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Council Considers Plastic Bags

By Cathy Tyson

a thorough presentation by the Envi- as litter. ronmental Task Force recently, sevtime has come."

At issue is attempting to adjust consumer behavior by charging a use disposable bags pollute the envismall fee for paper bags in order to encourage the use of cloth or recyclable bags. If adopted, and that's a big if at this point, Lafayette would be joining 37 Bay Area cities and neighboring counties that include Marin, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz, and other cities up and down the state from Ukiah to Dana Point that restrict single-use bags. Although the number varies depending on the

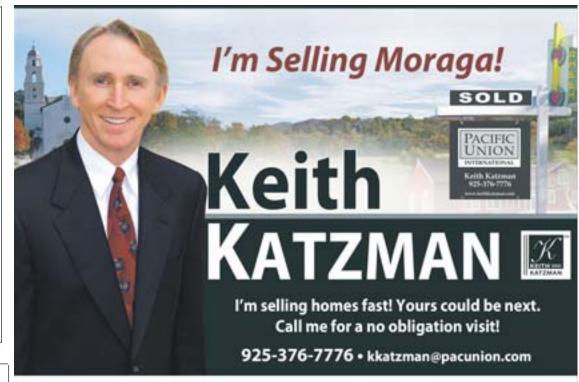
Nould the city of Lafayette ban source, government source Cal Replastic bags? Good question, but cyle 911 estimates only 3 percent of no answer at this time as the city single use plastic bags were recycled council weighs pros and cons. After in 2009; the rest end up in landfills or

It seems like the clear trend is toeral key questions still lingered. Task ward banning disposable plastic bags. force member Dick Holt suggested a If adopted, Lafayette would be the phased in approach and said, "The first city in Contra Costa County to do

> Supporters point out that singleronment, ultimately contribute to climate change and are costly to tax-

> Comments at the meeting represented a variety of viewpoints. Steve Richard, president of Sustainable Lafayette, noted there are discounts at major retailers already but that voluntary effort hasn't made a substantial dent in bag behavior.

... continued on page A12





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Bike to Work!

Tomorrow, May 9 is Bike to Work day. The city of Lafayette wants to encourage folks to get out of their cars and hop on their bikes, so they are teaming up with the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Sustainable Lafayette to provide an "energizer" station at Plaza Park with coffee, bagels, fruit and other complimentary goodies to nudge would-be riders toward bike helmets and away from car keys. The edible energy will be available from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the corner of Mt. Diablo Boulevard and Moraga Road.

Listen to Civic Meetings from Home

By Cathy Tyson

or Lafayette residents who want sues, but prefer the comforts of of our public meeting agendas and home, audio broadcasts of all city documents after the old vendor discouncil, planning commission, design review and circulation commission meetings are available live, and are recorded to listen at your convenience. With fast forward, rewind and pause, it's never been easier to be a Lafayette. fly on the wall when lounging with your laptop.

"We decided to go with a new to be engaged in municipal is- vendor called Granicus to archive all continued their service. As a bonus, Granicus also offers us the ability to record and broadcast meetings live," said Tracy Robinson, administrative services director for the city of

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Jueen Bee

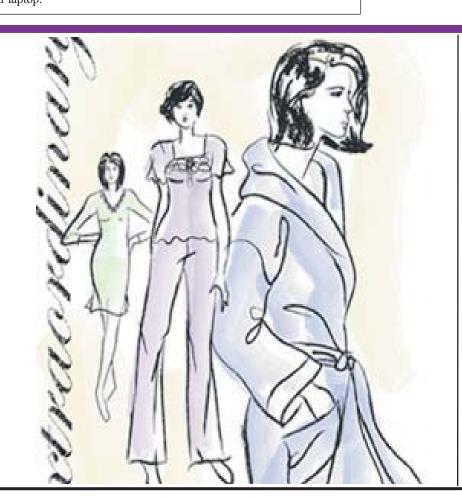
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