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#### **Council Restructures Traffic Committee**

Bump opponents, including Stan Roth, who has volunteered to be a public member of the new TSAC, supported that idea, but Barbara Simpson, who has also volunteered to join TSAC, opposed it. Ultimately the Council unanimously removed all council partic-

ipation from TSAC. The Council will recruit volunteers for TSAC and will interview the candidates in a special public meeting early next year. Topping the new TSAC's agenda will be to review the draft traffic calming guidelines which the Council received from the current TSAC and quickly referred to the new TSAC. A number of suggestions were made for improving the guidelines, among which was to specify what public notice of proposed traffic calming measures should be

Metcalf said he hoped the new TSAC would promptly revise the guidelines and submit them to the Council for approval because "there's a lot of pent up demand" for traffic calming. He cited four neighborhoods, the Bluffs, Corliss, Larch, and Rheem, in which he said residents are already organizing to seek traffic calming measures.

Chew said he wanted the current TSAC to revise the guidelines and submit them to the

#### ... continued form page 3

Council before the new TSAC is seated to avoid "a long delay". He said the bump opponents were "a small minority whose sole intention is to disrupt TSAC to keep us from doing what's right for the

rest of the community."

When the Council majority decided the guidelines would have to wait for the new TSAC, Chew said they "would have to answer to the rest of the community that wants

some type of traffic calming" for the delay. Council member Dave Trotter responded that he was perfectly prepared to do that, because he was elected to take political responsibility for his decisions.

#### A New Master Plan for Lafayette Parks

What to do? Jennifer Russell says, "We have a huge challenge before us because Lafayette has been built out for so long" there just isn't much land available for new parks. Many home tracts were built before being annexed by the City, so parks weren't originally contemplated. Russell says "Newer communities are being built with parks in mind." Add to that the exorbitant price of land in the area; securing additional park acres is not easily done. The dollars just aren't there.

One might ask where our tax dollars go and how they are allocated. Those questions are answered in a six-minute video on the City's website called "Municipal Finance 101" featuring City Manager Steve Falk. It all comes

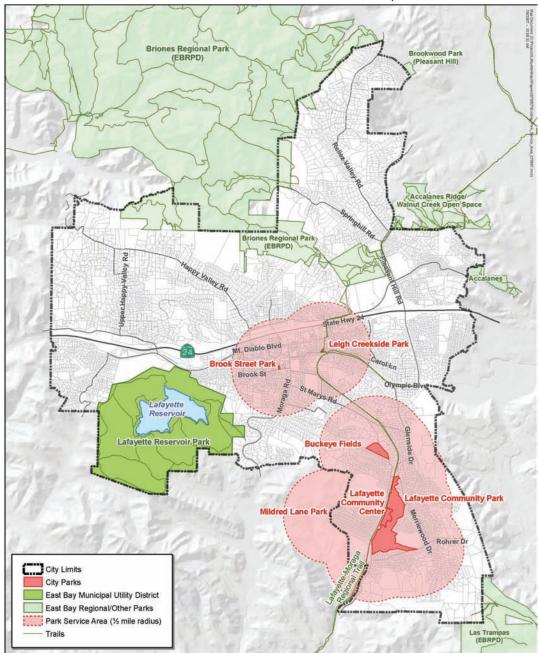
... continued from page 2 down to different "buckets" and only certain things can be legally paid out of each bucket. In the case of parks, funding is available from three potential sources: dedication/improvement fees on new construction, state grants or donations and user fees which "offset operations and maintenance costs."

The Plan is in the public outreach and participation stage. The first of several public input meetings was held recently at the Lafayette Community Center and the upcoming Winter Recreation Guide will also ask for comments. According to Russell, "It's hard to get people to voice their opinions." She encourages citizens to contact her directly with their questions, concerns and ideas.

Russell offered the reminder that the Plan is "in its infancy", thus your voice will be heard. The City wants to know if there is a need for park facilities/services in your neighborhood.



Jennifer Russell. Photo Jean Follmer Lafayette Parks & Recreation Director



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