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Letters to the Editor

Share your thoughts with our community! Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writers and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and town (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only), and should be 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for length or legal considerations.
 email: letters@lamorindaweekly.com;
 Regular mail: Lamorinda Weekly, P.O.Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570

Dear Editor:

Even though I am not a resident of Moraga, I have been following with some interest the stories of the proposed ballot initiative regarding open space in Moraga, MOSO 2008, drafted by a group who call themselves "Moraga Friends of Open Space." This initiative apparently calls for an additional 1000 acres of land (total 1700) to be dedicated as "Open Space" and provides for little or no future development of that land. There is just one major flaw to their plan... they don't actually own the land. That, however, doesn't seem to be a stumbling block for them.

They propose to effectively "just take it over" with MOSO 2008. This isn't even eminent domain where the owner at least gets some compensation. This all begs the question of what kind of country we are becoming. Are we a theocracy where the State can just come in and "take your property?" If we get a big enough gang together, can we just vote ourselves some one else's property? At least it bypasses all the messiness of having to raise money, get grants and do some actual work to buy it. I thought private property rights were protected by the Constitution. Currently,

any kind of development in a community must go through a town's planning and approval process so there is endless opportunity to provide for community concerns. If we just sit on the side lines as bystanders, because it doesn't affect us this time and MOSO 2008 succeeds, then the big question becomes who or what will be next on their list? Fortunately, Moraga will have a competing ballot to choose from- MOSPRO 2008. Jacqueline Cloidt Orinda

English nationwide who are enrollments in U.S. public schools and more than 10% of them are in California. The cost of providing the so-called bilingual education averages over \$9000 per child per year. Also, most of the growth of the uninsured population in the United States in recent years has been due to recent immigrants and their U.S.-born children. Furthermore, in 2002 alone, there were 757,000 teen pregnancies nationwide. More than half of the immigrants in this country are low-skilled or semi-skilled. They, like teenage parents, are not too likely to pay enough taxes to offset even the cost of educating their kids, let alone the cost of other social services, such as construction and maintenance of roads/bridges, fire/police/emergency services, traffic/pollution control, prison/court, etc. Remember, money does not grow on trees. Let's not keep piling more debt on the back of our children.
 Sincerely,
 Yeh Ling-Ling Orinda

Dear Editor:

As a resident of Orinda, I would like to respond to your article, "What's at Stake for Lamorinda's Schools?" Instead of blaming Prop 13 or pushing for more bonds, thus putting an additional burden on homeowners and other taxpayers, fiscally responsible leaders should seriously work on curbing teen pregnancies and immigration although many immigrants are excellent workers and students. There are more than 5 million students speaking little to no

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The City of Lafayette wants to thank the many downtown businesses in Lafayette who are great corporate citizens and participated in our recent Downtown Employer-Employee Transportation Survey. We especially want to thank **Diablo Foods, Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Lafayette**

Park Hotel, Lamorinda Weekly, Minuteman Press and Oakwood Athletic Club for their generous donations to this project. The City received grant funding for the survey from **511 Contra Costa** and the **Bay Area Air Quality Transportation Fund for Clean Air**. The survey results and Lafayette's brand

new **Commuter Guide** can be found on the City's website at www.ci.lafayette.ca.us (under Quick Links, click on Transportation). For employers and employees interested in more information or incentives to encourage alternatives to driving alone, visit www.511contracosta.org

Lafayette Businesses Who Participated in the Downtown Employer-Employee Transportation Survey

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| <p>A A-1 Carpet Company
 A3 Comm
 Access & Mobility Finance, Inc.
 All Phone Company
 Allegro Copy and Print
 Amerex Instruments, Inc.
 Arbor Building Group, Incorporated
 Argus Services & Diablo Tax Service
 Art and Science of Eyewear
 Art of Smile - Family and Cosmetic Dentistry
 Assistance League Wayside Inn Thrift Shop
 B Bar K Inc.
 Barbara Epperson P H D
 Barnes Capital
 Bay Area Physical Therapy Inc.
 Beadazzled
 Benefit Marketing/ Benefit Administrators
 Better Homes Realty
 Betty S. Vodzak, DDS
 Blodgett's Floor Covering
 Bodin Associates
 Brilliant Buildings, Inc.
 Bruce Cornelius, Attorney
 Buckley, Patchen, Riemann and Hall, CPAs
 Burke Marketing Research
 Caesar C. Perales, CPA
 California Insurance Center
 California Star / Lamorinda Benz, Inc.
 Central Self Storage
 Chiropractic Offices
 Christopher J. Gilman, Architect
 City of Lafayette
 Clean Sweep Housekeeping
 Clocks, Etc.
 Cold Stone Creamery
 Coleman Computer Services
 Comyns, Smith, McCleary & Deaver LLP
 Cool Tops Cuts for Kids
 Cotton Patch (The)
 Counseling Services
 Coupon Country
 Cowden, Douglas E., DDS
 D D & D Security Resources
 David Babcock & Associates
 Deans & Homer
 John Devor, MD
 Dewing Spa
 Diablo Foods, Inc.
 Dona Speakman & Associates</p> | <p>Dr. Nathalie Bera-Miller
 E East Bay Oral Surgery
 EDC Systems
 Employerware, LLC.
 Episcopal Homes Foundation
 F Fastframe Of Lafayette
 Fitness Together
 Floral Arts Florist
 French For Fun
 Frontier International Shipping Corp.
 Futures Explored
 G Gifford Fong Associates
 Gilliss Valla & Dalsin, LLP
 Global Energy Partners, LLC
 Govers Engineers
 Greg's Muffler
 Griggs Resource Group
 Gronowski Law Offices
 H Hair by Dallas & Company
 Hairitage
 Hank & Frank Bicycles
 Hansen McArdle, Inc.
 Human Resource Advisors
 Humann Company
 Hypnosis Clearing House/Transformational Therapy Center
 I Image Studio (The)
 J Jack In The Box - #429
 J Ja-Co Distributors Inc.
 Jensen/Ptaszynski Architects
 Johnson Clark & Associates
 Jon E. Sammann, D D S
 K Judy Francis - State Farm Insurance
 Kathy Andree-Rissel, M.A., M.F.T.
 Keenan Heinz Company / Really Cool Stuff
 Kosich & Callahan Insurance Services
 Kurt R. Wharton, MD
 L Kwik stop
 L.S. Mason & Associates
 Lafayette Ace Hardware
 Lafayette Auto Repair
 Lafayette Car Wash & Detail Center
 Lafayette Lighting & Fixture Repair
 Lafayette Park Hotel & Spa
 Lafayette Pet Shoppe
 Lafayette Square Insurance Services, Inc.
 Lafayette United Methodist Church
 Law Office of Karen Almqvist Stein
 Law Offices of J. Gregg Riehl
 Leather Perfect</p> | <p>Lescure Co., Inc.
 Lightriver Technologies
 Long Law Offices
 Lynn Trent Snider, C P A
 M M C I Computer Leasing Inc.
 Main Street Property Services
 Marion B. Iles, C P A
 Mark F. Swimmer, DDS, Inc.
 Marshall Steel Cleaners/T.D.M. Green Tech.
 Mary Schrey, M.A., MFT
 Mediacoal
 Megan Haney Designs
 Meritage Jewelry Concepts
 Montebello Builders Group, Inc.
 Morrison & Frazier, LLC
 Mount Diablo Veterinary Medical Center
 MPT
 Mt. Diablo Nursery & Garden
 N Ned A. Herrington D D S Inc
 Nerd4Rent, Inc
 New Expressions
 Noroian Capital Management
 O Oakwood Athletic Club
 OB-GYN Partners for Health
 Open Sesame Specialty Health Foods
 Orchard Nursery & Florist
 Overland Solutions, Inc.
 P P & L Framing
 Pacific Economic Consultants
 Papyrus
 The Patio
 Patti Hoffer, Notary Public
 Pedder, Hesseline, Walker & Toth, LLP
 Piedmont Planning Consultants LLC
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 Q Professional Automotive, LLC
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 SpringLoaf Catering
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 U Twigs Floral & Art
 U S Bank
 Valhalla Automotive, Inc.
 V Viva el Espanol
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Pick up your copy of the Lafayette Commuter Guide at the City Offices or the Chamber of Commerce Office

