



## Indian Valley safety concerns frustrate Canyon residents **By Nick Marnell**

# **Fire Districts**

#### **Public Meetings**

### Moraga-Orinda Fire

**District** Board of Directors Wednesday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m. Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org

**ConFire** Board of Directors Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1:30 p.m. Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez For meeting times and agendas visit http://alturl.com/5p9pu.

Share your thoughts, insights and opinions with your community. Send a letter to the editor: letters@lamorinda weekly.com



anyon residents flocked to the July 18 Mor- locked. aga-Orinda Fire District board meeting to speak out against the proposed Moraga development at Indian Valley, many arguing that the district is recommending an unsafe fire access road that enters the development too close to its main entrance.

Indian Valley is a planned 71-home subdivision located off of Canyon Road in Moraga, north of the Valle Vista Staging Area and near the community of Canyon. The Indian Valley application was submitted to the town in December 2016, and the application for the conceptual development plan is under review, according to Town Manager Cynthia Battenberg.

Fire Chief Dave Winnacker said that the district has provided comments on the conceptual design of Indian Valley, including the access road requirements. He referenced a Feb. 1 letter from Fire Marshal Kathy Leonard to the Moraga acting planning director in which Leonard explained that the conceptual design of the development had one public road and an emergency vehicle access road as a second entrance at the access road entrance to the development."

"Locked gates slow fire agency response times and force residents to have only one way out if they have to evacuate," Leonard wrote. She recommended the elimination of the EVA for a road with no gates or locks that can be used by either the public or by responders. The access road Leonard recommended lies about 100 feet from the main entrance to the development, as the district determined that other possible locations for the access road were unsafe.

But Canyon residents complained that the second proposed access road should be separated from the entrance by approximately 0.6 miles, citing their interpretation of the fire code. "The plan approved by MOFD has these two access points very close together and this compromises safety," said community resident Jonathan Goodwin. "One disruption could block both access points and entrap residents while preventing ingress of emergency personnel."

"Canyon Road is very unsafe," added another community resident. "There is a blind curve into the project, but that the EVA was gated and Other residents urged the Indian Valley developPhoto Andy Scheck

er to add an access road on the far north side of the canyon or to consider reducing the number of housing units to 25, obviating the need for a second access road.

"If the development cannot be built safely, it should not be built at all," Goodwin said.

Winnacker stood by the recommendation of his fire marshal: The development requires two fire apparatus access roads, plus other mitigation efforts including a dedicated water supply, hydrants outside and within the project, paved code-compliant roads, risk-reducing vegetation management and fire-resistive construction. Winnacker said those requirements have been submitted to the town.

"Our requirements as applied will result in the development being as safe as it can be," Winnacker said.

Indian Valley remains a long-range project for the town. "My best guess is, we're looking at a year, maybe two, before this thing gets anywhere close," Moraga Council Member Kimberleigh Korpus told the MOFD board. Korpus said that the next step is the preparation of an environmental impact report.

## Work progressing on Lafayette Fire Station 16, March opening still planned **By Nick Marnell**



Workers prepare fire station pad for underground utilities in this late July photo. Retaining wall is at left.

he construction site may not appear to be a buzz of activity, but a Contra Costa County Fire Protection District official assured Lafayette residents that work on Fire Station 16 is moving along on schedule.

Since the district mitigated the removal of two protected oak trees on the site this spring, no major problems have unfurled, and only minor change orders have been approved, according to Assistant Fire Chief Aaron McAlister. One additional tree was targeted as a potential problem near the foundation, but the chief said a final decision on whether to remove that tree will not drag out new facility in March. the project.

A large retaining wall was completed on the south side of the station site, and work is now being done on the pad foundation, which lies at one height for the building and at a lower height for the apparatus bay. "It's the hardest pad I've ever run into," said a construction worker at the end of July. "And that's what you want."

McAlister said that the workers will next put in the underground utilities, and that a permanent foundation will be poured in the middle of August.

The chief said that the district still expects to open the

Photo courtesy Steve Hill, ConFire

<b>Moraga Police Dep</b>	partment Incident Summary	Civil	900 Block Country Club Dr.	Medical Hospital	1100 Block Larch Ave.
Report July 3 to July			20 Block Sarah Ln.	Mentally Ill Commit	50 Block York Pl.
Alarms	18		Campolindo High School	Ordinance Violation	300 Block Rheem Blvd.
911 Calls (includes har		Disturbance-Domestic	200 Block Fernwood Dr.		20 Block El Camino Flores
Traffic	86		10 Block Josefa Pl.	Other Misdemeanor	200 Block Scofield Dr.
			1300 Block Camino Peral		Larch Ave./Canyon Rd.
Suspicious Circumstan		Dui Misd	Moraga/Buch.	Other Non Criminal	300 Block Rheem Blvd.
Suspicious Subject	5	Excessive Speed	Rheem Blvd./Fernwood Dr. (3)	Petty Theft From Veh	50 Block Rick Ct.
Suspicious Vehicle	3		Rheem Blvd./St. Mary's Rd. (2)	Public Assembly Check	St. Marys College (3)
Service to Citizen	47	Found Adult	Sanders Dr./Canyon Rd.	Reckless Driving	Canyon Rd./Larch Ave.
Patrol Request/ Security		Found Property	Police Department	Traffic Hazard	Rheem Bumoraga Rd.
Vacation House Check		Hailed By Citizen	Campolindo High School		600 Block Moraga Rd
Supplemental Report	11	Juvenile Disturbance	Hacienda		Moraga Rd./Via Granada
Welfare Check	4	Lost Property	Rheem Theater	Uncontrollable Juvenile	Campolindo High School
Animal Cruelty	Rheem Valley Shopping Center	Loud Music	Campolindo High School	Unwanted Guest	30 Block Freitas Dr.
	Homegoods		1200 Block Rimer Dr.	Verbal Dispute	10 Block El Camino Flores
Beat Info	Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.	Loud Noise	El Camino Flores/Baitx Dr.	Warrant Arrest	200 Block Corliss Dr.
Child Molest	Pd Mor Police Department	Loud Party	Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.		Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.
	artment Incident Summary	Found Property	San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd.		Kittiwake Rd./Manzanita Dr.
Report July 15 to J	July 28		Orinda Country Club		Tumbling Brook Rd./Vista Del
Alarms	65	H&S/Poss Of Contr Sub		Orinda	
911 Calls (includes har	ng-ups) 6	Hailed By Citizen	50 Block Moraga Way	Panhandling	Camino Pablo/Eb 24 Off
Traffic	80	Hit And Run Misdemean	or Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24	Petty Theft	Safeway (2)
Suspicious Circumstar	nces 8		10 Block Camino Sobrante		200 Block Glorietta Blvd.
Suspicious Subjects	11		Europa Hofbrau		10 Block Camino Sobrante (5)
Suspicious Vehicles	14	Indecent Exposure	50 Block Oakwood Rd.	Public Nuisance	Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.
Patrol Request/ Security		Juvenile Disturbance	El Ribero/Camino Sobrante	Reckless Driving	Miramonte High School
Service to Citizen	59		Glorietta Elementary School		Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd. (2)
Supplemental Report	26		Glorietta Blvd./Rheem Blvd.		30 Block Spring Rd.
Vacation House Check		Loud Noise	Safeway		500 Block Moraga Way
Welfare Check	9		Scenic Dr./Orchard Rd. (3)		Wilder Blvd./Eb Sr 24
Accident Property	80 Block Moraga Way		100 Block Hillcrest Dr.		Moraga Way/Brookside Rd.
Accident Troperty	Camino Pablo/Brookwood Rd.		10 Block Martha Rd.	Traffic Hazard	Rheem Blvd./Moraga Via
	Miramonte High School		10 Block Wildwood Rd.		Las Vegas Rd./St Stephens Dr.
	400 Block Moraga Way		Brookside Rd./Orchard Rd.		100 Block Glorietta Blvd.
Attempt	200 Block Glorietta Blvd.		10 Block Crest View Dr.		10 Block Camino Sobrante
Auto Burglary	CVS		50 Block Berkeley Av		Camino Pablo/Eb Sr 24
Linto Durgitury	Orinda Theater	T 1D (	Safeway	T. 00. 04	Orinda Park Pool
	Wilder Sports Fields	Loud Party	Monte Vista Ridge Rd./Monte Vista	Traffic Stop	St Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd.
	60 Block Moraga Way	Medical Hospital	Orinda Community Center	Trespass W/ Vehicle	500 Block Bear Creek Rd.
Civil Problem	50 Block Monte Vista Rd.		10 Block Mariposa Ln.	Vandalism	Theatre Square (2)
Conspiracy	Sr 24 At Fish Ranch Rd.		10 Block Altarinda Rd.	Valad Dianat	60 Block Moraga Way
Death Non Criminal	10 Block La Noria	Missing Adult	Safeway	Verbal Dispute	20 Block Knickerbocker Ln.
Disturbance-Domestic	60 Block Sunnyside Ln.	Missing Adult	Bank Of America		10 Block De Soto Ct.
_ Domostice Domostic	70 Block Van Ripper Ln.	Occupied Stalled Vehicle		Walstin D. W. LO.	Police Department
Disturbing The Peace	70 Block El Toyonal	Online VI 1 C	Orinda Way/Camino Pablo	Violation Dom. Viol. Ord	
Drunk In Public	60 Block Moraga Way	Ordinance Violation	Safeway	Walk Through	Theatre Square
Dui Misdemeanor	Miner Rd./Brookbank Rd.		Overhill Rd./Scenic Dr.	Warrant Arrest	10 Block Hillcrest Dr.
Fireworks	Fern Way/Monte Veda Dr.		100 Block Hillcrest Dr.		Bryant Way/Davis Rd.
I HOWOIRS	i em way/monte veda Di.		10 Block Monterey Terrace	Warrant Service	30 Block Zander Dr.