

LafSD and AUHSD school board elections favor incumbents

By Jennifer Wake

Following a contentious election season, with barbs and accusations flying over social media, school board incumbents for the Lafayette School District and Acalanes Union High School District look poised to win reelection as of the Nov. 18 Contra Costa County Clerk Recorders office (contracostavote.gov).

While election results are not yet final and certified, the results of these races with 71.57% reporting for Lafayette School District show a strong result for board incumbents Rob Sturm, with 26.17% of the vote (9,915), Dave Smith with 25.31% of the vote (9,588), and Katy Foreman with 24.90% (9,434 votes). Challengers Sarah Lind, Robb McSorley, and Neils

Larsen as of days end on Nov. 18 sat at 8.65% (3,277), 7.81% (2,958) and 7.16% (2,714) respectively.

Acalanes Union High School District board incumbents at 69.14% reporting achieved two of the top three slots with Christopher Severson taking 23.70% of the vote with 31,420 votes, and Nancy Kendzierski at 23.41% with 31,038 votes. Jennifer Chen received the Lion's share of votes at 27.22% with 36,085, with 69.58% reporting. Challengers Mark Woolway, Rene Nowac, Gabe Ledeen and Clayton Gardner received 8.26% (10,889 votes), 7.76% (10,237), 7.23% (9,533) and 2.42% (3,187) respectively.

Final election results are slated to be certified by the Secretary of State on Dec. 16.

Input still needed for Lafayette Local Roadway Safety Plan

The City of Lafayette is hosting a community workshop online via Zoom at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1 which will include a public discussion of traffic safety as part of the City's Local Roadway Safety Plan development. There will be a short presentation on what a Local Roadway Safety Plan is, a summary of Lafayette's current road safety data, and a summary of public input received to date. Afterwards, the community will be invited to breakout rooms to give feedback on roadway safety and help to identify safety risk factors, locations of concerns,

and strategize on how we can reduce hazards on our roadways for everyone. In addition, the deadline to share your feedback through the City's online Street-Safety Mapping Activity has been extended to early December.

For more information and to access the Zoom meeting, or to access the online map to share feedback, visit www.love-lafayette.org/roadsafetyplan or contact Patrick Golier, Transportation & Circulation Program Manager at PGolier@ci.lafayette.ca.us. - J. Wake

BART parking lot

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Option 4 involves increased density and height north of Mt. Diablo Boulevard. During its review of the Housing Element, the Planning Commission proposed a sites inventory that included BART, excluded DeSilva South, and split Planning Areas 1, 3, and 5 into northern and southern portions of each. The inventory included sites in northern portions of Planning Areas 1, 3, and 5 at 50 du/acre. This arrangement was intended to accommodate additional height massed to the north where the background topography is higher, thus reducing visual impacts. This option would maintain 35 du/acre along Mt. Diablo Boulevard and the rest of downtown.

The Lafayette Chamber of Commerce expressed concerns about over development of the downtown core and the potential impact on local businesses.

Vice Mayor Carl Anduri said he was against proceeding with the BART option, and would prefer Option 4 with a reduced buffer and less density. "Twenty years from now, they'll think we were crazy to not put

housing at BART," he said, but he added that he sees very little likelihood that HCD is going to approve BART sites and he'd prefer to focus on BART development in the next Housing Element cycle.

Mayor Teresa Geringer agreed, saying, "I just feel going down the BART opportunity site will be an uphill battle. I have strong concerns about the timeline and risk of the builder's remedy (where local control is relinquished)."

Council Member Gina Dawson said that as much as BART makes sense, "we're between a rock and a hard place. Our residents are saying they want to make sure they are safe. With the AG's recommendation, I would defer DeSilva to the next cycle. I like the mixed No. 4 option. I think if we can come up with the numbers, that would be great."

Wolff said staff had what they needed to bring back opportunity site scenarios to the Nov. 28 council meeting, and to provide a couple of mixes which address the 75/50/35 du/acre issue, incorporate the Chamber's recommendations and not including BART or DeSilva.



Lafayette Public Meetings

City Council

Regular Meeting
Monday, Nov. 28, 7 p.m.
Teleconference via City of Lafayette's You Tube Channel:
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>

Design Review

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m. Zoom
Teleconference Meeting via Love Lafayette YouTube
<http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteYouTube>



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