

# MOFD Station 41 rebuild will not happen this fiscal year

By Nick Marnell

Though its 62-year-old Fire Station 41 was cited for replacement eight years ago, the Moraga-Orinda Fire District will not begin the station reconstruction until the 2021 fiscal year, despite the work having been scheduled for this fiscal year in the latest district long-range financial forecast. Also part of the postponed capital project is the rebuild of the district administrative offices, which sit adjacent to Station 41 on Moraga Way.

The fire station has been

a target for rebuild since 2011, when the district Facilities Committee said the building suffered "health and safety, gender separation, firefighter housing and other deficiencies." Its report was issued before the approval of the Moraga Town Center Homes project, a development of 36 townhomes under construction next to the MOFD facility.

Because of the proximity of the townhomes to the MOFD training center, which has long been considered marginal for training activities, Fire Chief Dave Win-

nacker looked into not only the fire station rebuild but also station and administrative center relocation. One possibility was a land swap between MOFD and the Moraga School District for property adjacent to Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School for the fire station. But that concept has gone nowhere.

"I brought this matter to the board over a year ago, not to ask permission, rather to ensure that the public was aware two public entities were going to discuss, not negotiate, the possibility of a land swap," MSD Superinten-

dent Bruce Burns said. "The MOFD chief and I last spoke in January, as I recall, and have had no conversations since. For MSD, and I suspect MOFD, there are far more pressing matters, such as MSD's reduction of \$1 million in revenue due to an expiring parcel tax and our work to reduce expenses for 2020-21."

Winnacker concurred that the district has more critical priorities in 2019. "With our limited resources, we are focused on vegetation mitigation and the completion of the North Orinda Shaded Fuel Break," the chief

said.

Admitting that the fire station is on its last legs, the chief said that in fiscal year 2021, the district may be in a better position to rehab Station 41. "It is a district goal," Winnacker said.

The district estimates \$7 million dollars to rebuild Station 41, and \$1 million for the reconstruction of the administrative center. The last of the five MOFD fire stations to be rebuilt this century will be Station 45 in Orinda, scheduled for a \$5 million facelift in 2022, per the district long range financial plan.

# Western Lafayette finally gets its new fire station



Photo Nick Marnell

Traditional "push-in" ceremony for Engine 16 to its new home

By Nick Marnell

After seven years of false starts, delays and frustration, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District formally unveiled its newest and least traditional fire station, western Lafayette's Fire Station 16, at a Sept. 9 public ceremony.

"Did we ever actually think we'd see this day?" quipped Fire Chief Lewis Broschard to the group of

about 75 officials, dignitaries and residents who attended the midday ceremony at 4007 Los Arabis Drive. "It's been a long road, and thank you all for enduring this process."

It took the patience of Lafayette residents and city officials to endure the process, starting with the county closure of the station in 2012. The temporary trailer was removed, the old station was demolished and the reconstruction of the new

building began four years later, but not before many heated meetings between Lafayette officials and fire district management. "When you do anything big that requires change, there can be

difficult moments and hard decisions," said Traci Reilly, co-chair of the Lafayette Emergency Services Task Force, which grappled with a city threat to detach from ConFire after the Station 16 closure.

Lafayette residents persevered through an on-again, off-again fire station joint venture with the Moraga-Orinda Fire District and also frustration with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, which took its time approving the installation of an electric meter and a transformer for the building, citing safety precautions. Only after Contra Costa County Supervisor Candace Andersen met with PG&E legal counsel was the station power situation settled.

But Sept. 9 was a day of celebration, as Broschard repeatedly referred to the new station as a fire house, a building where firefighters not only work but sleep, eat, exercise and study. In fact, many said the new station blends into the Lafayette neighborhood as seamlessly as any home on Los Arabis Drive.

"It fits in beautifully, right down to the basic design. It's

a fantastic addition to the community," neighborhood resident John Fara said.

As beautiful as the western Lafayette neighborhoods are, they lie within a Cal Fire very high fire hazard severity zone. "Fire Station 16 will also provide a critical early response capability in this especially vulnerable wildland-urban interface area of our county," Broschard said.

Due to lot size constraints, Fire Station 16 comprises a single apparatus bay and dormitories and support facilities for a three-person firefighting crew; the ideal ConFire station includes a drive-through apparatus bay and room for two vehicles. However, the nonconforming station does not seem to deter employees desiring to work there. "I bid into this station and I can't wait to move in," Capt. Vince Wells, president of firefighters union Local 1230, told the crowd.

According to the district, the final cost of Station 16 was \$4.5 million, slightly higher than the \$3.5 million to \$4 million estimate Broschard gave his board in 2016. Firefighters are scheduled to move into the new building by the end of September.

### Fire District Public Meetings

**Moraga-Orinda Fire District**  
Board of Directors  
Wednesday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.  
Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas.  
Visit [www.mofd.org](http://www.mofd.org)



### ConFire

Board of Directors  
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 1:30 p.m.  
Board Chamber Room 107,  
Administration Building  
651 Pine St., Martinez.  
For meeting times and agendas, visit [www.cccfpd.org](http://www.cccfpd.org)



## Public Safety

### Emergency response:

Emergency: 24 Hours 911  
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours  
925-284-5010

Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)

### Lafayette Police Department:

3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
925-283-3680  
Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt  
925-299-3221  
Police Department Tip Line  
94549Tip@gmail.com  
Police Department Traffic Issues  
94549Traffic@gmail.com

### Moraga Police Department:

329 Rheem Blvd.,  
925-888-7055  
Chief of Police, Jon King  
ext. 7049

### Orinda Police Department:

22 Orinda Way  
925-254-6820  
Chief of Police, Mark Nagel  
925-254-6820  
[Orindatip@cityoforinda.org](mailto:Orindatip@cityoforinda.org)

### Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report

Aug. 25 - Sept. 7

Alarms 80  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 17  
Traffic 149  
Suspicious Circumstances 12  
Suspicious Subject 29  
Suspicious Vehicle 21  
Service to Citizen 48  
Patrol Req./Security Check 21  
School Assembly Check 10  
Vacation House Check 12  
Supplemental Report 18  
Welfare Check 14

### Vehicle violations

Abandoned Vehicle  
4100 Block Hidden Valley Rd.  
Leland Dr./Old Tunnel Rd.  
Sky Hy Dr./Moraga Rd., Mor  
Auto Burglary  
3300 Block Vaughn Rd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3200 Block Sweet Dr.  
500 Block St. Mary's Rd.  
1000 Block Walnut Dr.  
Hit And Run Misdemeanor  
4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Oak Hill Rd./Deer Hill Rd.

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Deer Hill Rd.  
Police Department  
700 Block Glenside Dr.  
Police Department  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Stanley Blvd.  
Reckless Driving  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Springhill Rd.  
Reliez Valley Rd./Mcgraw Ln.  
Carol Ln./Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Reliez Station Rd./Olympic Blvd.  
Moraga Rd./Nephi Ct.  
St. Marys Rd./Glenside Dr.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Vehicle Theft  
1100 Block Bacon Way  
900 Block Sunnybrook Dr.

### Other criminal activity

Commercial Burglary  
3500 Block School St.  
Identity Theft  
4000 Block Canyon Dr./Laf  
600 Block Doreen Way  
Panhandling  
Deer Hill Rd./Pleasant Hill Rd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Petty Theft

4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3400 Block S Silver Springs Rd.  
10 Block Lincolnshire Ct.  
900 Block S Thompson Rd.  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Pleasant Hill Rd.  
1000 Block 2Nd St.  
3500 Block Brook St.  
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Petty Theft Bicycle

900 Block Dewing Ave.  
Petty Theft From Veh  
3600 Block Happy Valley Rd.

### Shoplift

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (5)  
Threats  
900 Block Dewing Ave.

### Nuisance to the Community

Disturbance-domestic  
600 Block Glenside Dr.  
Disturbance-fight  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./1St St.

### Disturbing The Peace

3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Drunk In Public  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Loud Music

Soares Ln./Happy Valley Rd.  
Quandt Rd./Summit Rd.  
Loud Noise  
La Canada Rd./Reliez Station Rd. (2)  
70 Block Lafayette Cr.  
3300 Block Springhill Rd.  
1000 Block Carol Ln.

### Loud Party

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Public Nuisance  
900 Block 1St St.  
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Upper Happy Valley Rd./El Nido  
Ranch Rd.  
1000 Block Via Roble

3300 Block Springhill Rd.  
Vandalism  
3900 Block Canyon Rd.  
3400 Block School St. (2)  
3300 Block Victoria Ave.

### Other

Animal Control Call  
St. Marys Rd./Camino Colorados  
Animal Cruelty  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Dewing Ave.

### H&S Violation

Brook St./Moraga Rd.  
900 Block East St.

### Harassment

3300 Block S Lucille Ln.  
Ordinance Violation  
Arroyo Ct/Glenside Dr.  
800 Block Moraga Rd.

### Public Assembly Check

1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd. (2)  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Trespass

3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Unwanted Guest  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)  
Violation Custody Order  
900 Block Janet Ln.

### Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report

Aug. 27 - Sept. 8

Alarms 16  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 13  
Traffic 59  
Shoplift 7  
Suspicious Circumstances 4  
Suspicious Subject 1  
Suspicious Vehicle 42  
Service to Citizen 33  
Supplemental Report 6  
Vacation House Check 4  
Welfare Check 4

### Vehicle violations

Auto Burglary  
300 Block Deerfield Dr.  
Excessive Speed  
Canyon Rd./Constance Pl.  
Home Goods  
Moraga Way/Eastwood Dr.  
Rheem Blvd./Via Barcelona  
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr.  
Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr. (2)  
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.  
Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd. (3)  
Canyon Rd./Larch Ave.  
Draeger Dr./Moraga Rd.  
Rheem Blvd. At Zander Dr.  
Moraga Rd./Kendall Cr.  
Rheem Blvd./St. Marys Rd.  
Donald Dr./Moraga Rd.  
Moraga Rd./Al Ta Mesa Dr.

### Hit And Run Misdemeanor

2000 Block Ascot Dr.  
Reckless Driving  
100 Block Cypress Pl.  
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd.  
Rheem Valley Shopping Center  
Moraga Way/Miramonte Dr.  
Taco Bell

### Other criminal activity

Embezzlement  
Police Department  
Forgery  
Not Available  
100 Block Danvilla Ct., Danville

### Panhandling

Safeway  
Petty Theft  
100 Block Brookline  
2100 Block Ascot Dr.  
TJMaxx

### Theft Access Card

Safeway  
Nuisance to the Community  
Barking Dog  
Larch Ave./Shuey Dr.

### Disturbance-domestic

Police Department  
Loud Music  
1600 Block Canyon Rd.  
Canyon Club Brewery  
Loud Noise  
200 Block Corliss Dr.  
Loud Party  
1900 Block Ascot Dr.  
Unwanted Guest  
30 Block Miramonte Dr.

### Vandalism

20 Block Buckingham Dr.  
Starbucks  
Vandalism - Felony  
30 Block Miramonte Dr.

### Other

Accident Property  
Donald Dr./Moraga Rd.  
H&S Violation  
Country Club Dr./Viader Dr.  
Mentally Ill Commit  
10 Block Kendall Cr.  
Not Available  
Ordinance Violation  
Moraga Rd./Moraga Way

### Trespass

Moraga Commons  
Verbal Dispute  
Canyon Club Brewery

### Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report

Sept. 2 - Sept. 9

Alarms 29

### 911 Calls (includes hang-ups)

18  
Traffic 27  
Suspicious Circumstances 2  
Suspicious Subject 15  
Suspicious Vehicle 7  
Service to Citizen 34  
Patrol Req./Security Check 10  
Vacation House Check 1  
Supplemental Report 6  
Welfare Check 1

### Vehicle violations

Auto Burglary  
Orinda Country Club  
Gateway Blvd./Wilder Rd.  
Post Office  
Hit And Run Misdemeanor  
10 Block Valley Dr.  
Private Property Tow  
10 Block Orinda Way  
Reckless Driving  
Camino Sobrante/Orinda Way  
Moraga Way/Stein Way  
Moraga Way/Orchard Rd.

### Other criminal activity

Grand Theft  
Miramonte High School (3)  
Identity Theft  
10 Block Chelton Ct.  
Petty Theft  
Rite Aid  
Eb Sr 24 At Wilder Rd.  
Shoplift  
Safeway

### Nuisance to the Community

Disturbing The Peace  
200 Block Crest View Dr.  
Drunk In Public  
Safeway  
Litter  
50 Block La Espiral  
Loud Music  
Big Leaf Rd./Tom Cat Way  
Loud Noise  
200 Block Glorietta Blvd.  
Loud Party  
60 Block Brookwood Rd.  
Public Nuisance  
80 Block Orinda Way  
Los Altos Rd./Bobolink Rd.  
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.

### Other

Accident Property  
Bank Of The West  
Camino Pablo/Orinda Way  
Hall Dr./Rheem Blvd.  
Mentally Ill Commit  
30 Block Irving Ln.  
Revocation Of Probation  
Chevron  
School Assembly Check  
Orinda Intermediate School  
Miramonte High School  
20 Block El Camino Moraga  
Wagner Ranch Elementary  
Sleepy Hollow Elementary School