

# Meet the Mayor for 2015 – Brandt Andersson

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He calls for developing a Commissioners Academy that details the roles they are expected to fill, how that fits in with the overall operations of the city's administration, how to get the most out of meetings, and legal regulations.

Looking forward, Andersson sees several opportunities to focus on; topping the list is downtown traffic. There's currently a downtown traffic study that seeks out game changing ideas about how to reconcile traffic moving throughout the city. It's not yet complete.

Addressing downtown parking is a close second, with ramped up demand due to the success of restaurants and other retail activity. With 10,000 parking spaces in the downtown area, the mayor feels "parking management is where the most significant improvements can be made."

He also sees a pair of opportunities in creek development and environmental activities. Many residents may not know that most sections of creek are privately owned. Improvements will have to be made in conjunction with private development. Currently there are no plans in place to assess what is needed to restore the creeks.

On the environmental front, the city council is looking at giving residents a choice of who will provide their electricity and how that electricity will be gen-

erated. Andersson continues to support Lafayette moving toward a greener future – with a goal of diverting 75 percent of the waste stream to compost, reuse and recycling.

Finally, Andersson would like to start a civic dialogue, by sponsoring a number of community conversations around the city to generate ideas looking ahead to longer term priorities, whether that's a community center, a parking structure, or restoring the Park Theater. There are many possibilities, but no clarity about what tops the list.

Andersson works full-time with fellow attorney and very patient wife, Patricia Andersson, in their own estate planning and probate services law office in Walnut Creek. She practices estate and income tax planning and compliance, along with trust and probate administration, living wills and more.

The couple has two children, Erik and Linnea; mom and dad enjoyed an empty nest for about nine months, then both the kids came back home. Erik was attending art school; unfortunately the photography program he was interested in was canceled, so now he's involved in glass blowing. Linnea was attending the Los Angeles campus of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, but recently transferred to the San Francisco location and commutes from the family's Lafayette home.

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