



Lafayette

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
District Office Board Room
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Nov. 8-14

Alarms	37
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	11
Noise Complaints	3
Traffic Stops	58
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Subjects	18
Suspicious Vehicles	10
Animal Control	
3300 Sweet Dr	
Burglary, Auto	
3200 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
Burglary, Commercial	
30 block Lafayette Circle	
Civil Problem	
3700 block Sundale Rd	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
3600 block Bickerstaff	
Counterfeiting	
1300 Reliez Valley Rd	
Dispute, Verbal	
Safeway	
Fraud	
3300 Victoria Ave	
3500 Deer Hill Rd	
Harassment	
3300 block N Lucille	
Hit & Run	
Mt Diablo Blvd/Aileen St	
3400 Golden Gate Way	
Mt Diablo Blvd/2nd St	
3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
Littering	
3400 block Echo Springs Rd (2)	
Loitering	
Springhill/Pleasant Hill Rds	
Missing Adult	
1000 block School St	
500 block Merriewood Dr	
Police/Fire/EMS Response	
Stanley Middle School	
Mt Diablo Blvd/Pleasant Hill Rd	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd	
Prowler	
900 Sunnybrook Dr	
Public Nuisance	
Roehrer/St Marys Rd	
Promiscuous Shooting	
Old Jonas Hill Rd/Powell Dr	
Reckless Driving	
Olympic Blvd/Pleasant Hill Rd	
Mt Diablo Blvd/Oak Hill Rd	
Oak Hill Rd/Lafayette Circle	
Shoplifting	
Safeway	
Theft, Petty	
3200 block Marlene Dr (2)	
1000 block Manzana (from vehicle)	
3400 Mt Diablo Blvd	
3200 Marlene Dr	
4100 Coralee Ln	
4100 block Coralee	
4100 block Hidden Valley Rd	
Theft, Grand	
3000 Rohrer Dr	
4000 Happy Valley Rd	

Preparing for Precipitation

City urges homeowners to clean up debris

By Cathy Tyson



Photo Cathy Tyson

News of a forecasted wet winter is everywhere, and city officials have spread the word to property owners, but despite encouragement to clean debris from storm drain areas, there will inevitably be some homeowners who will get an unpleasant surprise in the coming months.

In preparation for the anticipated wet new year, the city is “zealously cleaning out city-owned storm drains,” said Public Works Director Mike Moran. He explained that Lafayette has a master storm drain map, based on field reconnaissance and TV pipe inspections from about 20 years ago. “As we delete, add or replace sections of storm drain, the map is updated by our engineering department.”

Although Moran is relatively new to his position as director, he has been an engineer with the city for almost 20 years. He described how the city plans for rain events. “Following the El Nino storm of Jan. 1, 1997 staff noted the worst spots and created storm patrol lists. These lists have been edited over the years, but are still in use today. During a heavy storm engineering staff and public works crews drive specifically to the ‘hot spots’ on the patrol list to make sure everything is draining as it should. Most of the time just moving a pile of leaves can get things flowing appropriately.”

As the city gradually addressed paving and drain repair backlogs over the years, Moran reports that “most of the hot spots from 1997 have been eliminated because the problem was taken care of as part of road and drain projects.”

Privately-owned storm drains

that are common in many of the older hilly neighborhoods in Burton Valley, Happy Valley and Reliez Valley are a real problem, acknowledges Moran. They can start to fail and may be clogged with debris after years of drought. Usually the negatively impacted homeowner calls public works for a clean out, said Moran, but in that situation, it is a neighborhood issue and not the city’s problem.

Homeowners are also responsible for pipe cleanout, if their driveway has a pipe underneath where the gutter would normally go. Although the area could be considered the public right of way, the property owner is responsible to keep the pipe clear of debris so storm water won’t get

backed up.

Culverts and v-ditches under driveways and along property lines should be inspected to make sure they are open. The city website spells out a list of property owner responsibilities that focus on being debris-free to not obstruct the flow of water.

Residents who are lucky enough to live along a creek are responsible for maintaining the storm water drainage system on their property to prevent flooding. Lafayette has 13 miles of creeks bordered by more than 1,000 home sites within the Las Trampas Watershed. Called “the ultimate storm drains for our city,” the Homeowner’s Creek Guide notes they are critical to carry runoff from creek-side properties and to provide a habitat for wildlife.

It was only three years ago, on Dec. 2, 2012, that a deluge of rain caused upstream debris and a torrent

of water to create a 15-foot sinkhole on Mountain View Drive. The roadway collapsed and utility pipelines took a hit, and even sewer lines broke. At the time, city senior engineer Matt Luttrupp pointed out a major contributing factor was the amount of branches, leaves, urban artifacts and garbage that was washed down the creek, which caused the blockage that created water wearing away soil above and below the drain pipe. Residents in the area likely remember the mess and inconvenience.

In anticipation of precipitation, homeowners should take a good look around their property for potential issues. Those who may be worried about flooding can go to the FEMA website (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal>), which has a flood map service center where residents can search for a flood risk map for a particular address.

Need Sandbags?

Not one, but two locations in Lafayette are available for those who need sandbags, complete with shovels, a couple of traffic cones with the tips cut off so they can be used as funnels, bags, and, of course, sand.

Diagonally across from the Veterans Memorial Hall at the corner of Village Center and Mt. Diablo Boulevard is station number one. The sand will have a tarp on top to keep it dry. The second spot is at 3001 Camino Diablo at the city’s public works yard, between the Lafayette Tennis Club and the El Curtola Bridge.

City officials ask that sandbags be limited to 20 bags per person. For those who need more, they should be purchased at Diamond K, Home Depot, Lowes or other home improvement stores.

An ounce of prevention is not a bad idea, given the likelihood of significant rain. Property owners should make an effort to ensure storm drains and culverts are clear of debris. In case of flooding, call the City of Lafayette Public Works Department, main number (925) 934-3908 or hotline at (925) 299-3259.

THE LAFAYETTE CHAMBER PRESENTS
A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
Sponsored by The Dana Green Team and Branagh Development

It's a Wonderful Life in Lafayette

Friday, December 4 • 4pm-7pm • Lafayette Plaza

Come celebrate the holidays with tree lighting, food, drinks, music & entertainment, children's activities, and Santa!

...a time for gathering, giving & gratitude.

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