all well continuing to take care of the daily business. All of the work will ultimately culminate in the production of the FY 2024-25 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), as well as a Single Audit Report, Local Transportation Funds Reports for Transit, Bike Path, and Roads, as well as several other annual reports made to state agencies.

The User Fee Study is completed and will go to City Council for review, discussion, and public hearing next Tuesday August 12, 2025. If adopted, the new fees will go into effect November 1, 2025 as there is a required 60-day waiting period.

The Information Technology team of two were relocated to the Community Center due to fire and smoke damage, and will work there until City Hall Annex as ready for them to move back into. Thank you to the Recreation Services team for welcoming IT staff to their building! And big thanks to the IT team for their flexibility and positivity throughout this situation; it is far from ideal to have to relocate at a moment's notice, and hopefully they will be back in their offices in the near future.

In the meantime, IT continues their good work monitoring the security of networks and devices, which is a 24-hour per day, seven days per week job crammed into 40 hours a week (as much as possible). They have also been participating in the planning of the Veteran's Memorial Building audio-visual upgrades, as well as assisting in strengthening the internet connection during public meetings while upgrades are underway. The IT Manager continually seeks ways to tighten security while keeping costs down, an ability much appreciated by City administration, and the IT System Administrator stays on top of work orders on a daily basis to ensure City staff are able to complete their duties efficiently. Much of their work may be performed behind the scenes, but it is essential; City staff couldn't do what they need to do without IT's expertise and support.

Recreation

Seniors

Seniors are getting ready for the highlight of the year when we host the Tunes at Tidelands concert series in September. This event has grown in popularity over the last three years, and many seniors are already excited about listening and dancing at Tidelands Park every Thursday in September.

We were also able to have a reception for the Friends of the Altadena Senior Center and presented a check from our Greenwich Village Coffeehouse fundraiser to them to help rebuild their center. They were very thankful and gave us an update on all the rebuilding efforts going on in Altadena.



Youth Services

On August 8th, Youth Services officially wrapped up our Summer of Fun and Adventure—and what a season it was! On an average day, we welcomed 85 energetic campers who spent their time swimming, crafting, playing, and building lifelong friendships and unforgettable memories.

As we turn the page to the 2025–2026 school year, beginning Thursday, August 14th, we're thrilled to announce a new partnership with San Luis Coastal Unified School District to help pilot their new full-day Transitional Kindergarten program. In addition to this exciting initiative, we'll continue offering our trusted Before and After School Care, along with our festive Holiday Hangouts during school breaks.

Sports

On September 6th, Estero Bay Youth Soccer will kickoff! Teams will be playing games at Lila Keiser Park and Morro Elementary fields.

The same week we will also begin our Coed Adult Softball and Social Kickball programs at Lial Keiser Park. We look forward to exciting seasons of our Fall programs.

Aquatics

Aquatics is finishing up summer programming this week! We will be back to regularly scheduled programming next week. We are excited to announce we will be offering a Youth Water Polo camp on Sundays this Fall. This program is open to beginners as well as current athletes. We will also be offering an American Red Cross Lifeguarding Class.

Community Development

Planning Commission

The July and August 2025 Planning Commission meetings were cancelled. The next scheduled Planning Commission meeting is on September 16, 2025.

Waterfront Master Plan

The Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee met for its second meeting on July 10, 2025 to provide input on the Community Engagement Plan for the Waterfront Master Plan update.

Public engagement is the heart of the Waterfront Master Plan update. The success of the WMP depends on public and stakeholder engagement to inform staff and consultants about important issues affecting the waterfront and to deliberate and reach consensus on a shared vision to address these issues. To that end, the WMP has been scoped to maximize public and stakeholder engagement throughout the planning process.

The Community Engagement Plan for the Waterfront Master Plan has been posted on WMPAC's website:

[Waterfront Master Plan Advisory Committee | City of Morro Bay - Official Website](#)

Permit Statistics

The City issued 54 building permits in July 2025. This is the highest number in the last 12 months, and a 54 percent increase compared to the same month last year.

BUILDING	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25
Permits Issued	36	39	48	44	41	50	54
Inspections	292	138	303	496	569	412	379
New Applications	14	15	13	12	11	15	10
Valuation	\$1,930,904	\$460,511	\$676,679	\$1,182,279	\$924,021	\$2,296,193	1,819,782
Fees Collected	\$132,933	\$22,244	\$36,557	\$74,991	\$48,078	\$226,273	\$146,393
PLANNING	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25
Coastal Development Permits	3	1	1	4	1		2
Use Permits	0	0	0	0	0		
Sign Permits	0	0	2	1	0	1	3
Temporary Use Permits	0	0	0	0	0		
Lot / Parcel Map	0	0	0	0	0		
Min/Maj Modification/Revision	2	0	0	0	0	1	
Certificate of Compliance	0	0	1	0	0		
Sidewalk Vending License	0	0	0	0	1		
Zoning Clearance	0	0	0	0	0		
Comm Cannabis Renewal	0	0	0	0	0		
Admin Design Review	1	3	0	1	0		
Variance	5	0	0	0	0		
Short Term Rental Permits	6	17	25	17	23	16	9
Total	17	21	29	23	25	18	14
Fees Collected	\$17,196.50	\$21,654	\$37,961	\$21,217.00	\$19,852.00	\$16,187.00	\$14,944.50