



Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, July 11, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Tuesday, July 5, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, July 11, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

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 May 29 to June 11

Alarms	74
911 Calls (incl hang-ups)	13
Noise complaints	16
Traffic stops	87
Suspicious Circumstances	10
Suspicious Subjects	24
Suspicious Vehicles	25
Abandoned Vehicle	
3200 block Ameno Dr.	
St. Mary's Rd./Glenside Dr.	
3300 block St. Mary's Rd.	
Helen Ave./Betty Ln.	
School/Spring Streets	
Chestnut St./Dewing Ave.	
Animal Cruelty	
3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Animal Control	
Mt Diablo Blvd./Risa Rd.	
Barking dog	
3300 block Johnson Rd.	
Battery	
3300 block Betty Ln.	
Burglary, Auto	
3900 block Cowan Rd.	
1000 block Upper Happy Valley Rd.	
4000 block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)	
1000 block Blackwood Ln.	
3300 block Mt. Diablo Blvd.	
1000 block Woodbury	
Burglary, Commercial	
3100 block Camino Diablo (2)	
1000 block Blackwood Ln.	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Civil Problem	
Moraga Rd/Hamlin Rd.	
3500 block Brook St.	
Dispute, Verbal	
3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd.	
Disturbing the Peace	
3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)	
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
Drunk in Public	
50 block Lafayette Cir.	
Excessive speed	
800 block Rosedale Ave.	
Fare Evasion	
3200 block Apache Ct.	
Fraud	
3700 block Mt Diablo Blvd. (2)	
Harassment	
3900 block Quail Ridge Rd.	
30 block Bacon Ct. (by phone)	
Hit & Run	
Old Tunnel Rd/Pleasant Hill (2)	
3600 block Highland Rd.	
Mt. Diablo Blvd./First St.	
Police/Fire/EMS response	
1200 block Pleasant Hill Rd.	
10 block Dianne Ct.	
Public Nuisance	
600 block Lancaster Dr.	
1800 del Rey St.	
900 block Janet Ln. (2)	
Victoria Ave./Moraga Blvd.	
600 block Murray Ln.	
Murray Ln./Michael Ln.	
Promiscuous Shooting	
Acalanes Rd./Hwy 24.	
Reckless Driving	
Mt Diablo Blvd./First St.	
Moraga Rd./Mt Diablo Blvd.	
500 block St Mary's Rd.	

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Size of Saranap Development Still a Sticking Point

By Cathy Tyson

When the initial vision of the proposed Saranap Village project was unveiled in May 2013 by Walnut Creek-based Hall Equities, it received a fair amount of criticism from neighborhood residents in unincorporated Contra Costa County, just outside of Lafayette.

The developer has since downsized the project, reducing the number of housing units by 22 percent to 196 units and cut the amount of retail space in half from the original version. The project is spread over three sites around the intersection of Boulevard Way and Saranap

Avenue with a traffic circle in the center, and includes infrastructure modernization, bike and pedestrian improvements.

Paula Santi of the Saranap Homeowners Association says the reduction in height isn't enough. She's concerned that if this is approved it opens up the possibility of more dense, tall development on Boulevard Way and the proposed project is not in harmony with the existing neighborhood.

Some neighborhood residents are still concerned about the overall size, and have no love for the bulky six-story parking garage. The

tallest building has shrunk from 75 feet to 62 feet tall, which is still almost double the allowed height in the existing zoning.

Since Saranap is in unincorporated area, it is governed by the county Board of Supervisors. There was a county hearing on Monday, June 20 on the draft environmental impact report where comments were accepted both pro and con. Principal planner Will Nelson reports that there were two people commenting in favor of the project and six people opposing the project, with more attendees in the audience.

However, he said, in general over

the years he's been working on Saranap Village, he's noticed a recurrent theme – residents recognize that the area needs an upgrade, but are frustrated with the scale of the project.

The Saranap Village review will continue with a county planning hearing in September. After that, Nelson is anticipating an appeal, which will likely occur if the project is approved or denied. If it's denied, presumably the developer will appeal; if it's approved, a neighborhood group may appeal.

Ultimately it will go before the Board of Supervisors sometime in November or December.

City Turning Pavement into a Pair of 'Parklets'

By Cathy Tyson

After a trial run at the Art and Wine festival, city leaders approved a four-month pilot program to evaluate two "parklets" downtown. Lafayette is the first city in Lamorinda to be joining other municipalities including Berkeley, San Francisco, Seattle and Philadelphia that have embraced the popular concept.

The test drive will repurpose existing public parking spaces at two locations, one in front of El Jarro restaurant and the other in front of Oyama Sushi, Panache Caffé and 360 Gourmet Burrito. They will be transformed into public gathering spaces with seating platforms that are flush with the sidewalk, planters, and, of course, a barrier to separate the space from traffic. The bare bones parklets are slated to be installed on July 1 and remain through Nov.1 to gain data on their usage in a variety of weather conditions and to see if they can be a viable public amenity.

While adjacent business owners are looking forward to the casu-

al garden spots, they are not meant to be used exclusively by those business. Instead, pedestrians, dog walkers, folks strolling by with a coffee or ice cream, along with take-out food patrons, are welcome to sit, relax and enjoy the parklet.

Young Yoon is the owner of Panache Caffé, and she said she and the managers of Oyama Sushi and 360 Burrito have come together and agreed to water plants and keep the space tidy. There's a mutual interest for the city and adjacent business owners to maintain the spaces. If it turns out the experiment is a bust, the city can always pull the plug, and remove one or both parklets, if necessary.

Materials were donated last year by a Lafayette resident for the demonstration parklet which will be reused. Railings, pressure treated redwood decking, on-street protection and seating are estimated to be less than \$5,000 for the second parklet. City staff visited Martinez and worked off of its design as a template.

"It's kind of like building a puzzle," said Adam Foster, Lafayette's code enforcement officer and assistant planner who has been working on the parklet project along with transportation planner James Hinkamp. He explained that a sturdy frame is drilled into the as-



Photo provided

phalt and component deck tiles are inserted into the framework.

"That makes perfect sense to me," said council member Traci Reilly about the parklet that will be installed in front of 360 Burrito and the two adjacent businesses. The isolated parking spots are located at the awkward Dolores Drive and Mountain View Drive intersection near Trader Joe's, where the cross streets jog to the left.

Landlord Jim Dudum wrote a letter supporting the trial parklet that will be installed in the right-of-way in front of his building at the corner of Mt. View Drive, calling it a nice addition that adds to the beauty and uniqueness of the property.

One resident who is a frequent visitor at San Francisco's parklets

came to the June 13 city council meeting to voice his support. "You can't be a community at 35 miles per hour," he said.

Burton Valley resident James McFadden also chimed in that adding parklets will make the downtown more pedestrian-friendly for more residents. "I think it's really important."

Parklet organizers are planning to update the city council around Oct. 1 with feedback on the trial run. Time will tell if the fresh new parklets add vibrancy to the neighborhood, and encourage drivers to slow down. Mt. Diablo Boulevard cuts a wide swath through the city, offering more space for cars than for pedestrians. Is Lafayette ready to add a bit more space for people?

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Reporter Wanted

Lamorinda Weekly is looking for an Lafayette City Reporter

Job Description:
Beat reporter for Lafayette. Attend 2-4 meetings per month in the town assigned. Maintain relationships with city officials and community leaders. Write 1-2 articles per week covering subjects such as decisions made at City Council or Planning Commission meetings, community events, citizen profiles, police activities, or other interesting news items.

Required Qualifications:
Excellent writing and communication skills. Ethical and professional. Live or work in the Lamorinda area and have the ability to write balanced, researched, well-structured articles. Prior newsroom experience helpful, but not required.

Compensation: Compensation is made on a per meeting/article basis.

Contact: Lamorinda Weekly, PO Box 6133, Moraga, CA 94570, (925) 377-0977, wendy@lamorindaweekly.com
Attn: Wendy Schreck

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