



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way

School Board Meeting Orinda Union School District

Monday, Feb. 8, 6 p.m.
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 Jan. 3-16

Alarms	54
Noise Complaints	1
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	6
Traffic stops	49
Suspicious Circumstances	6
Suspicious Subjects	16
Suspicious Vehicles	24

Barking Dog
20 block Charles Hill Rd
10 block Daryl Dr

Burglary, Auto
70 block La Cresta Rd
Miramonte High School

Burglary, Residential
100 block Las Vegas Rd
40 block Loma Vista Dr
30 block El Gavilan

Death, Non-criminal
10 block Ridge Ln

Disturbance
Juniper/Hidden Valley Rd
30 block Hall Dr
60 block Rheem Blvd
Orinda Theatre
Europa Hofbrau

Embezzlement
20 block Camino Del Diablo

Hit & Run
Glorietta Blvd/Moraga Way
McCaulous
Reported to police
Hwy 24/St Stephen's Dr
20 block Las Cascadas

ID Theft
300 block Dalewood Dr
10 block Monte Vista Rd
30 block Estates Dr
300 block Village Square
10 block Rabble Rd
20 block Orinda Way
10 block Owl Hill Ct
Reported to police

Loitering
Donald/Hall Drives

Missing Adult
10 block Ridge Ln
20 block Crest View Terrace

Ordinance Violation
Orinda/Camino Sobrante

Panhandling
Rite Aid

Promiscuous Shooting
Muth Dr/Wanda Ln
Wovenwood Dr/Orindawoods

Public Nuisance
100 block Leslee Ln
60 block Loma Vista Dr
Ivy Dr/Coral Dr
10 block La Bolsita Way
100 block Glorietta Blvd
20 block Altamount Dr
Post Office
Rite Aid
100 block Stein Way
20 block Miramonte Rd

Reckless Driving
Rheem /Glorietta Blvds (2)
Hwy 24/Camino Pablo (2)
Miner Rd/Camino Pablo
St Stephen's Church
San Pablo Dam Rd/Bear Creek



Peter & Darlene Hattersley



REAL ESTATE THOUGHTS 2016

Real estate prices will be affected by the unrest in the financial markets, interest rates, availability of properties and political rhetoric this year. We continue to see more Buyers than Sellers, as we have this past year. Uncertainty highlights the importance of working with experienced professionals when selling or buying your home in this unpredictable market. With over thirty years as local real estate professionals, let us 'Help You Reach Your Real Estate Goals.'

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Public Invited to Air Downtown Parking Concerns at Orinda Meeting

By Victor Ryerson

Orinda residents, members of the city's business community, and others are invited to attend a meeting from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 27 to discuss their concerns about downtown area parking issues. The public outreach meeting, which will be held in the Orinda Library Auditorium at 26 Orinda Way, is part of the kickoff for the six-month Downtown and Affected Neighborhoods Parking Study being conducted on behalf of the city by TJKM Transportation Consultants.

The format of the meeting will include a presentation of the scope of the study, followed by an opportunity for members of the public to share their ideas and concerns about parking in the downtown area and adjacent neighborhoods, a growing topic of discussion with the city. "Comments from the public will be reviewed and considered when the final downtown parking improvement study is prepared," according to the city's announcement.

The study will cover a lot of

ground. Topics that were identified late last year by the Orinda City Council include:

- The existing parking supply, demand, and current utilization.
- Current parking policies and alternatives to maximize utilization of existing spaces.
- Parking enforcement strategies.
- Intrusion of BART commuters into local business and residential neighborhoods.
- Enhanced customer satisfaction.
- Public-private partnership oppor-

tunities.

- Permit parking for various users.
- ADA compliance of on-street parking spaces.

Downtown residents, business owners, employees, customers, neighborhood residents, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend the meeting and discuss these concerns.

Further information is available from Tonya Gilmore at (925) 253-4291 or tgilmore@cityoforinda.org.

SP201 – Call It a Dam

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Recent rains have swelled San Pablo Creek beyond its banks, sending debris downstream that clogs up small opening in the "drop structure," SP201. Photos Brian Waters

That would include EBMUD, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the California State Water Control Board, and local authorities. He smiled at his friend Brian Waters, who is also on the board of FOC, as he said this. The two have been in the same fight for a decade, and even were roomies at Humboldt State back in the day. "We were roommates 56 years ago," said Waters, after laboriously climbing over a fence to get a current picture of the water barely trickling through the SB201-structure that is keeping rainbows from running up the creek. "But who's counting?"

Now they are united again in trying to get barriers removed, and to increase water quality, restoring standards to where they were before highway and major construction caused massive disruption in the landscape, and thus, to native trout populations.

Standing outside the library in downtown Orinda, Barrett pointed to the U.S. flag flying outside the Orinda city offices in front of the grand art deco building. "When I was in the fifth grade, that was my school, and I raised the flag on that flagpole," Barrett said about the city office complex that was once an elementary school. "When I looked out, there was none of this." He turned around to survey a strip mall, the highway, parking spaces, RiteAid, Safeway, and the hill below where a creek once ran openly through it. "There was a creek there, once," Barrett said. "And lots of fish. I know, because I saw them, all the time."

But now there is hope. Water quality has improved, and trout need clear water. They may yet be able to

migrate back up into Upper San Pablo Creek, Waters and Barrett say.

Yet while trout populations are healthy along some East Bay creeks, trout have been largely absent since the construction of the highways and dam systems along the parts of San Pablo Creek to the south of the dam (the creek flows north), ever since the major construction of shopping areas and national and state highway systems were built. To complicate the issue, what the California Department of Fish and Game call "drop structures," or cement fortifications, were put in along creeks in the 1960s to, according to whom one talks, either impede water flow to decrease debris or to slow the water to keep it cleaner once it hits San Pablo Reservoir.

"The drop structure was put in place in the 1960s and its purpose is to prevent erosion of the creek onto EBMUD's aqueduct system and the erosion of the Bear Creek Road Bridge," said EBMUD public relations representative Nelsy Rodriguez via email. "EBMUD does on occasion clear the drop-off structure of debris, however it is not a regular practice."

Waters and Barrett have regularly tried for 10 years to get the drop structure, which has a grocery-cart sized opening in it, cleared so that trout can swim upstream.

San Pablo Dam was built circa 1960. Water flows down to it from San Pablo Creek originating in Orinda and flows north toward the bay. The San Pablo Dam holds up the water so that it can be stored and pumped and used otherwise, then the overflow drains again toward the bay. Trout still live in that part of the creek. But the upper part of the reservoir's source – the down-flowing part of San Pablo Creek – has the "drop structure" that keeps fish from going upstream again.

Roaches and sticklebacks are plentiful in the watershed upstream of



The opening in the drop structure on upper San Pablo Creek unexpectedly blew out last fall, which would have allowed fish to migrate up into its native waters. The opening is clogged again.

the dam. But the trout have disappeared. "I think it's been at least 10 years since anyone has seen a trout," Barrett said. Chalk that up to 1960s construction, the paving over from highways, you name it. But the water quality is now such that a re-introduction of the fish makes sense, according to Waters and Barrett.

But fish can't get through a blocked "drop structure," which people from Friends of Orinda Creeks call a dam, so there is quite the literal impasse between the organization and its compatriots, all of whom would like to see the return of the native rainbows to their native homeland. The question is, when?



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)**
- Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission (3)**
- Historic Landmark Committee (2)**
- Parks & Recreation Commission (2)**
- Planning Commission (3)**
- Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee (1)**

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)**
- 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.

EXTENDED DEADLINE: Completed Statement of Interest forms must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 5:00pm.

Qualified applicants for City Commission and Committee appointments will be invited to interview before the full City Council.