



Public Meetings

City Council

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

Planning Commission

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

Design Review

Monday, Nov. 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, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m. AUHSD Board Room 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Nov. 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 Oct. 2 - Oct. 15

Table with 2 columns: Incident Type and Count. Includes categories like Alarms, 911 Calls, Noise complaints, Traffic stops, Suspicious Circumstances, Suspicious Subjects, Suspicious Vehicles, Abandoned Vehicle, Animal Cruelty, Auto Burglary, Battery, Civil Disturbance, Disturbing The Peace, Drunk In Public, Embezzlement, Fire/Ems Response, Fireworks, Found Property, Grand Theft, H&S Violation, Harassment, Hit And Run Misdemeanor, Identity Theft.

Real estate advertisement for Dana Green, Lafayette's Best Realtor. Features a house image and text: 'Just Listed - 752 Saint Marys Road, Lafayette. Premium, pancake-flat 1.03± acre lot with plans approved through Design Review to build a custom 5BR/4.5BA, 5354± sq. ft. home in the heart of Burton Valley. Offered at \$1,350,000 • 752SaintMarysRoad.com'.

Real estate advertisement for Dana Green, Lafayette's Best Realtor. Features a house image and text: 'Just Listed - 1390 Reliez Valley Road, Lafayette. Beautifully remodeled and expanded 4BR/2.5BA, 2800± sq. ft. charmer on a fully enclosed .38± acre corner lot in the Reliez Valley steps to schools and recreation. Offered at \$1,690,000 • 1390ReliezValleyRoad.com'.

Loss of Lease Sends Lafayette Scrambling for City Office Space

By Victor Ryerson



A Lafayette Police Department cruiser, haphazardly parked, takes up two spaces. Photo V. Ryerson

In a development that Lafayette City Manager Steve Falk told the city council "was not only predictable, but ... was predicted," the city and police department must move from their current Desco Plaza office complex to a new location in a mere eight months. With absolutely no prospect of building its own facility, the city is scrambling to find at least a short-term home. The task is not an easy one in a city short of appropriate space, and the options being considered include placement of portable trailers on one of the few available sites near downtown, and even moving the offices outside the city limits. Although the crisis has been brewing for years, it came to a head on Oct. 19, when Falk met with Curt Blomstrand, managing general partner of owner Gray Horse Investors, to discuss converting

four parking spaces at the current site to electric vehicle charging stations, two for city use and two to share with the general public. Blomstrand informed Falk that the request could not be considered because growth of the police department over the years had contributed to a shortage of available parking at Desco Plaza. In fact, he pointed out (and Falk agrees), the current situation does not comply with the requirements of the city's own per-square foot standard, which would provide 10 spaces for police department use; current usage is estimated to be between 20 and 30 spaces more than that, and the department is even parking its ATV in a planter area and its motorcycles on walkways. The city's lease will expire on June 30. The landlord is willing to renew the lease for the city's administrative offices on the site, but not for the entire police department. The problem is that the two functions are now inseparable as a practical matter, because they share a technology hardware and software platform ("telephones, servers, integrated copy systems, GIS systems, emergency radio systems and antennae, etc.," according to the city's staff report), that requires co-location of the two city offices. Consequently, the city has determined that it must move its entire operation elsewhere, and the landlord says it will not prepare a lease renewal for the city, but will offer the 9,000 square foot space on the open office market. The city once separated the two activities, but it simply did not work. "Our experience during that time was that coordination between administrative staff and the police department suffered; there was less communication between managers; there was poorer oversight of the ... most important and costly services" and other problems, the staff report says. ... continued on page A8

Lamorinda Limelight

Principal Travis Bell Takes the Helm at Acalanes High School

By A.K. Carroll



Travis Bell Lamorinda Weekly archive

For eight years, Travis Bell spent his summers driving a houseboat on Lake Shasta and the Sacramento River Delta. It provided a laid-back environment in which to connect with the students of Sunshine Ministries summer camps. In some respects, his role on the houseboat reflected Bell's role in the classroom at Dougherty Valley High School, where he taught English and leadership, a class that altered his career. "I had to see a bigger picture than just my classroom," Bell said of overseeing leadership. "To navigate the lens of a school culture and climate, decide what the class would do, and discern how that would effect the campus environment. It was much more school-wide focused." When Bell decided to pursue a master's degree in education administration and leadership, it was a natural extension of his passion for the subject. ... continued on page A8

VOTE "NO" ON LAFAYETTE SALES TAX MEASURE C

East Bay Times Editorial agrees with us, says "No" to Measure C - September 21, 2016 "too much for one bite..Worse, the increase would last 29 years, a ridiculously long time for a tax that could be used for any government purpose."

The Contra Costa Taxpayers Association, which supported the Lafayette School District facilities bond last June, has expressed concerns about "transparency and accountability" and does not endorse Measure C

- It's a \$100 Million blank check, because the City is not obligated to spend the money on any of the six items listed in Measure C
• The City removed the language about its real intentions for the money - a new \$26.25 Million "civic building ...could cause some voters to vote No on the measure" (City memo July 11, 2016)
• More taxes are not needed to fund any of the six items in Measure C
• All the money raised will not stay in Lafayette - as much as \$40M in interest and loan fees will go out of Lafayette
• Even if Measure C fails, the City has a great deal of cash available, its coffers are growing and we can always pursue a better, transparent sales tax increase of up to 1%, if needed, in the future
• This is the same administration that took away our right to vote on a major land project, is being investigated for wrongdoing by the California Fair Political Practices Commission, has already had one City Commissioner fined by the State and is not consistently enforcing its own General Plan and Ordinances.

Vote NO on Measure C, the Sales Tax Increase Proposal for Lafayette! If passed, the increase in the sales tax would raise about \$3 million annually and would be for a 29-year period, or over \$100 million in total dollars.

In recent years our City administration has repeatedly failed to significantly protect or improve most of the six items in Measure C, despite having funds available.

Measure C DOES NOT LEGALLY REQUIRE the City to spend any of the money from Measure C on these six items nor prevent the City from undertaking a major borrowing, paying \$Millions in interest to out-of-town lenders, or acquiring and building the new civic building shown on the City's July 11 plans and which the city estimates will cost \$26,250,000 plus interest. On October 20 the city manager announced the intent to relocate the city offices and police to a new unified location.

- GUY ATWOOD FORMER LAFAYETTE PLANNING COMMISSIONER AND CITIZEN OF THE YEAR
PETER K. CLARK LAFAYETTE RESIDENT
SCOTT SOMMER FORMER LAFAYETTE SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT
SUSAN CANDELL LAFAYETTE RESIDENT
CHAD FOLLMER LAFAYETTE RESIDENT

