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Letters to the Editor

...continued

Editor:

Vote No on Lafayette Prop. G

I say Vote No on Prop. G in November as the City has neither the staff or the expertise to do the work properly or efficiently. By passing this Proposition you will be handing the City a blank check to do something they have repeatedly demonstrated that cannot do.

There are endless examples of this. For one, the St. Francis road area has been paved three times in the last five years. Roads that needed no help in the first place and roads that are dead end serving TWO houses! Many of our roads are in disrepair because of trenching by utility and other companies and the City exercises no supervision or control How long has BART been working at El Nido Ranch Road and Happy Valley roads?

Months and months for work that should take weeks. Why so long? Because they go days and weeks without doing ANYTHING and the City does nothing. I for one 'will not vote to give the City money and get maybe 30% of value. I can recite instance after instance where the City and it's engineering department simply did not know what to do. The idea that with this Prop. G the City is going to fix all of our roads just fine is nonsense. What to do then? Form a special services district, run by a private agency with people that know what they are doing and then get the job done efficiently. Proposition does not do that. VOTE NO ON G.

Robert Zimmerman

Lafayette

Editor:

Lafayette's roads are in good condition. The politician's out of control spending, is what needs fixing. This years interest expenses are \$3,194,761. Most of it for their Party Palace they call a learning center. Now the streets are polluted with signs asking for more money. Full page adds name the commissioners the politicians party with at taxpayer expense... This propoganda is being funded by people who inherited large companies & give thousands to political campaigns. Their names are on obscenely expensive public buildings. \$89 a year won't hurt them. They don't give a rat's tail about the old, poor, feeble and blind who will be forced to go without food and medicine because of \$89 in higher annual taxes.

Long ago, I asked a pro tax heiress if she would give me \$10 to attend a City social event. She gave me a big ugly" NO " The first time I saw this woman, she had a big phony smile on her face, asking for my vote. What would I expect from someone who wants to tax the blind?

The pro tax Chamber of Commerce receives \$30,000 in taxpayer cash annually. The pro tax League of Women Voters, has received subsidized rent from The City for decades. I don't know how much money the pro tax Lafayette Taxpayers Association receives. They are to the taxpayers of Lafayette, what Benedict Arnold was to the American Revolution. Many people are paid to lie to the public. In The American Revolution Patriots opposed taxes.

There is so much transportation money available, the plan to make a \$6,000,000 bike/wheelchair path on the EBMUD right of way is still being considered. Take a walk on it pushing a wheelchair and see what a ridiculous idea it is.

Measure G promises another committee. Expect it to be like the committee that ordered an expensive environmental impact report for frogs, near a proposed expensive Bike Jump Park. This committee drained all of the parkland frog ponds in the 1990s.

I told the Parks Director to send the kids to a Bike Jump Park near my home. Within a week, it was destroyed with a pickax. I wonder how sad that made those kids, who made their own Bike Jump Park.

Put a smile on your face, be patriotic and vote NO on Measure G.

Bruce R. Peterson

Lafayette

Editor:

On November 8, Lafayette residents will vote on Measure G, a parcel tax to fund road and drain reconstruction and maintenance. It is supported by organizations that don't frequently agree on issues -- Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Lafayette Homeowners Council, and Lafayette Taxpayers Association -- along with residents and City Council. This community-wide support should give voters comfort in the soundness and fairness of the measure.

For a maximum of ten years, single family homeowners will pay \$89 per year. Properties with higher impact on the roads will contribute their proportionate share. These are difficult times financially, but delaying street repairs will ultimately cost us more. The city is committing \$20 million; Measure G would raise the \$10 million needed to complete the repairs.

Measure G was drafted with input from a broad range of residents and organizations. It is fair, with parcels taxed according to an equitable formula of \$89 per equivalent residential unit. It is transparent, with funds deposited into a designated account so there is no comingling. It provides accountability, with an Oversight Committee reviewing expenditures. It is efficient, with revenue applied directly to roads -- no bonds or interest.

Measure G has my support.

Linda Murphy

Lafayette

Join our Public Forum

If you have significant knowledge about an issue facing Lamorinda, or one of its communities, that requires more than the 350 words to which we must limit Letters to the Editor, don't despair! You can submit your letter to our Public Forum section. Just send your letter to letters@lamorindaweekly.com and let us know you'd like to be considered for the Public Forum. We will not accept Public Forum submissions regarding a current ballot measure or candidate for public office. Opinions expressed in Public Forum are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly.

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Dear Readers:

In an effort to improve the quality of our paper, we switched printers in August; our paper is now printed by Transcontinental Inc. in Fremont. Unlike most newspapers, we have always printed all of our pages in full color rather than black and white, for which we have received an overwhelmingly positive response.

In 2009, Transcontinental Inc. opened a new printing facility in Fremont and began printing the San Francisco Chronicle. Transcontinental invested in equipment that is geared towards color printing, which met our expectations for our paper.

We're excited to see our photos and advertisements printed with higher preciseness, clarity and brightness, and feel proud to publish news and photos from our community using state of the art technology.

In this issue we again take advantage of an option to print some of our pages on glossy paper. We think this unique feature, offered by Transcontinental, made our last issue stand out and we received many nice comments and compliments. In fact, extra copies offered in our news racks were picked up more quickly than usual. We believe that high quality writing and printing are very important aspects of our product.

Another new feature can be found in our Life in Lamorinda section—our Halloween page is extended to make it stand out from the other pages.

We're also happy that Transcontinental uses vegetable-based ink and a high percentage of recycled fiber in the paper which makes our product more sustainable and easier to recycle.

Thank you for being a reader of our paper.

Andy & Wendy Scheck
Publishers

