



# Orinda Civic News

## Public Meetings

### City Council

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Planning Commission

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Finance Advisory Committee

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 6 p.m.  
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,  
22 Orinda Way

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

### City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org  
Phone (925) 253-4200

### Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

### The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org

### School Board Meeting

#### Orinda Union School District

Monday, March 10, 6 p.m.

OUSD Office, Vintage Building

25 Orinda Way, Suite 200

www.orindaschools.org

See also AUHSD meeting page A2



**Orinda Police Department crime statistics for the month of January will appear in our Feb. 26 issue.**

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community.  
**Send a letter to the editor:**  
letters@lamorinda weekly.com



**Maureen Wilbur**

Direct: (925)253-6311 | Maureen@MaureenWilbur.com | www.MaureenWilbur.com

CalBRE #01268536



## Orindawoods Single Level Detached Patio Home ~ Rarely Available

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**535 The Glade, Orinda  
Offered at \$996,000**

For more information please contact Maureen

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# Orinda's Quality of Life Continues to Receive High Marks

By Laurie Snyder

Life is great in Orinda. That was the judgment of 400 Orindans who participated in a poll in late January to gauge residents' level of satisfaction with everything from policing to pothole repairs. These and other findings are available in "Orinda Voter Support for Financing Infrastructure Improvements: Key Findings from a Citywide Voter Survey," an analysis of the results by Fairbank, Maslin, Maulin, Metz & Associates which was presented by staff to the Orinda City Council at its meeting Feb. 4.

Ninety-eight percent of those surveyed described community life as excellent or good. Orindans also still love their library with 95 percent indicating they approve of the facility and its programs. Eighty-nine percent also approve of the police and Parks and Recreation departments. However, only 78 percent, 62 percent and 46 percent were happy, respectively, with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Orinda City Council and Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. An eye popping 35 percent of those polled, however, said they either did not know enough about the performance of county supervisors to answer the question, or defined the work of their county governing body as "not applicable."

Respondents did make clear that their community's roads continue to be of concern with 70 percent saying they would support "The City of Orinda Road Repair and Safety Improvement Measure" to "repair failing roads and storm drains, fix potholes, and improve traffic safety" if it appears on a future ballot. Twenty-four percent were firmly op-

posed while 38 percent would definitely vote for the bond with another 33 percent stating they would likely support or were leaning in favor of the measure.

Respondents also appear to believe that if Orinda is to truly get its act together where infrastructure is concerned, more skin needs to be put into the game by residents and their government. Seventy-five percent of those who said they would support a \$20 million bond measure indicated that a \$10 million bond would also be an acceptable alternative bond amount in contrast to the 43 percent who said they might get behind an even higher bond - \$40 million. Regarding potential projects to be undertaken, respondents want the worst streets fixed and believe storm drains and water pipes should be repaired at the same time roads are repaved. Seventy-seven percent agreed the repairs would enhance public safety while 71 percent felt the improvements would also protect property values.

Conversely, when asked how much they would be willing to pony up to repair roads and drains, only 26 percent were in favor of employing a real estate transfer tax to help raise the \$52 million still needed to fix Orinda's crumbling infrastructure - even if it enabled the city to repeal the recently enacted half-cent sales tax increase. And only 43 percent said they were personally willing to pay \$60 dollars per \$100,000 of assessed value on their homes annually for the next 20 years - even if that assessment was based on what the homeowner paid for his or her residence rather than its current market value. Seventy-one percent would be

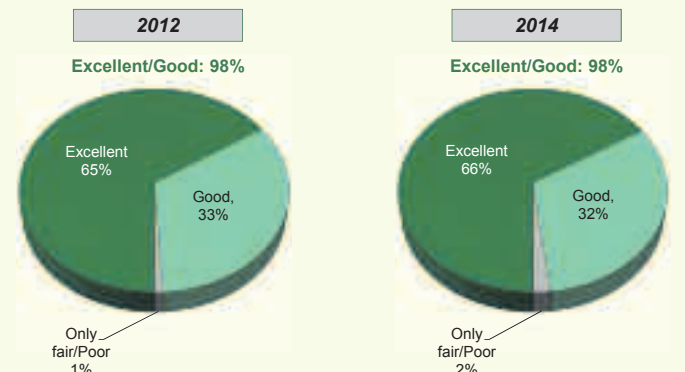
willing to consider payments of \$15 per \$100,000 of assessed value each year.

According to David Metz and Curtis Below, the polling consultants who completed the analysis for the

city, "A \$20 million bond measure to fund the second phase of Orinda's program of road and storm drain repairs appears feasible." The poll's margin of error was plus or minus 4.9 percent.

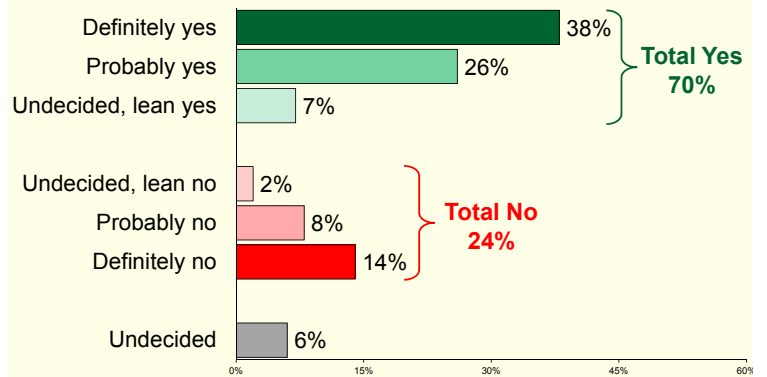
### Voters continue to give very high ratings to Orinda's quality of life.

Would you say the overall quality of life in Orinda is excellent, good, only fair, or poor?



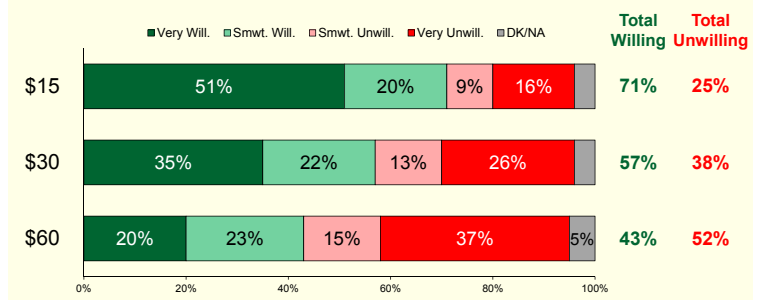
### Seven in ten voters would initially support \$20 million bond measure.

If the election were held today, do you think you would vote "Yes" in favor of this measure or "No" to oppose it?



### A majority of voters would be willing to pay \$15 to \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed value on their homes, but most would see a \$60 rate as too high.

The final bond amount for this measure has not yet been determined. Would you be willing to pay an annual cost of \_\_\_\_\_ per \$100,000 of assessed value on your home over the next 20 years to repair and repave public roads and storm drains, fix potholes and improve traffic safety? Keep in mind that your home's assessed value is based on what you paid for your home, and not its current fair market value.



Images provided



## NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON A CITY OF ORINDA COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE

The City of Orinda is seeking applications from *resident volunteers* to serve on the City's:

- Art in Public Places Committee (1)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Parks & Recreation Commission (3)
- Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission (2)
- Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (3)
- Finance Advisory Committee (3)
- Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee (1)
- Historic Landmark Committee (3)

The City of Orinda is also seeking applications from resident volunteers to serve as the City's Liaison to the following local agencies:

- Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District Trustee (1)
- Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging (1)
- Representative on the Contra Costa County Library Commission (2)
- County Connection Citizens Advisory Committee (1)

Statement of Interest forms are available from the Orinda City Clerk's Office, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563. If you have any specific questions regarding the recruitment, please contact Michele Olsen, City Clerk at 925-253-4221 or molsen@cityoforinda.org.

Application forms may also be downloaded from the City's website at www.cityoforinda.org.

Completed Statement of Interest forms must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by **Friday, February 28, 2014 at 5:00pm.**

Qualified applicants for City Commission and Committee appointments will be invited to interview before the full City Council on **Saturday, March 15, 2014.**

Michele L. Olsen, City Clerk



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