



ORINDA

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EBMUD moves forward with photovoltaic energy project



Images provided

By Sora O'Doherty

A large 20-acre flat area near Briones Reservoir has been selected by the East Bay Municipal Utility District for a 5-megawatt renewable energy

project. Known as the Duffel Site, the photovoltaic energy project will see the installation of single-access tracking solar panels that will reduce EBMUD's carbon footprint in Orinda to zero. The project

will have less than one acre of hardscape and will be shielded from view by landscaping. The area, which is currently owned by EBMUD, is very close to a PG&E sub-station, so there will be only a

short distance over which the energy will be transported. The site would mainly be visible from Bear Creek Road and Tappan Lane, which is one mile from the site.

Although the project would annually produce an equivalent amount of energy to support 20 percent of Orinda, there will be no direct benefit to the city of Orinda. Project Manager Ramona Gonzales gave a presentation March 5 to the Orinda City Council to explain the project, and to address community concerns and receive input. She noted that the solar panels will have an antireflective coating, as required by the Federal Communications Commission.

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Council recognizes newly appointed city commissioners and committee members

By Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda City Council included on its March 5 agenda a measure to recognize newly appointed city commissioners and committee members. The following individuals were recognized: Robert Hubner, Planning Commission; Peter Hasselman, Historic Landmarks Committee; Travis Blaschek-Miller, Traffic Safety Advisory Committee; Stuart House, Traffic Safety Advisory

Committee; Chris Decareau, Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission; Jerry Condon, Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission; Suzanne Huhn, Finance Advisory Committee and Shelley Hubner, Art in Public Places Committee.

Last month, at the suggestion of Mayor Inga Miller, the city appointed council members Amy Worth and Nick Kosla to serve on a school/city committee to meet with the

Orinda Union School District trustees once or twice a year to discuss issues of mutual interest. Currently Council Member Nick Kosla serves as the liaison to OUSD. The new committee sprang from talks between city staff and OUSD Superintendent Carolyn Seaton. The committee will be composed of two members of the Orinda City Council and two OUSD trustees. The Orinda city manager, the OUSD superintendent, and

other staff members, as appropriate, will attend these meetings. The OUSD members of the committee will be President Hillary Weiner and trustee Jason Kaune.

On Jan. 22 the council appointed the first chairperson of the Orinda Library Parcel Tax Oversight Committee in accordance with the bylaws adopted by the city council in September 2018,

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Orinda Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, April 9, 7 p.m. Regular Meeting
 Library Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.
 Library Auditorium, Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m.
 Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Orinda Union High School District Board Meetings

Monday, April 8, 6 p.m.
 Regular Board Meeting
 8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda
 www.orindaschools.org
 See also AUHSD meeting page A2

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