



# Orinda Civic News

## Public Meetings

### City Council

Tuesday, Aug. 5, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Planning Commission

Tuesday, July 22, 7 p.m.  
Auditorium, Orinda Library,  
26 Orinda Way

### Finance Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 23, 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



## Orinda Police Department Incident summary report, June 22 to July 5

<b>Alarms</b>	82
<b>911 Calls</b>	12
<b>Custody Violation BART</b>	
<b>Disturbance</b>	
90 block Donna Maria Wy	
40 block Camino Lenada	
<b>Drunk in Public</b>	
300 block Glorietta Bl	
<b>DUI</b>	
CVS	
200 block Crest View Dr	
<b>Embezzlement</b>	
BevMo	
<b>Fireworks</b>	
La Espiral/El Sereno	
10 block Owl Hill Rd	
10 block Van Tassel Ln	
10 block El Corte	
Sunnyside Ln /Van Tassel Ln	
Aspinwall Ct/Eastwood Dr	
Miramonte Dr/Ivy Dr	
Camino del Diablo/Chapparral	
<b>Forgery</b>	
600 block Tahos Rd	
80 block El Toyonal	
<b>Hit &amp; Run</b>	
Ivy Dr/Moraga Wy	
30 block Rheem Bl	
20 block Whitehall Dr	
<b>Missing Juvenile</b>	
200 block Moraga Wy	
<b>Panhandling</b>	
Safeway	
<b>Petty Theft</b>	
40 block Stanton Av	
30 block Camino del Diablo	
BevMo	
10 block Valley Ct	
St Stephens Cr/El Nido Ranch	
10 block Fairway Dr	
<b>Prowler</b>	
200 block Courtney Ln	
<b>Public Nuisance</b>	
Lomas Cantadas/Tres Mesas	
<b>Reckless Driving</b>	
Camino Pablo/Hwy 24	
Santa Maria Wy/Orinda Wy	
Virginia Dr/Moraga Via	
70 block Yarrow Valley Ln	
<b>Restraining Order Violation</b>	
30 block Eastwood Dr	
<b>Shoplifting</b>	
20 block Orinda Wy	
<b>Suicide Attempt</b>	
The Glade	
<b>Suspicious</b>	
Circumstances	11
Person	19
Vehicle	32
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	103
<b>Trespass</b>	
10 block Las Vegas Ct	
<b>Vandalism</b>	
10 block Risa Ct	
80 block Via Floreado	
20 block Lost Valley Dr	
<b>Vehicle Theft</b>	
40 block California Av	

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**Open House Sunday, July 20th, 1-4**

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## Orindans Work to Build Baseline Understanding

By Laurie Snyder



Orinda residents learned more about the housing element portion of the city's General Plan from city planning director Emmanuel Ursu (right) at special workshops at the Orinda Library in June and July. Photo Ohlen Alexander

Well into the opening weeks of preparations for Orinda's fifth cycle of the Housing Element of the General Plan for 2015-2023, the City of Orinda continued its outreach efforts to local citizens July 9 by presenting the second of two introductory workshops to familiarize Orindans with what a housing element is and why cities across California are currently readying to update theirs for the fifth time.

About 75 people attended the city's first workshop June 26 because they knew little about the Housing Element. Still others came specifically to learn about the scope of an Environmental Impact Report that the city will be preparing as part of this fifth cycle. According to PMC representatives, this EIR is one of the

differences between the prior and current cycles, and will "evaluate the likely environmental impacts of the Housing Element Update, cover all aspects of potential impacts from implementation of the Housing Element Update including construction and operation, and discuss project alternatives and cumulative impacts." Items reviewed will then be rated from "No Impact" to "Significant and Unavoidable" for issues which cannot be reduced by mitigation or are outside of Orinda's ability to mitigate. Areas to be assessed are: aesthetics, agricultural and mineral resources, air quality and greenhouse gases, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and plan-

ning, noise, population and housing, public services, transportation and circulation, utilities and service systems, and recreation.

That meeting was adjourned early, however, when a handful of individuals repeatedly interrupted the opening remarks of the representative from the consulting firm hired by the city to guide it through the fifth cycle planning process. (Read the July 2 article, "Heated Housing Element Workshop Sparks Fear - But Also Determination" in our archive at [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com).)

Rather than listening to a formal presentation during the July 9 workshop, the 50-plus attendees were able to visit one or more of six information stations where they could ask questions of staff and consultants about various aspects of the Housing Element and EIR. Although the tone was far more civil, there were some in attendance - including several of the residents who disrupted the prior meeting - who questioned whether or not the city truly needs to update its Housing Element.

It is a legal requirement for all cities. According to the California Department of Housing and Community Development's website, "Housing element law, enacted in 1969, mandates that local governments adequately plan to meet the existing and project housing needs of all economic segments of the community. All California localities are required by Article 10.6 of the Government Code (section 65580-65590) to adopt housing elements as part of their general plans,

and submit draft and adopted elements to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for review of compliance with State law." Local governments must then periodically review and update these elements to ensure continued compliance. The actual government code wording may be found here: [www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=gov&group=65001-66000&file=65580-65589.8](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=gov&group=65001-66000&file=65580-65589.8). In addition to receiving feedback at both workshops, city personnel have also been accepting comments from Orindans in writing and via email. Staff was scheduled, as of press time, to present a Housing Element update status report to the Orinda City Council on July 15 during which members of the public would be given the opportunity to provide feedback.

The intent of these initial meetings, say city leaders, has been to "establish a baseline understanding for all attendees." To that end, the city is also making educational materials from these early information sessions available on the city's website, and will be conducting further meetings and formal hearings over the next several months as the drafts of the fifth housing element and its related EIR make their way through their respective development and review processes. At present time, the draft EIR is slated to be released for public review sometime in September with the first of the formal hearings conducted by the Planning Commission that same month.

## OUSD Opens New District Office Building



Photo Ohlen Alexander

The new district office building of the Orinda Union School District is officially complete. District staff have been unpacking and settling in since relocating June 27 from their temporary offices. Construction of the new 7,500-square-foot structure was made possible when Pulte Homes purchased the site where OUSD's old Pine Grove Intermediate School first opened its doors in 1956. Closed in 1975 due to lagging enrollment, the site then became the campus for John F. Kennedy University which operated there until relocating to Pleasant Hill in 2004. As part of its \$19.5 million purchase of the parcel from OUSD, Pulte agreed to build a new district office building. The firm is now currently developing 66 single-family and eight duplex homes at Orinda Grove. OUSD plans to use the funds garnered from the sale for future capital improvements. L.Snyder

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