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ORIND

See public meetings schedule on these pages and check

online for agendas, meeting

notes and announcements

Chamber of Commerce: www.orindachamber.org

The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org

www.cityoforinda.org

Phone (925) 253-4200

City of Orinda:

LAMORINDA WEEKLY

City Council Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 7 p.m. Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m. Orinda Library Auditorium, 26 Orinda Way Supplemental Sales Tax Oversight Commission Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 p.m. Sarge Littlehale Community Room, 22 Orinda Way

925-377-0977

Welcome to Orindawoods!

319 Village View Court, Orinda

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www.lamorindaweekly.com

READY TO MAKE A MOVE?

Wednesday, April 10, 2024



Chris Swim DRE 00943989

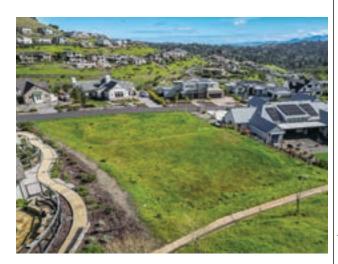
Tracy Keaton DRE 01051349

925.766.1447 chris@chrisswim.com chrisswim.com

COMPASS



22 Bryant Way - Next to Casa Orinda Visit our Snack Shop & play Lotto & Lottery Mon - Sat 5 am - 12 am; Sun 6 am - 11 pm



The Last Great Lot in Wilder

18 Paintbrush Lane, Orinda offered for \$1,275,000 | 0.45 acre lot 18paintbrushlane.com



Local Expert & Lamorinda Resident Ann Newton Cane 415.999.0253 Golden Gate

MOFD fee hikes reflect recent salary increase, break out fees for solar installations

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3 BR + office / den / gym | 3 BA | 2,882± SF

160Ravenhill.com | Offered at \$1,795,000

By Sora O'Doherty

Although Moraga Orinda Fire District staff recommended an across the board fee increase of 2.8%, the Board of Directors on March 20 adopted a 5% increase intended to reflect an equal salary increase in the district. In addition to the higher fees, the directors also approved a dozen new fees.

The new fees fall into the areas of plan review, environmental review, and a miscellaneous fee for insurance property compliance inspection of \$170 per inspection. Plan review fees are on a per form, per permit, or per inspection basis and range from \$47 for a hydrant/fire service form to \$577 per permit for energy storage system or solar photovoltaic power system inspections.

Charles Porges, an Orinda resident, commented in writing on the new fees, saying, "I find the Solar and Energy fees unreasonable and unnecessary. As you know PG&E does a thorough review of the submitted plans and performs inspections as well. With the proposed fees you will add a \$1300 disincentive to installing photovoltaic systems. Photovoltaic systems with batteries will reduce the power required to be transmitted through PG&E lines which are a known fire hazard. I request that you eliminate them or reduce them by a factor of ten."

Chris and Tracy have been providing expert Real Estate Leadership in Lamorinda for over 3 decades. Call us at 925.766.1447 to schedule your private tour of these wonderful Orindawoods homes!

> In response to questions raised by Porges and by Director Steven Danziger at the first reading of the proposed ordinance, Fire Chief Dave Winnacker explained that the fee was not a new fee; MOFD has always charged a plan review fee for solar systems as required by

Chapter 12 of the Fire Code, it just had not previously had its own category.

Winnacker added that PG&E does not perform any type of plan review required by California Code of Regulations Title 24 and, as an investor-owned private company, PG&E does not have the authority to do so. PG&E's review is limited to the interconnect requirements associated with grid connection. Should a resident be installing an off-grid system, PG&E would not be involved.

Winnacker also explained that the California Fire Code requires that the fire code official review plans and issue either a construction permit or operational permit. The office of the state fire marshal requires a construction permit for installation of energy storage systems regulated by Chapter 12 of the State Fire Code, Section 105.6.5 Energy storage systems. A construction permit is required to install energy storage systems regulated by Section 1207.

In addition to the solar and energy system fees, which, while listed as new, are really just being broken out to clarify what they are for, and the new insurance property compliance inspection fee, the other new fees are for the hourly service of senior officials during environmental reviews.

The 5% fee increases and the new fees take effect on April 22, 2024. The list of all fees, showing the 2023 levels and the new 2024 levels, may be found at https://d2kbkoa27fdvtw. cloudfront.net/mofd/c25 f0e47192374f4618bbcf 5482642ad0.pdf

Celebrating spring: Lamorinda's colorful Holi Festivities

... continued from Page A1

The park sported a kaleidoscope of hues as colors were thrown in the sky. Laughter filled

a.newtoncane@ggsir.com AnnNewtonCane.com Lic. #02084093

Sotheby's

READINESS IS YEAR ROUND

Get help preparing your property ahead of wildfire season! Take advantage of MOFD's free Fire Adapted Communities Ambassador Program.

Ambassadors provide guidance to local residents through a home assessment. Trained by MOFD, these volunteers identify trouble areas and places where you might not expect fires to threaten your property.

Request a complimentary home assessment from a MOFD FAC Ambassador today!

Visit CityofOrinda.org/EmergencyPreparedness

ORINDF

Measure R at Work



the air as kids darted around playfully chasing each other with colors in their hands and adults danced to the beat of Indian music. In addition to the colorful revelry, the event featured a spread of Indian savory snacks and sweets. The celebration honored cultural traditions and also highlighted the Lamorinda community's diversity. The Holi celebration was organized by the Lamorindians (a doubled dipped portmanteau of Lamorinda and Indians).



MONTHLY & BIMONTHLY ANNUAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS