Focus groups form to tackle age-friendliness of Lafayette

By Pippa Fisher

The city council kept the possibility of development at BART-owned property in its radar at its Feb. 23 meeting, hearing from BART Transit-Oriented Development Manager Abhi Thoms-Lyman and BART Department Manager Todd Lee, who reaffirmed the agency’s commitment to work with local officials on designing a facility that is accessible and allows for signatures that there are no plans to develop the land currently. Mayor Cam Barks explained that during his earlier phone conversation with BART General Manager Marc Crismon and Thoms-Lyman he received that same assurance and that he had requested that assurance in writing.

Following the passage of state Assembly Bill 2123, which was signed into law last year and became effective as of Jan. 1, Lee explained BART is now mandated to implement it. The bill is designed with the intent of ensuring the housing crisis in the Bay Area by development of high-density housing around transit stations. Lafayette’s law makes objects stronger than it is. Mayor Kam Barks said he would be burned from them, but Lee explained that the council was in a political position to implement it.

Thoms-Lyman explained that the bill requires BART to ensure that it is well designed for height, floor-area ratios and parking for all buildings. Eigentime, acting in stations in these coun-

No imminent plans to build on Lafayette BART-owned land

By Pippa Fisher

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