



Lafayette Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Nov. 3, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Stanley Library
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Lafayette:

www.ci.lafayette.ca.us
Phone: (925) 284-1968

Chamber of Commerce:

www.lafayettechamber.org



The Lafayette Police Department's Incident Summary Report was not received by press deadline.



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MARK DESAULNIER promises to continue George Miller's 40 years of extreme partisanship by voting along party lines 94% of the time.

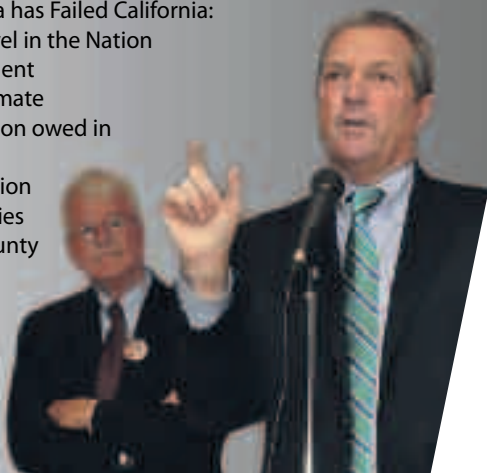
Author of the regressive Gas Mileage Use Tax - a consistent record of opposing taxpayers.

The Contra Costa Times knows Mark DeSaulnier best:
"a consistent record of siding with government-worker unions." 4/26/10;
"determined to do the bidding for the employee unions." 4/27/10;
"Many of the financial problems that afflict Contra Costa County today stem directly from decisions [he] championed." 8/23/09;
"Increased worker pension benefits to unaffordable levels." 5/10/14

Mark DeSaulnier's Agenda has Failed California:

- Highest Poverty Level in the Nation
- 44th in Unemployment
- 48th in Business Climate
- More than \$350 Billion owed in Unfunded Liabilities
- More than \$3.12 Billion in Unfunded Liabilities for Contra Costa County

A Record Not Worthy of a Promotion.



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Bag Ban and Private Parking Enforcement at City Council

By Cathy Tyson

Two controversial subjects – should the city make its own rules on banning plastic bags and can private parking lots have meters – were discussed at the Oct. 14 Lafayette City Council meeting.

Gov. Jerry Brown recently signed into law SB270, which prohibits larger stores from providing single-use plastic bags, and imposes a minimum 10 cent charge to purchase a recycled paper bag or compostable bag throughout California as of July 1, 2015. If Lafayette acts prior to Jan. 15, the deadline for the pre-emption provision, the city reserves the right to adopt its own, potentially stricter, rules.

Using Walnut Creek as a model, the Environmental Task Force has been monitoring the issue, and presented the options to the council: Do nothing and stick with the new state regulations, or like many other jurisdictions have done, adopt customized rules.

The key concern was whether to mandate that merchants charge a fee for providing bags, or leave it up to the 16 establishments that will be affected by the new rules – four grocery stores, 7-11, Wine Thieves and Jackson's Liquors, convenience stores located within gas stations and one restaurant, Chow – to decide to charge or not to charge.

Council Member Brandt Anderson suggested the state statute is "inartfully worded." With only three of the five city council members in attendance, it was decided to draft a local ordinance following the Walnut Creek model, with two options – one with a minimum charge per bag and one without, and discuss the matter at the next council meeting when all are in attendance.

"Parkers are smart and desperate people," said Council Member Mark Mitchell discussing the next item on the agenda, Ordinance 636 – private parking facility regulation. With sev-

eral successful businesses in and around La Fiesta Square, including The Cooperage, American Kitchen, Chow and Roam Burger, along with numerous other popular establishments, the parking situation is "untenable," said Steve Cortese of Cortese Investment Company, which owns the property.

The new ordinance, if adopted, would allow for 225 coin and credit card operated parking meters, and an enforcement mechanism for those who don't feed the meter – which would be in the form of an invoice. The word "citation" isn't an option because the infraction would be documented by a private company, not by the police.

The ultimate goal of the ordinance is to provide convenient, no-hassle parking for customers by increasing stall turnover and strongly discouraging employee and BART parking.

"We have reached a tipping point," said Chamber of Commerce

executive director Jay Lifson, describing the popularity of businesses and the increasing pressure on parking. A petition was signed by 16 of the businesses at La Fiesta Square unanimously supporting the move.

Working with police chief Eric Christensen, research was completed to clarify what rules govern private property, and what options are available to land owners. Walnut Creek, Concord and Pleasant Hill all have this type of ordinance on the books.

A significant amount of oversight is included in the language of the ordinance, including dispute resolution, clearly defined hours of enforcement, and a reasonable invoice amount, \$25, along with a quarterly review of the situation.

The new ordinance passed on a unanimous vote; it will be continued to the Oct. 27 meeting for second reading and adoption. The ordinance will be effective 30 days after its adoption.

Could Greener Power Come to Lafayette?

By Cathy Tyson

It is an interesting concept: greener electricity delivered by PG&E to your home. PG&E still reads your meter and issues monthly bills, delivers energy through its lines and provides the same maintenance and repair service – but the actual electricity is generated from clean, renewable sources and it's slightly cheaper. It's happening right now in Marin and



Sonoma counties, along with the city of Richmond. Alameda County is in a very preliminary stage of investigating the option. Contra Costa County is looking into it.

While it's relatively new in California for the energy provider to be different than the transmission and distribution company, this model is used in several other states. "This is where the electron hits the road," said Alex DiGiorgio, community affairs manager of Marin Clean Energy, ex-

plaining that it's a way to "democratize energy" by giving customers a choice.

A recent presentation hosted by Lafayette's Environmental Task Force, which strongly supports Community Choice Aggregation, or CCA, highlighted the process and benefits to a group of city and county leaders and concerned citizens.

While many Lafayette residents are keenly aware of their respective carbon footprints, it's unclear if the

concept of a CCA will become an option. Informative speakers discussed advantages and disadvantages, job creation and reduction of greenhouse gases. Lafayette, if interested, could potentially join an existing CCA or collaborate with a newly formed county CCA. To get the ball rolling community support would be necessary, along with technical expertise, financial consideration, and a feasibility study.

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