



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

TBA
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

School Board Meeting

Orinda Union School District

TBA
OUSD Office, 8 Altarinda Road,
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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, Nov. 30-Dec. 6

Alarms	31
Burglary, Auto	
Orinda Theatre	
911 Calls	2
Civil Disturbance	
10 block Lost Valley Dr	
Disturbance	
Wilder/Hwy 24	
Nations	
30 block Rio Vista	
Don Gabriel Wy/La Cresta Rd	
Forgery	
Police report	
Hit & Run	
100 block Crestview Dr	
Intoxicated	
500 block Moraga Wy	
Loud Party	
Don Gabriel Wy/La Cresta Rd	
60 block La Cresta Rd	
Theft, Petty	
Safeway (2)	
100 block Cannon Dr	
Panhandling	
Safeway	
Reckless Driving	
10 block Vashell Wy	
Rheem Blvd./Glorietta Blvd	
Suspicious	
Person	5
Circumstances	2
Vehicle	4
Threats	
100 block Orchard Rd	
Traffic Stops	45



Maureen Wilbur

Happy Holidays to all and a
Healthy and Prosperous 2015!
Maureen

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Orinda Housing Element Draft Headed to State for Initial Review

By Laurie Snyder

"I'm happy sending all the sites to HCD and pushing out the decision until we have a final EIR," said Orinda City Councilmember Dean Orr as the council's Dec. 9 meeting wound down. The 10th such public meeting that the city has held since June regarding revisions it is required by state law to make to the Housing Element of its General Plan, it was another lengthy affair.

City planning director Emmanuel Ursu again recapped the history of the recent update process, explaining that, after extensive pub-

lic input, three possible alternatives for rezoning land to allow for potential new housing development were selected for analysis in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The ball fields at 40 Santa Maria Way (alternative one) could allow for 64 to 80 potential units of housing, a combination of lands used currently by three churches for parking (alternative two) could allow for up to 80 units, or a combination of the land currently used by the Orinda Community Church for its upper parking lot at 10 Irwin Way plus land used

by businesses at 1 Orinda Way and 27 Orinda Way (alternative three) could allow for 80 units.

Or not. Because the state's shortfall provisions applied to the Housing Element adopted last year no longer apply, the city is now allowed to reduce the number of units that can be accommodated at the default density from 80 to 48. Plus, the city's role continues "to be limited to identifying sites and establishing zoning" that allows owners to develop housing. "Whether or not to develop the properties is entirely up

to the property owners to decide. That is not a decision of the city. The city's role is to establish the rules for development, and then to review development proposals – if they are submitted – for consistency with the rules that have been established."

In response to a question posed by Mayor Steve Glazer regarding whether or not the city could submit its Housing Element draft to the state without selecting a specific candidate for rezoning, Ursu said yes. ... continued on page A11

For the Good of the City 2014 Mayor's Awards for Excellence

By Laurie Snyder

"I started out this year calling it a year of teamwork and collaboration, and so here as we end the year, I would like to highlight in my Awards for Excellence those people who have exemplified that ideal of working together as a team and also being very collaborative." With those words, Sue Severson began her final major action as mayor of the City of Orinda – presenting the annual Orinda Mayor's Awards for Excellence and presiding over the For the Good of the City segment of the Orinda City Council meeting Dec. 2.

Lauding the value of volunteerism, Severson presented the first award of the evening to Dennis Faye. "He's been a member of the Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission since its very inception in 2007," she observed of the former CIOC chair who was traveling and unable to accept the award in person. "He's played a pivotal role in the roads repair ballot measures." Severson also chose to honor the spirit of collaboration with the following awards, as captured by *Lamorinda Weekly* photographer Ohlen Alexander:



Mayor's 2014 Awards for Architectural Excellence: Choosing to honor two of Orinda's newest neighborhoods, Severson thanked the developers of the Wilder and Oak Grove subdivisions "because of the many enhancements that they have done," including the newest ball fields, parks and trails in Orinda. "Every night, I see hundreds of kids under the lights, playing and participating on those fields, and it makes me very proud – not only for the project – but for its involvement in the community," said Scott Goldie as he accepted the award on behalf of Wilder. Dan Carroll accepted the Oak Grove award on behalf of Pulte Homes.



"We are so pleased that you've chosen to honor the Friends of the Joaquin Moraga Adobe tonight when, truly, we wish to honor you, Sue, for all the support and encouragement you have given to us," said former Orinda mayor Bobbie Landers in accepting the **Mayor's 2014 Award for Architectural Preservation** for FJMA's efforts to save the historic adobe structure near Del Rey Elementary School. "From the very first organizational meeting at my home, you were there with enthusiastic words. We are still blossoming and bringing the towns of Moraga and Lafayette to join Orinda in recognizing the importance of embracing our past as well as moving forward to our future. Someday, we look forward to you being at the ribbon cutting to the Joaquin Moraga Adobe Learning Center and Museum."



"It's so fun for me to be here this evening to introduce to you the 13th student that the Orinda-Tabor Sister Cities Foundation has brought to Orinda from Tabor in the Czech Republic to study at our outstanding Miramonte High School," said Bobbie Landers as she described how visiting students are chosen for the competitive program during the For the Good of the City portion of the meeting. "Each year, I believe, we can't have a better student than we had in previous years, and each year, again, they prove to be terrific." Landers then introduced the 2014 visiting student, Marek Fencel, who thanked the community in a brief address before receiving a city pin from Severson.

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