



Enjoy More Anytime Dining at Merrill Gardens

A full life is a happy life. And nothing should keep you from enjoying a great meal. That's why we created our *Enjoy More Anytime Dining* program – so you can visit the dining room as often as you like, anytime throughout the day.

Call today to schedule your personal visit and enjoy lunch on us!



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LAFAYETTE

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1010 Second Street
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Orinda

Utility Work in Orinda

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The graffiti on the street marks the location of utility facilities – red indicates PG&E gas pipes – and indicates the depth of a pipe below the pavement. A gas distribution pipe, or main, serves homes along the street, and its location – often in an easement across homeowners' yards on one side of the street – is marked with those little yellow flags. Individual lateral pipes cross under the street to serve homes across the street.

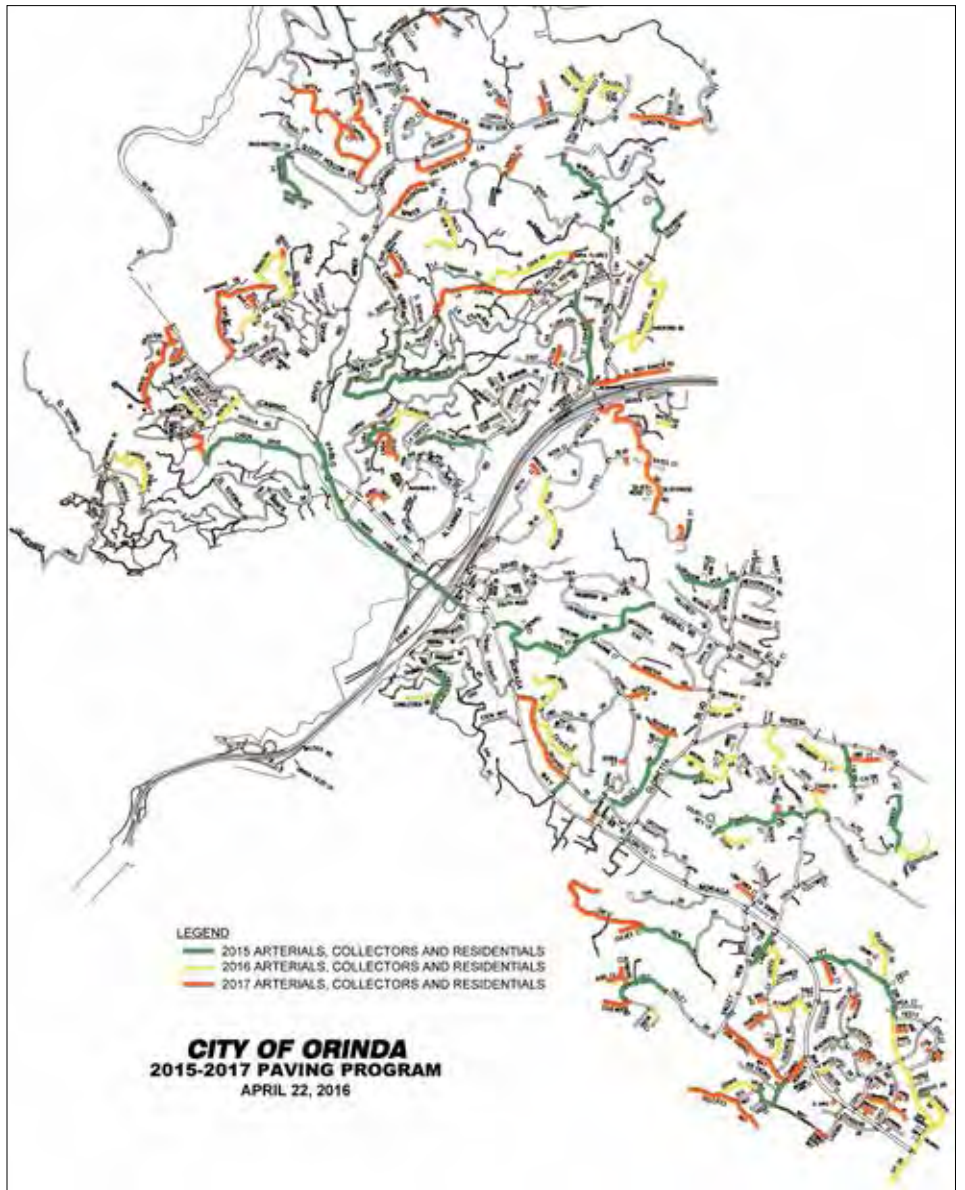
The people with the spray cans are surveyors with a special device that determines the depth of the laterals. When the survey markings indicate that a lateral is less than 30 inches below the street surface, PG&E's replacement crew goes to work, replacing the lateral with a new one deeper beneath the street. First, cut lines are marked across the street to a home's gas connection – and those lines continue across concrete gutters onto lawns, shrubs, and other landscaping.

PG&E says that all such features will be restored to their original condition af-

ter the work is done. Then, perhaps days later, a PG&E contractor makes precise cuts into the pavement and gutters along the lines that have been marked. Finally, PG&E's crew digs a trench and replaces the lateral.

Removing the old lateral and welding a new one into place requires gas service to be interrupted temporarily, and the utility tries to give fair notice of any outage. With the vagaries of weather and other work that has to be done, sometimes it is hard to predict when that will occur.

Temporary pavement is used during the trenching operation, sometimes including steel plates. After the lateral has been replaced, the trench is "buttoned up" and paved over. The skip loader, backhoe, and big trucks disappear. But don't worry. Those zebra stripes crossing the street – which might as well be speed bumps – will be torn up later this year, when the really big equipment rolls in.



Is your street scheduled to be repaved this summer? To find out, go to www.cityoforinda.org and click on the link to the updated road repair plan. There is a complete list of the road segments scheduled to be repaved in 2016.

Orinda

Orinda City Council Declines Funding

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This is partly because they have entered the market at a time when energy rates are generally lower, and have been able to enter into long-term contracts stabilizing the costs into the future, whereas PG&E is bound under contracts negotiated when energy rates were higher.

While PG&E comes under the purview of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), rates for CCEs are set by their board of directors.

Both sides of this equation could change in the future, but Crapo pointed out that the main reason for CCEs is not lower costs but attaining higher levels of renewable energy quicker than PG&E, which is currently mandated to provide 33 percent eligible renewable energy by 2020 and 50 percent by 2030, and recently introduced an option for consumers to avail of 100 percent renewable for a premium.

As nonprofit agencies that do not pay taxes, CCEs have inherent-

ly lower costs. There are currently four CCEs operating in California: Marin Clean Energy, launched in 2010, Sonoma Clean Power, launched in 2014, Lancaster Choice Energy, launched last year, and just on the first of May this year San Francisco entered the market. Thus far CCEs have been able to provide energy at rates below PG&E, with higher percentages coming from renewable sources.

There are still a couple of months in which Orinda could opt in to fund the study. Even if Orinda does not fund the study, should the County adopt a strategy for forming or joining a CCE, Orinda will have the option of joining in that program. However, Mayor Victoria Smith noted that she would be reluctant to join an additional JPA because Orinda already participates on some JPAs, which require a large commitment of time from her as well as from city staff.

CCE	Launch Year	Average Customer Rate Savings	Power Options (Current)
MCE Marin Clean Energy	2010	2-5% below PG&E	56% Renewable 100% Renewable 100% Local Solar
Sonoma Clean Power	2014	6-14% below PG&E	36% Renewable 100% Renewable
Lancaster Choice Energy	2015	3-4% below SCE	35% Renewable 100% Renewable
City of San Francisco	Just launched May 1, 2016		

Source: Information presented on May 3 to the Orinda City Council by the two speakers, Jason Crapo and Seth Baruch.

Open Invitation – June 23



Mix and Mingle!
Thursday, June 23
4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

RSVPs are encouraged.
925-779-7264 or email
Lombaa2@sutterhealth.org

Sutter Urgent Care
12 Camino Encinas, Orinda

Sutter Health and the Orinda Chamber of Commerce invite you to join us for appetizers and music as we celebrate the opening of our newest Urgent Care clinic in Orinda. Tour our facility and meet the team that will provide the care you and your family need every day of the year.

