

MOFD board adopts Community Wildfire Protection Plan, chipper program expansion



Photo provided

By Jennifer Wake

Following an incredibly dry winter, warnings of a devastating fire season ahead became all too real after the April 21 declaration of a drought emergency by Gov. Gavin Newsom for Sonoma and Mendocino counties. The Moraga-Orinda Fire District mitigation efforts are contin-

uing to move forward. The MOFD board of directors adopted the Community Wildfire Protection Plan at its April 21 meeting, after holding three community meetings to gather public input – one in Orinda Jan. 21, in Canyon Jan. 28 and in Moraga Feb. 4 – as well as several others held with community stakeholders.

The 65-page CWPP will offer a roadmap and a useful tool for the current year and will make the district “more effective and efficient in our ongoing efforts to reduce the community’s risk to loss from uncontrolled wildfire,” said MOFD Fire Chief Dave Winnacker.

A portion of the mitigation efforts outlined in the CWPP involve the chipper program, in which MOFD schedules services for fuel mitigation, responds to citizen inquiries regarding the program, and trains and supervises a two-person crew. MOFD has offered to manage the addition of one two-person crew assigned to the city of Orinda, without any additional charge for overhead and supervision. According to a staff report, the city will reimburse the district for the direct costs associated with the Orinda assigned crew.

“Seems to me it’s a no brainer,” said Director Jon Jex. “You’re doubling the

chipping service that’s desperately needed and demanded by the community at large, at no cost to the district other than coordinating, which basically eliminates the confusion ... in how you explain which chipper is going where.”

Staffing the chipper program has become challenging, according to Winnacker who said they were competing for labor with other entities that were perceived as more prestigious or offered a step up to being hired. “In November we had a robust list,” said Winnacker, but staff have since left to pursue other employment opportunities. Given MOFD’s challenge of hiring and maintaining fuel mitigation specialists, an option was presented to the board to contract with a third party vendor. “It will come at a cost,” Winnacker said, “but the value to the community and avoiding two competing chipper programs ... make that worthwhile.”

In response to Treasurer

Steven Danziger’s question if existing staff can handle the workload involved, the chief said, “This is a good use of resources and the efficiency of running a single program that’s currently established. It’s hard to overstate the value of harnessing that efficiency and putting an additional chipper in service within the same system.” The board unanimously approved the chipper program expansion.

In addition to the chipper program, the CWPP offers extensive guidance to reduce structure ignitability and fuel hazards as well as detailing strategies for reducing risk within the Wildland Urban Interface.

The Draft CWPP will now be presented to the County Board of Supervisors and Cal-Fire SCU. Upon their adoption and approval, the CWPP will go into effect. According to Winnacker, “[District 2 Supervisor] Candace Andersen’s office has been heavily involved in the process.”

To view the entire CWPP, visit <https://www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/community-wildfire-protection-plan-cwpp>. For other fire safety information, visit Fire Safe Council (www.firesafecouncil.org); California Fire Alliance (www.cafirealliance.org); or FireWise (www.firewisesa.org.za/index.php)



Four Orinda restaurants burglarized in early hours

Four restaurants in Orinda were burglarized between 1 and 2 a.m. on April 24. The affected businesses had little cash on hand – only coins – but the burglars broke glass doors and stole registers or cash drawers. The thieves hit Maya, Europa, Reem’s Steaks and Loard’s Ice Cream. At least one wore no gloves and left

fingerprints; images were captured on CCTV and security videos. Owner Susie Reem believes that the criminals may have been using drugs for some time nightly after the 76 gas station across Moraga Way closed. Nations Giant Hamburgers, which was open until 1 a.m., was not hit. Alex Masarweh,

owner of Maya’s, was philosophical; this wasn’t the first time he’d been burglarized. But he said, “This was my first day off in two months, and look where I am!” He watched as the broken glass was being replaced.

– S. O’Doherty

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

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, May 19, 6 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org

ConFire

Board of Directors
Tuesday, May 18, 1 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit 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
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, David M. Cook 925-254-6820
Orindatip@cityoforinda.org
Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report April 4 - April 17



Alarms 32
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 14
Traffic 71
Suspicious Circumstances 9
Suspicious Subject 16
Suspicious Vehicle 16
Service to Citizen 23
Patrol Req./Security Check 44
Pubic/School Assembly Check 1
Supplemental Report 18
Vacation House Check 10
Welfare Check 18
Ordinance Violation 6
Vehicle violations
Accident Property
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
80 Block David Dr., Moraga
Hit And Run Misdemeanor
3300 Block Deer Hill Rd.
Police Department
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Mountain View Dr.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
15t St./Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Reckless Driving
Hastings Ct./Hilltop Dr.
Happy Valley Rd./Deer Hill Rd.
St Marys Rd./Rohrer Dr.
3300 Block Springhill Rd.

Mt. Diablo Blvd./El Nido Ranch Rd.
Other criminal activity
Commercial Burglary
3400 Block Golden Gate Wy
Computer Fraud
100 Block Secluded Pl.
Fraud Credit Card
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3200 Block Ameno Dr.
Fraud False Pretenses
10 Block Toledo Ct.
4100 Block Coralee Ln.
Grand Theft
3100 Block Teigland Rd.
Grand Theft From Vehicle
900 Block Condit Ct.
3200 Block Ameno Dr.
Identity Theft
3200 Block Ameno Dr.
Petty Theft
1000 Block Brown Ave.
3700 Block Sundale Rd.
10 Block Hilldale Rd.
700 Block Old Jonas Hill Rd.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
30 Block Sanford Ln.
3100 Block Sunridge Ct.
Petty Theft From Vehicle
3900 Block Happy Valley Rd.
Residential Burglary
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Shoplift
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (3)
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Theft Access Card
3300 Block Ridge Rd.
Warrant Service
20 Block White Oak Dr.
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbance-domestic
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
100 Block Lafayette Cir.
1000 Block Miller Dr.
Disturbance-fight
Laurel Dr./Garden Ln.
Loud Music
Reliez Valley Rd./Echo Springs Rd.
900 Block Janet Ln.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Loud Noise
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Ct.
El Curtola Blvd./Old Tunnel Rd.
Loud Party
3300 Block Springhill Rd.
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Public Nuisance
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Wy
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)
Oliver Ct./Moraga Rd.
Vandalism
Police Department (2)
3600 Block Boyer Cir.

Other
Covid19 Violation
900 Block Dewing Ave.
Fire/Ems Response Info
900 Block Village Center
Intoxicated Subject
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
K9 Outside Assist Request
400 Block Santander Dr., Sra
Violation Custody Order
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report April 6 - April 19
Alarms 11
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 3
Traffic 45
Suspicious Circumstances 2
Suspicious Subject 6
Suspicious Vehicle 5
Service to Citizen 30
Patrol Req./Security Check 25
Supplemental Report 6
Vacation House Check 0
Welfare Check 5
Pubic/School Assembly Check 2
Vehicle violations
Accident Property
Larch Ave./Canyon Rd.
Auto Burglary
1600 Block Locust St., Wcr
Excessive Speed
Canyon/Del La Cruz
Moraga Way/School St. (2)
Moraga Way/Miramonte Dr. (2)
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr. (2)
Moraga Way/Zill
Rheem Blvd./Chalda Way
Moraga Rd./Sky Hi
Moraga Rd./Campolindo Dr
Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr.
Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr.
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.
Canyon/Camino Pablo
Rheem Blvd./Stewart Ct.
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd. (2)
Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.
Reckless Driving
Rheem Blvd./Center St.
Campolindo Dr./Moraga Rd.
Moraga Rd./Canyon Rd.
Tc - Property Damage
Pinehurst Rd./Canyon Rd., Can
Vehicle Theft
Not Available



Other criminal activity
Grand Theft
1400 Block Moraga Way
400 Block Center St.
Identity Theft
10 Block Lynch Ct.
Petty Theft
2100 Block Donald Dr.
Shoplift
1500 Block Canyon Rd.
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbing The Peace
Campolindo High School
Loud Music
10 Block Thune Ave.
Not Available
Loud Noise
Campolindo High School (2)
2100 Block Ascot Dr.
Loud Party
200 Block Paseo Bernal
2000 Block Ascot Dr.
Public Nuisance
Calle La Montanncampolindo D
Vandalism
90 Block Courter Ln. (2)
Moraga Commons Park
Ascot Ct./Ascot Dr.
Other
Brandishing Weapon
200 Block Rheem Blvd.
Mentally Ill Commit
Campolindo High School
Trespass
St. Marys College
ORINDA POLICE
Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report April 11 - April 24
Alarms 38
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 8
Traffic 40
Suspicious Circumstances 1
Suspicious Subject 10
Suspicious Vehicle 7
Service to Citizen 70
Patrol Req./Security Check 71
Supplemental Report 10
Vacation House Check 0
Welfare Check 7
Pubic/School Assembly Check 4
Vehicle violations
Accident Injury
80 Block Dairy Creek Ln.
Camino Pablo/Los Amigos

Accident Property
Miner Rd./Camino Don Miguel
100 Block Orchard Rd.
30 Block Tappan Ln.
Auto Burglary
20 Block Irwin Way (2)
Hit And Run Misdemeanor
10 Block Sunnyside Ct.
10 Block Sunnyside Ln.
Reckless Driving
Wilder Sports Fields
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.,
Tc - Property Damage
Detroit Ave./Monument Blvd., Con
Vehicle Theft
10 Block Charles Hill Cir.
St. Stephens Cir./El Nido Ranch Rd.
600 Block Fox Run
Other criminal activity
Fraud False Pretenses
200 Block Monte Vista Ridge
Grand Theft
10 Block El Camino Moraga
70 Block Charles Hill Rd.
Identity Theft
Police Department
10 Block Santa Maria Way
Panhandling
Camino Pablo
Residential Burglary
70 Block La Cuesta Rd.
Shoplift
Camino Pablo
Warrant Arrest
Coral Dr./Ardith Dr.
Nuisance to the Community
Disturbing The Peace
El Nido Rch Rd./Charles Hill
Bear Creek Rd./Camino Pablo
St. Stephens Dr./Eb Sr 24
Public Nuisance
Camino Sobrante
1 Block Orinda Way
70 Block Coral Dr.
Vandalism
Bear Creek Rd./Camino Pablo
Other
Failure To Obey
Nb Camino Pablo Appg Camino
Fireworks
700 Block Moraga Way
100 Block Brookside Rd.
El Nido Ranch/St. Stephens
H&S/Pos Paraphenalia
Camino Pablo/Clairemont Ave.
Revoked License
Camino Pablo/Camino Sobrante
Trespass
70 Block Via Floreado
10 Block Risa Ct.
Unwanted Guest
10 Block Theatre Sq 106
Violation Restraining Order
500 Block Moraga Way (2)