

Lafayette

Lamorinda Community

Lafayette

Calendar

City Council
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Thursday, May 28, 5:30pm
Continued consideration of the Draft
Downtown Strategy and Specific Plan

Monday, June 8, 7pm

Planning Comm. 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Thursday, June 4

Design Review 7pm
Community Center, Manzanita Room
500 St Mary's Road
Tuesday, June 9

Senior Services 3:30pm
Community Center, Alder Room
500 St Mary's Road
Thursday, May 28

City of Lafayette:
<http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us>
Chamber of Commerce:
<http://www.lafayettechamber.org>



Holes in the Ceiling, 5/11/09 An administrator from Michael Lane Pre-school called Lafayette Police to report property damage to their shade structure. An unknown suspect had burned two 4-6" holes in the material roof of the structure by tossing lit matchbooks onto it. The school has been experiencing frequent property damage over weekends. Individuals have been drinking alcohol on the property and kindly leaving their empty bottles behind so the tots can collect the deposit fees. The school requested extra police patrols in the area. Damage to the structure is valued at \$800.

High Speed Chase, 5/13/09 Police attempted to stop a vehicle for failing to stop for a stop sign on Acalanes Road. Speed Racer fled in his vehicle and a 16.7-mile chase ensued. Multiple police units and agencies were involved in the pursuit with speeds over 50 mph on city streets and over 100 mph on the highway. The Demon on Wheels was eventually arrested a few blocks from his home in Orinda.

Don't Sleep on the Curb, 5/14/09 Lafayette Police observed the suspect laying on a curb on Golden Gate Way. Police made contact with the subject and noted his speech was slurred, his eyes were red, he couldn't walk and had a strong alcoholic odor on his breath. Further, the suspect thought he was in San Francisco and was heading to his home in Lafayette. Since the suspect was unable to care for himself, Police arrested him for public intoxication and gave him a lift to the Martinez Detention Facility.

Pipe and Crystals, 5/16/09 Lafayette Police stopped a vehicle on Mt. Diablo Boulevard for no front license plate. A search of the vehicle revealed a small plastic bundle containing a crystal-like substance. Upon searching further, Police also shockingly discovered (gasp) a glass smoking pipe with a crystal residue in it. An analysis confirmed the substance was methamphetamine.

Lafayette's Natural Resource

www.DanaGreenTeam.com

Lafayette Not Keen on Potential Traffic Impact of New Moraga Plan

By Cathy Tyson
Concerned about traffic impacts on their roads from the Moraga Center Specific Plan (MCSP), the Cities of Lafayette and Orinda shared the cost of hiring TJKM, a transportation consulting firm, to analyze data from Moraga's traffic consultant, Fehr and Peers (F & P). Basically the TJKM review does not agree with the figure for external trips - that is the number of trips outside of Moraga that F & P found, by approximately 50%. In a nutshell, how many drivers are staying within Moraga to pick up kids from school, go grocery shopping and so on - and how many of those drivers will be exiting town via Orinda or Lafayette?

"Lafayette continues to have serious concerns regarding the EIR's methodology, assumptions, conclusions and mitigation measures and maintains that the EIR fails to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) The EIR fails to fully analyze impacts on the streets and intersections in Lafayette and offers unrealistic or ineffective mitigation measures that are inconsistent with the Lafayette General Plan."

as well as an assisted living facility. "Based on standard ITE (Institute of Transportation Engineers) trip generation rates, TJKM estimates that the Moraga Center Specific Plan would generate approximately 522 inbound and 488 outbound trips during the p.m. peak hour. However, F & P's projected trip generation shows 251 inbound and 243 outbound project trips during the p.m. peak hours. These EIR project trip increments are approximately 50 - 52 percent less than the comparable outbound and inbound trips respectively based on standard ITE rates. This indicates that the MCSP project is likely underestimating the impacts of the project," notes the May 8, 2009 report of TJKM to the City of Lafayette.

The Lafayette City Council recently drafted a letter to Moraga's Mayor noting,

Next Steps for the Downtown Strategy

By Cathy Tyson

| NEXT STEPS WORK PLAN AND SCHEDULE | May | June | July | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|--|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. City Council decides on model for Revised Draft Plan - 5/9 | ■ | | | | | | | |
| 2. Staff and Plan consultants revise Draft Plan based on Council model | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | |
| 3. EIR consultant selection process (to follow requirements per grant) | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | |
| 4. Agencies review EIR Notice of Preparation (30 days) | ■ | ■ | ■ | | | | | |
| 5. Planning Commission, Advisory Committee receive Revised Draft Plan | | | ■ | | | | | |
| 6. Planning Commission reviews Revised Draft Plan for EIR preparation | | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| 7. EIR consultant undertakes preliminary Draft EIR research | | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| 8. Planning Commission holds Draft EIR scoping meeting - 7/16 | | | ■ | ■ | | | | |
| 9. EIR consultant prepares Draft EIR | | | | ■ | ■ | | | |
| 10. Public review of Draft EIR (45 days) | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| 11. Planning Commission holds Draft EIR public hearing | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| 12. Planning Commission reviews Revised Draft Plan for final revisions | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| 13. EIR consultant prepares Final EIR | | | | | ■ | ■ | ■ | |
| 14. Staff and Plan consultant prepare Final Plan | | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| 15. Final EIR public review | | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| 16. Final Plan public review | | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| 17. Planning Commission considers Final EIR for recommendation | | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| 18. Planning Commission considers Final Plan for recommendation | | | | | | ■ | ■ | |
| 19. City Council certifies EIR | | | | | | | ■ | ■ |
| 20. City Council adopts Final Plan | | | | | | | | ■ |

Chart is part of the document "Continued consideration of the Draft Lafayette Downtown Strategy and Specific Plan" found on the City's web site at <http://lafayette.waterware.com/docushare/dsweb/View/Collection-404>

After getting off to a somewhat contentious start at an all day public forum to gather input from citizens on May 9, the two meetings the following week were substantially more collegial, but there still is a long way to go the get

a final version of the Downtown Strategy and Specific Plan adopted.

The Next Steps Work Plan and Schedule chart above outlines the twenty steps to an anticipated December approval. Milestones along the

way include Planning Commission reviews Revised Draft Plan for EIR preparation in late June, early July, Staff and Plan consultant prepare Final Plan in late October, early November, to City Council adopts Final Plan in mid-December.

Throughout the process the public is welcome to comment. "The Council completed its development of a Project description for the EIR in terms of heights and densities in each of the Plan's districts. The Council also agreed to lesser inten-

sity and higher intensity alternatives for the EIR," said Ann Merideth, Community Development Director. "The Plan will be revised by early summer and the EIR will be prepared thereafter."

Indeed height has been a sticking point for many residents, the Lafayette Homeowners Council (LHC) as well as the Planning Commission. The LHC recently proposed that properties along Mount Diablo Boulevard 25 feet tall would be allowed, and 35 feet could be conditionally approved. What most everyone does agree on is the irregularity of heights along Mt. Diablo is what makes the area visually interesting. Translating that into zoning language will surely be challenging.

"We need to find a way of putting in regulations that encourage differences as you walk down the street," said Council Member Brandt Andersson. "The Planning Commission report is a good starting point."

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26 Claremont Avenue, Orinda
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Trail Neighborhood Perfection in Lafayette...

3322 Beechwood Drive, Lafayette
By Appointment
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Cheerful Traditional Charmer...

36 Olympic Oaks Drive, Lafayette
First Open 1 to 4 pm
Delightful 2329+/- sq. ft. in private gated Olympic Oaks Community on .46 level lot!
\$1,149,000

Lafayette: Charming Architectural Retreat...

1 Rimrock Drive, Lafayette
First Open 1 to 4 pm
Experience Berkeley through the Tunnel! 3166 +/- sq. ft. updated 4BD/2.5 BA on 1.2 acre serene property.
\$1,299,000

"Try Lafayette First" Community Celebration!!!

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce Invites Everybody to be their Guest at a Free BBQ and Music by the Buzztones

When: Friday, June 5th
Where: Lafayette Plaza Park Downtown Lafayette (at the corner of Moraga Road and Mt. Diablo)
Time: 5:00 pm—8:00 pm

www.lafayettechamber.org

The Buzztones are Back to Try Lafayette First!

... continued from page 1

Not only is the band reuniting, but long ago school rivals - Van Overveen/Martin from Acalanes and fellow bandmate Alan Thiele from Miramonte -- can relive some of their musical history back in the neighborhood where it all began. Rounding out the quartet, Ken Cooper and Dan DeShara are also from the area. Martin got his start playing at the Happy Valley sixth grade graduation and at a Kiwanis Pancake Feed. He went on to become involved in Jazz Band at Stanley and sang in the choir at Acalanes. "Try Lafayette First Thank You Party," Friday June 5 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Plaza Park at the corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road. The Buzztones will also be performing at the Lafayette Art and Wine Festival on September 20.

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Tues 12-5 Wed-Sat 10-5

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