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MOFD Puts Station 46 Property on the Market

By Nick Marnell



Former proposed Station 46 site location on Lorinda Lane in Lafayette Photo Andy Scheck

The doomed fire station 46 project slipped deeper into the history books March 2 when the Moraga-Orinda Fire District board declared the potential station site a surplus asset and authorized its sale through a listing agreement with Coldwell Banker.

The district purchased property at 1035 Lorinda Lane in Lafayette in 2013 to build a new fire station, which would have consolidated MOFD station 43 and Contra Costa County Fire Protection District station 16. The joint venture unraveled in August.

Coldwell Banker agent Larry Hood secured the listing. As Hood was the agent who worked with the district on the \$1.2 million purchase of the property, Fire Chief Stephen Healy said he was able to sole-source the listing agreement rather than put it out for bid.

"We are one of the most prolific brokers in the area," said Hood. "We do 40 to 50 homes a year. We will do everything there is to do, including staging this property at our own cost."

The property was subdivided by the district and both parcels are included in the listing agreement. Hood said the agency will market the two properties together, one including the home and the other as a standalone lot. While not confirming a listing price, Hood said he felt a reasonable price point was \$450,000 for the lot and \$1.225 million for the house.

"And I'll remind you that everything we've sold this year has gone over asking," he said.

The district is renting the house and gave the tenants a notice to vacate by the end of March. According to the six-month listing agreement, the real estate agency will submit the property to the Multiple Listing Service in April.

The motions to surplus and sell the property passed 4-0, with Steve Anderson absent. The motion to list the property with Coldwell Banker passed 3-0, as director Fred Weil, who until 2000 represented a company that Hood owned, abstained.

Reach the reporter at: nick@lamorindaweekly.com

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