



**May 3, 2019**

Happy Friday! There's a lot going in Morro Bay in May. This month the City's focus turns toward the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Budget development. City Council will be looking at the Budget throughout the month of May and adopting it sometime in June. This Budget serves to maintain existing public service levels, while looking to the future of financial challenges ahead. Facing these challenges effectively will require your input and thoughts, so that we secure long-term financial sustainability in a way that best suits Morro Bay. More info to come on that shortly.

In addition, Morro Bay plays host to several big events in May. This weekend is the annual car show (Crusin' Morro Bay), where hundreds of classic cars and their owners descend on Morro Bay to show off their goods. Also, in May the biggest professional bicycle race in America, the AMGEN Tour of California, hits town on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. The 4<sup>th</sup> stage of AMGEN begins in Monterey and ends in Downtown Morro Bay. Come see these amazing athletes complete their 100-mile journey!

Lastly, the City is working hard to obtain additional financing for the Water Reclamation Facility. Good news on that front; the City is being recommended for State Revolving Fund (SRF) support! Learn more about the SRF inside this update.

Have a wonderful week! Feel free to share your thoughts with me by email at [scollins@morrobayca.gov](mailto:scollins@morrobayca.gov) or phone at 805-776-6206.

Thanks!  
Scott Collins  
City Manager

## Public Works

### **Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Program Update**

The City is making progress on several fronts regarding the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) program, including nearing completion of design for the advanced treatment facility, permitting the overall program, and working with the state on a low-interest State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan.

#### **WRF Permitting**

On April 23, the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors approved the approach to consolidate the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) directly through the California Coastal Commission. This means that the CDP will be considered directly by the Coastal Commission. The City will host one more public input opportunity in June (date to be determined), prior to the CDP going before the Coastal Commission in July. That July Coastal Commission public meeting will be held in San Luis Obispo area in order to provide a greater opportunity for robust public input from Morro Bay residents.

Permitting work for water quality is on-going with the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards. More information to come.

#### **Project Review by City Council and Advisory Boards**

The Citizen Finance Advisory Committee (CFAC) and City Council separately reviewed the most recent Quarterly Report for the WRF program the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Some of the key highlights from the report are that the total project budget is now projected to be \$124.5 million (down from \$126 million) and the project is slightly behind the original projected schedule, but still on time to meet the Time Schedule Order requirements to complete the project and have the plant up and running by early 2023.

The WRF Citizens Advisory Committee (WRFCAC) will meet on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 5:00p.m. at the Community Center to discuss the design for the WRF treatment facility and review potential change orders for the treatment facility. All told, there are approximately 17 potential change orders, with an overall impact of \$1.8 million increase to the facility costs. There is sufficient contingency in the WRF facility budget to cover this projected increase.

#### **WRF Funding Update**

The City received some really good news this week. The State is recommending the City receive a State Revolving Fund (SRF) low-interest loan in 2019 for the WRF program. If the loan is approved by the State Water Resources Control Board, the City could potentially reduce water and sewer rates depending upon the amount received. City staff will analyze the potential rate impacts and present that information to the CFAC and Council once we have more information.

Work continues with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WIFIA program to meet their technical underwriting requirements to complete the process to receive the WIFIA low-interest loan.

## Consolidated Maintenance Update

### Top Results Last 4 Weeks

#### 1) Streets:

- Removed and replaced damaged truncated dome panels on curb ramps at MB Blvd./Monterey.
- Repainted five crosswalks on both San Jacinto and Sequoia St.
- Cut and dug out large failed asphalt area on the 300 blk. of Trinidad. Install geogrid, base, compact and finish with 5 tons of Hot Mix Asphalt.
- Skin patched large potholes and low areas with 4 tons of HMA at Hill/Main and the 714 Embarcadero parking lot.
- Removed sand, dug new holes, reset 3 fence posts, stretched and attached new wire on ESH fence at Coleman Rd. across from park.
- Installed two new sleeves, posts and ADA parking signs at the 1200 blk. of the Embarcadero parking lot.
- Excavated soil at edge of median and compacted base flush with street at the 200 blk. of Driftwood.
- Filled several potholes around town with Cold Mix Asphalt.
- Tractor mowed weeds in several open areas and ROW's around town, weed wacked several others.

#### 2) Trees:

- Cut up and hauled several fallen limbs around town after winds.
- Screwed in 1500 individual light bulbs into sockets for 100 strands of lights for tree light project.

#### 3) Lila Keiser Park:

- Installed new electrical wire and 4 contacts that control west ballfield lights through a single switch.
- Installed boulders north of playground to prevent autos driving through back area.
- Skin patched large pothole areas with 4 tons of HMA in parking lot.

#### 4) Tidelands Park:

- Replaced leaking water valve at fish cleaning station.

#### 5) Cloisters:

- Added 2 tons of play sand and graded at the swing set area in the park.

#### 6) Centennial:

- Excavated soil in two large areas, compact, hauled in 30 tons of crushed Gabbro rock and finish grade.

#### 7) Boardwalk:

- Repaired several lifted areas near the Rock restrooms.

#### 8) Sidewalks:

- Removed overgrown ivy on the corner of Quintana/Main.
- Cut off damaged portion of hit bike rack, remount and match paint.

9) City Park:

- Replaced landscape border wood with recycled wood at Corp Yard.

10) Chamber:

- Cleared clogged sewer lateral to main with power snake. Ran camera to determine future repairs.

11) City Hall:

- Retrofitted light fixtures in Mail Room. Removed electrical ballast, rewired and exchanged to energy efficient LED bulbs.

12) MB Community Center:

- Installed new valve rebuild assembly in drinking fountain.



City crews patched this section of road on Trinidad

## Finance

The City Team is pleased to present the Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/20 Annual Operating and Capital Budget. You can view the proposed budget by clicking on the following link: <http://morrobayca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13292/Proposed-FY-2019-20-Operating-and-Capital--Budget>

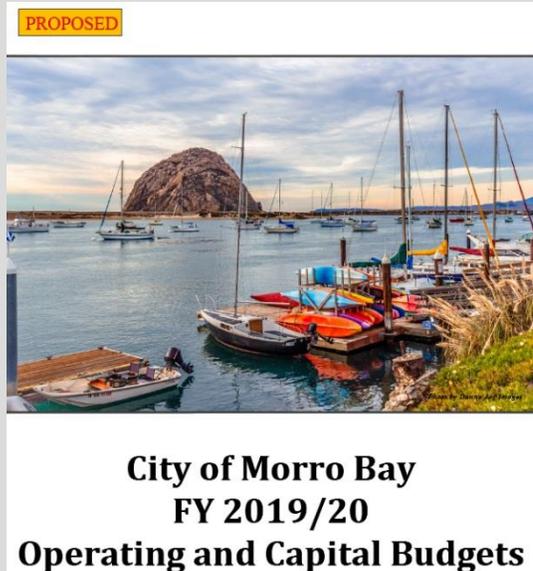
The Proposed FY 2019/20 Operating Budget for the City of Morro Bay reflects a total City budget of \$67.1 million (including Capital Projects and excluding transfers) with the General Fund expenditures of \$14.3 million (excluding transfers). General Fund revenues are budgeted at \$13.4 million (excluding transfers in), and an additional \$1.4 million in transfers for total general fund revenues of \$14.8 million. The proposed budget reflects modest economy and relies on the economy to remain steady as the City's primary revenue sources (Transient Occupancy Tax, Property Tax and Sales Tax) are highly economically sensitive in nature.

In summary, the proposed budget incorporates funding for 97.1 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions, in addition to temporary hours to provide critical services to the Morro Bay community and includes capital expenditures totaling \$37 million, of which \$33 million is for the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) project.

Continuing with the budget revision from FY 2018/19, the proposed FY 2019/20 Budget includes a reference section and City profile section. In addition, with the proposed FY 2019/20 staff has begun to establish a five-year capital plan. Staff will continue to add capital and infrastructure needs to this five-year plan for transparency and planning purposes. A Budget and Financial Policy section, Accomplishment and Initiatives sections will be added for adoption with the final budget in June. We hope the Council and community find this information to be valuable in understanding all that is done each day to provide core services.

The FY 2019/20 budget was approached with the intent of being mindful of our future while meeting the needs of today. We were pleased to be able to meet limited staffing and operational needs without impacting the general fund, while also keeping our eyes on the future. We have significant work to continue in FY 2019/20 to enhance existing revenues and identify new revenues, while exploring cost savings opportunities. We have focused heavily on economic development, specifically collaborating with the Chamber of Commerce and our business community partners as economic stability and revenue diversification are an identified goal of the City Council.

City Council budget study sessions are scheduled for May 14, 16 and 28. We encourage the community to read through the proposed budget and participate in the budget study sessions, providing feedback to the Council and Staff.



## Tourism



LARGER-THAN-LIFE SEA CREATURES FILLED THE SKIES AT THE MORRO BAY KITE FESTIVAL CAPTURING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF MORRO BAY.



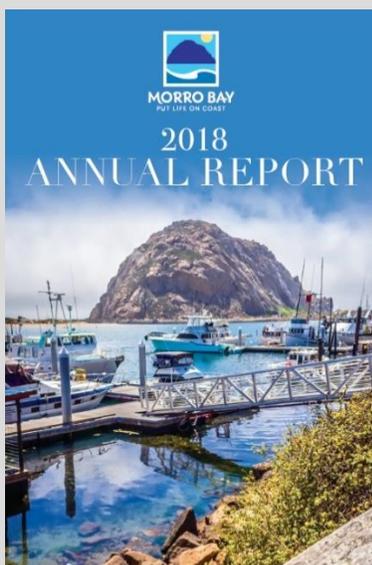
Photos by Dann Joy Images

Celebrating the annual [Morro Bay Kite Festival](#) this past weekend, we featured the famous [Octopus Kite Events](#) from Amsterdam to show their amazing larger than life kites. This was their very first state-side exhibit showing the mastery of the large aquatic kites at Morro Rock Beach. Unfortunately, light winds kept their flying limited to afternoons.

“[The Morro Bay Kite Festival](#) is the start of the Kite Flying season,” stated Shaun Farmer, the festivals Founder. “Kiting in America is often associated with children, but do not misled! The rest of the civilized world rates kites as a means of artistic expression, cultural validation, and religious fervor.” Our goal is to bring all individuals, families, and all generations together in a safe, relaxing and fun environment, to learn and participate in the art of kite flying, [Morro Bay](#)

style. Our activities attracted young and old to celebrate all the wind provides and the people that harness it. Our breathtaking surroundings and the windy location are perfect for this gathering on the Central Coast.

**Crusin' Morro Bay starts today, Friday, May 3rd!** For a complete list of event activities check out their website. <http://www.morrobaycarshow.org>



## Hoteliers Annual meeting

Last week Hoteliers reviewed Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 and the first 6 month of this year (FY 2018-19). This is part of the annual renewal process for the Tourism Business Improvement District. You can review the full report at the following link:

<https://www.morrobayca.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/5010>



**New Website!** The new tourism Website launched last week. *We still are in the beta-test mode* and updating content daily, but you can take a look here <https://www.morrobay.org/>

## **AMGEN Bike Tour of California here in two weeks!**

Don't miss the opportunity to see world class athletes race to finish of stage 4 in Morro Bay, the afternoon of Wednesday, May 15. For more details, visit the [AMGEN website](#).

### **Police**

Morro Bay Police Officer Chris Galaz was sworn in on April 15<sup>th</sup> and is doing a great job learning about our City, residents, businesses and codes. Officer Galaz comes to us as a new officer that has worked with Fresno County Sheriff's Office for almost 2 years as a Reserve Deputy. Since graduating High School in Santa Maria, Officer Galaz worked full time while putting himself through college to get his Associate's Degree in Science with a major in Administration of Justice through Allan Hancock, followed by his Bachelor of Science in Criminology through Fresno State University. He then put himself through the Police Academy in Fresno while working as a Uniformed Reserve Deputy.

The Police Chief's Citizen Advisory Committee applications are being reviewed and we hope to have our committee up and running in the next couple of months.

There has been an increase of car break ins in the last couple of weeks. Please remember to take your valuables out and lock your cars. It only takes a minute to prevent a crime.

### **Morro Bay Fire Department selects two new Fire Captain Paramedics**

The Morro Bay Fire Department is pleased to announce the promotion of Scott Subler and Travis Hasch to Fire Captain Paramedic. Both Scott and Travis participated in a multiple day selection process that involved third party written testing, emergency scenario evaluations, duty exercise, fire industry peers and community members. Fire Captains Scott Subler and Travis Hasch are filling two vacancies currently at the Fire Department. Fire Chief Steven Knuckles stated, "I am impressed with Scott's and Travis's experience, credentials, and commitment to serve others and I am looking forward to their leadership in our community. Both Scott and Travis are well-prepared for their promotion; they have compassion for people and passion about the job." Both Scott and Travis started their new shifts as Captains in early April.



## Recreation

### Special Events

Recreation Staff are gearing up for our upcoming events in the next few months. Keep your calendars open!

- Rev up your motors for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Crusin' Morro Bay Car Show held downtown Morro Bay! The festivities start this Friday through Sunday.



- Join us for a P-arrrrty and Shell-ebration on Saturday, May 18th Meet us at the Rock Parking Lot at 10a.m. and the Parade starts at 10:30a.m. The Parade ends at Tognazzini's Dock Side Too!

13th Annual Morro Bay  
**MERMAID  
& PIRATE  
PARADE**  
AND SEA CREATURES TOO!  
Saturday, May 18th

Parade ends at  
**TOGNAZZINI'S  
DOCKSIDE TOO**  
for a P-arrrrty and Shell-ebration!  
Be there at 10AM,  
the Parade begins  
at 10:30  
Meet at the  
Morro Rock  
Parking Lot

\*All children  
participating will  
receive a free  
lunch!

**MORRO BAY RECREATION SERVICES**  
1001 Kennedy Way, Morro Bay, CA 93442 ~ (805)772-6278  
www.morrobayca.gov • www.facebook.com/CityofMorroBay

## Seniors

As we move towards summer the abundant rainfall left us with a great opportunity to schedule a trip to Carrizo Plains to observe the super bloom. On April 11 the Rovers, under the direction of Meredith Bates, travelled to the Plains and had a great experience wandering among the native flowers.

The offerings at the Senior Center continue to grow as last month we added a Dominoes group as well as a Poker Club. There are even plans to add Bunco to the already busy schedule. These programs are great because we fill up our rooms and auditorium during the week and it continues to bring more and more Morro Bay seniors into the Community Center. Last week, the parking lot was completely full of cars just from all the seniors taking classes!



**Yoga class experiencing a drumming session**

## Aquatics Programs

Staff is preparing for a busy fun-filled summer of programming. We are offering spring private and semi-private swim lessons and the community is taking full advantage. In order to accommodate the community's need for lessons, we are hiring Swim Instructors and Lifeguards. And, we are in the planning stages to hold a Lifeguarding/CPR/FAFSP class in June.

All pool lifeguards are American Red Cross Certified in Lifeguarding, CPR for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid for Safety Personnel as required by Title 22 of the California Code.

Also, in preparation for summer, we applied for and were awarded a grant from the Association of Aquatic Professionals. We will be adding 15 additional life jackets to be used during our recreational swim programs.

On April 21, 30 families participated in our first Aquatic Easter Egg Hunt. There was a visit from the Easter Bunny, face painting and recreational swim fun. Thank you to the SLO Blues, AZHIAZIAM, and Cal Poly Athletics for providing prizes for the event.

Our pool schedule through May 31 is M, W, F 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and M-F, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and starting May 5-Sundays 11 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for Lap Swim.



## Sports

Girls Softball season has two weeks of the season left. Our current sponsors for the 2019 season include; Higgle's World BBQ, Chuck's Towing, Cayucos Lions Foundation, Morro Bay Eagles, Hinson's Tire, James Searby Construction, Modern Electric, CP Landscapes, Pizza Port, Miners Ace Hardware, P.E. Enterprises, Olive Ranch and Tech Time Communications Tyler who has moved on to other work. Luis is a Sports Coordinator that will be overseeing both our youth and adult's softball leagues.

Adult league Softball is also ongoing. Currently we have 3 nights of play in the Spring, Monday for our Co-Ed, Tuesday we have the Masters' and Wednesday is our Men's Division.

2019 Estero Bay Youth Futsal League is up and running with the first games this Thursday. Games will run through May 18. This indoor soccer league is open to boys and girls ages 6-11.

**Registration for the 50th Annual Brian Waterbury Memorial Rock to Pier Run and 8th Annual Half Marathon begins on April 29 at 8 am online at [www.runsignup.com](http://www.runsignup.com). We are part of the California Half and Full Marathon Series and the Trail Runner Magazine Trophy Series. The race will be on July 20, 2019.**



Morro Bay Junior Lifeguard program update: There is still room available in the Junior Waterman Program—ages 12+. The program will be June 10-June 21.

Swim assessments for all JG programs will be May 5 and May 12 from 1 pm to 3 pm at the MBHS Aquatic Center. Come anytime during that time frame to complete the assessment. Everyone is reassessed every year.

Coming soon: Pool Junior Lifeguards schedule will be out shortly.

## Youth Services

- Youth Services:
  - Youth Services hosted a Spring Camp the week of April 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, campers visited Rockies Teen Center and Skatepark, MBHS Pool, the tidepools, and Del Mar Park.



- Kids' Club registration for 2019/20 school year, has opened and closed. We have a full roster, and many new Kindergarteners this upcoming year.
- Kids' Camp 2019 calendar is out, and registration opens May 6<sup>th</sup>.

- Rockies Teen Center and Teen Action Committee
  - Rockies Teen Center and Skate Park will host the Monster Skate Series on May 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Harbor

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, a citizen reported hearing voices in the back bay yelling for help from kayaks around 8pm. Harbor Patrol Officers and Coast Guard responded by boat and Morro Bay Fire by land to search by land and water for anyone in distress. After a 2-hour search and a helicopter fly over, no one was found and incident was deemed a false alarm.

Harbor Patrol participated in the Blessing of the Fleet on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Shortly after the ceremony was over a 20' Hobie Cat sailboat was reported dismasted in the harbor entrance with two people struggling in the water. Harbor Patrol responded and rescued the people off the boat as it was drifting to the south into 6-8 foot surf south of the South Jetty. The people were safely transferred to the Coast Guard boat and Harbor Patrol further assessed the Hobie but were unable to save it before it washed in to the sandspit. The wreckage has since been removed.

Spring winds blew a few times this month keeping Harbor Patrol on their toes with recorded gusts to 68 knots. Several boats were found with severed lines and broken cleats from the sustained pressure.

On April 17<sup>th</sup>, just after 6am, Harbor Patrol was alerted to a sinking boat on the South T Pier. The 50-foot Chris Craft vessel was sitting with about 18 inches of freeboard above the water. With quick work from Harbor Patrol Officers and help from Coast Guard, they were able to pump the water out before it was a complete loss. The cause of the flooding looked to be some rotten planks and failed use of bilge pumps.

## Community Development

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE FOR MARCH 2019



### Planning Division Activity

#### Planning Commission:

March 5, 2019: 787 Main Street, public right of way abandonment. Action: approved with changes.

March 19, 2019: Meeting cancelled

### Planning Permits Received

- Use Permit = 1
- Coastal Dev. Permits = 4
- Min/Maj. Mod. = 1

Fees collected = \$7,829

### Code Enforcement Activity

- 19 cases initiated
- 37 cases resolved
- 13 total pending cases

### Building Division Activity

- Permits Issued = 36
- Valuation = \$2,133,652
- Fees Received = \$124,531
- # of Inspections = 113
- New Permits = 15