



See public meetings schedule on these pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
**City of Lafayette:**  
 www.lovelafayette.org  
 Phone: (925) 284-1968  
**Chamber of Commerce:**  
 www.lafayettechamber.org

**Lafayette Public Meetings**  
**City Council**

Regular Meeting: Monday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m.  
 Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall  
**Planning Commission Meeting**  
 Monday, Sept. 3, 7 p.m.

Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Don Tatzin Community Hall  
**Design Review**  
 Monday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m.  
 Lafayette Library & Learning Center-Arts & Science Discovery Room

**DANA GREEN TEAM**

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**Lafayette to sponsor Lamorinda School Bus Program**

By Elaine Borden Chandler

Created in 1994 to reduce traffic, the Lamorinda School Bus Program (LSBP) provides transportation for elementary and intermediate schools in the Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda Union, and

Acalanes Union school district and at present serves 1100 students annually. The program is a joint powers authority (JPA) — a stand-alone organization created by public authorities, such as cities, to

work together on a project that crosses their boundaries. The LSBP does not receive funding from any of the cities. Instead, it has been funded by Measure J and by bus pass revenue since its start.

Recently the LSBP applied to the Contra Costa Transit Authority (CCTA) for funding from the Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA). The LSBP received pre-approval for \$85,763.31 of funding from CCTA. However, as a JPA it needed a sponsor, such as a city, in order to receive the funds. Because the LSBP has been housed under the City of Lafayette since its inception, Lafayette was chosen. On July 22, the Lafayette City Council voted for the city to

act as Project Sponsor for the LSBP's application.

The main reason that the LSBP has applied for this grant was so that it can continue to provide the same amount of service, 19 buses going to 10 different schools. The LSBP's budget comes 60% from Measure J and 40% from pass sales. This just covers the program's costs. At the April 24 meeting, the Lamorinda School Bus Agency noted, "Identifying additional funding for the [LSBP] program is essential."

The LSBP hopes that the grant funding will also allow them to begin using alternative fuel school buses. According to the Department of Energy, most buses in the

United States are diesel fueled and the fastest growing alternative is hybrid. The EPA states that the most environmental option is electric buses, which have zero tailpipe pollution, reduce greenhouse gas emission, make less noise pollution, have less maintenance cost, and can provide power to the grid during shutdowns.

The LSBP contracts out to school bus companies that provide the buses and drivers for the program. Their current contract with First Student Inc. is ending soon and they are now accepting bids for a new contract, which will determine their options regarding alternative fuel buses.

The funding that

LSBP is applying for now is from the TFCA, which itself receives funds from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District collecting a fee of approximately \$4 per vehicle per year to reduce vehicle air pollution. 40% of TFCA funds are allocated to the designated county agencies, such as the CCTA, who then in turn chose which programs to grant funds. The LSBP was able to apply for these funds for the first time because CCTA approved a TFCA 40% Fund Policy on April 4, changing which projects count as eligible, which now includes the LSBP. With the sponsorship of Lafayette, the LSBP will receive its grant in 2025 and be able to move forward with its plans.



Rotary LamorindaSunrise.org

**Restore Hetch Hetchy 2024 Annual Dinner**

Saturday, October 26 at 6 P.M.  
 Lafayette Veterans Memorial Center  
 3780 Mount Diablo Blvd, Lafayette, CA 94549

Join us for an evening with special guest **Pulitzer Prize Winning Journalist Tom Philp.**

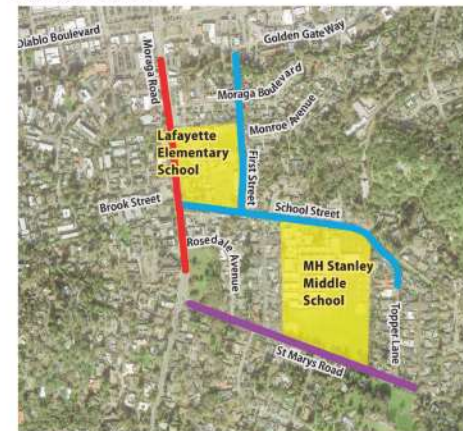
The evening will feature a **Reception and Silent Auction.**

Scan for more information and to reserve your spot. Please email us at [admin@hetchhetchy.org](mailto:admin@hetchhetchy.org) with any questions or to inquire.

**Speed limits reduced around Lafayette**

By Elaine Borden Chandler

Lafayette Elementary School and HM Stanley Middle School



**LEGEND**  
 Reduced Speed Limit School Zone (15 mph)  
 Primary School Zone (25 mph)  
 School Zone (existing 25 mph speed limit)

Acalanes High School

Images courtesy City of Lafayette



**LEGEND**  
 Reduced Speed Limit School Zone (15 mph)  
 Primary School Zone (25 mph)  
 School Zone (existing 25 mph speed limit)

**BATTERSBY.**

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It's Village. Of Course.

Beginning at the end of July, new speed limit signs could be seen going up around Lafayette. These changes were part of a series of speed limit reductions around Lafayette, mostly in the areas around schools. They are the most recent part of Lafayette's efforts in the last couple of years to increase traffic safety, which

have included the Go Slow Lafayette campaign and the Traffic Calming Program.

These new speed reductions are focused on improving safety for vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and bicyclists, particularly children, seniors, people with disabilities, people who use assistive devices, and the unhoused. "Years ago,

we used to talk about complete streets," said Parametrix engineer David Hoffman when he presented the speed reductions at the April 8 City Council Meeting. "It was the 8-80 question: if you're eight or 80 years old, would you be equally safe on this road?"

These changes come from two studies conducted in the last

year. In the fall of 2023, the Engineering and Traffic Study Survey (E&T) recommended that eight roadway segments have their speed limits reduced by five miles per hour. These segments are legally outside of school zones, but several of them are close to schools and have been changed in part for student and parent safety. These new speed limits range from 25 to 40 mph.

A follow up study to E&T was the School Zone Speed Limit Study in early 2024. This study recommended reduced speeds in specific areas around the elementary, middle, and high schools in Lafayette. California law stipulates that the speed limit with 500 feet of a school is 25 mph when children are present, but that jurisdictions can lower these speed limits down to 15 mph, as well as extending the 25 mph zone to 1000 feet.

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**Fall CERT Classes**

Lamorinda residents are invited to attend the Fall series of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes beginning September 12, 2024 at the Orinda Library Garden Room. This interactive in-person class series covers topics such as disaster preparedness, emergency medical aid, GMRS radio use, fire extinguisher use, pet preparedness, and light search and rescue. No experience is necessary, and the material taught is vital should a disaster occur in our area. Classes are held on Thursday nights from 6:30 - 9:30pm and run from 9/12 - 11/7. To register for this class series go to the website at: <https://classes.lamorindacert.org>