



Lafayette Civic News

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, March 10, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

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

Design Review

Monday, March 10, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

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

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, March 5, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 19, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room at 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

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



Lafayette Police Department Incident summary report, Feb. 9-15

- Alarm calls:** 21
- Animal Cruelty:**
Mt Diablo Bl
- Burglary, Auto:**
Mountain View Ln
- Burglary, Residential:**
Upper Happy Valley Rd
Mountain View Dr
Valente Court
White Oak Dr
- Burglary, Commercial:**
Safeway
- Suspicious Vehicle Stops:** 6
- Suspicious Person/Circumstances:** 17
- Reckless Driving:**
Near McDonalds
- Hit & Run:**
Mt Diablo/Pleasant Hill Rd
- Panhandling:**
Mt Diablo Bl
- Petty Theft:**
Mt Diablo Bl
S Thompson Rd
White Oak Dr
El Curtola Bl
Mosswood Dr
Address not available (2)
- Vehicle Theft:**
Mt Diablo (2)
Diablo Foods

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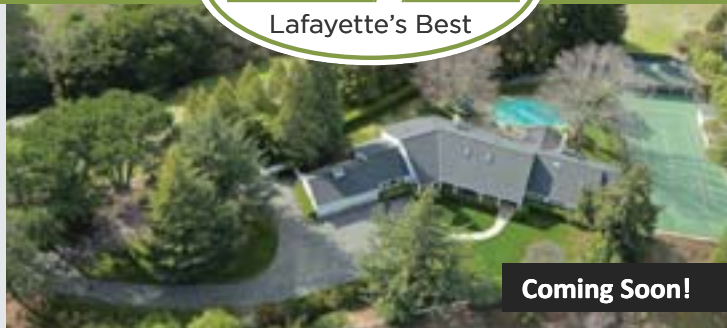
2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

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Mountain View Drive Project Building on Suggestions

By Cathy Tyson

Looking to get feedback from the Design Review Commission, local developer Lenox Homes, LLC heard constructive suggestions at the second study session for its proposed eight-unit multi-family in-fill project that would be located at 945 Mountain View Dr. directly behind Trader Joe's. Two levels of four units each would rest atop a slightly lowered parking area, 2 feet below grade. The roughly 0.3-acre site currently has a vintage bungalow style home with lots of asphalt. Bordered by the Trader Joe's loading dock on one side, an apartment complex to the east, and a driveway that serves the apartments directly to the south, it's a challenging site for the developer to balance an economically viable

project while being sensitive to the neighborhood.

Dan Freeman, president of Lenox Homes, is looking forward to working locally after having focused on projects in Alamo, Danville and Walnut Creek. He calls the project unique, very pedestrian friendly and geared toward active move-down buyers. Research by the company indicated a growing market exists for current residents who don't want to leave Lafayette, but are seeking a one-level home that's convenient to shops and BART, but with less maintenance than what's required to take care of an aging single family home. "We're exploring concepts at this point and gathering input," said Freeman who plans to reach out to

stakeholders again and consider the whole project in response to comments received from design review commissioners.

Suggestions from commissioners focused on the overall size of the project; vice chair Gordon Chong described it as "edge to edge on property line, with no breathing room." A common refrain suggested reducing the building footprint by adjusting the number of parking spaces and perhaps shrinking the overall number of units or the size of the generous two-bedroom plus den units from around 1,825 square feet to something smaller. The city parking requirement for an eight-unit building is 12 spaces, the current version of the project includes 19 parking spots.

Fellow commissioner Ken Hertel commented that the current design needs to be pared down and pushed further back on the site.

Neighbors chimed in about the overall mass of the building and shared their concern about lack of space for emergency vehicles or delivery trucks on the street. Also with an overall height of over 34 feet, just below a maximum height of 35 feet, the current version towers over neighbors directly south of the building – at a previous study session it had been described as an aircraft carrier.

"This is a journey," said Freeman, "an organic process." He explained that changes are part of the journey and the structure is still a work in progress at this point.

Regulating Massage Parlors Successful

By Cathy Tyson

It's been over a year and a half since the city of Lafayette adopted an ordinance that regulated massage establishments, in response to some arrests, suspicious behavior and citizens' concerns. Businesses had 30 days to submit documentation after Ordinance 606 was adopted on May 29, 2012 or face penalties.

"All seem to be complying," said Chief of Police Eric Christensen. "None have left because of registration, but the wild times are certainly over."

The new rules require all massage therapists and practitioners

operating within Lafayette to be state-certified and forces all massage businesses to register with the city and post their certificates of registration in visible locations. Existing businesses that are licensed for therapy like chiropractors, orthopedists, and physical therapists are specifically exempted.

A quick check with the police department revealed smooth sailing since implementation for the 16 massage establishments, spas and therapeutic centers currently operating within city limits. All have filled out the appropriate ap-

plication for certification, and police have verified every business license applicant and their employees.

The ordinance calls for each employee to have a California Massage Therapy Council number. Although Lamorinda Weekly was unable to review the confidential applications, "We check everyone that applies," confirmed community services officer Cathy Surges-Moscato.

Presumably employees come and go, like in any other business – the new regulations are set up to address turnover; applicants must

submit new employee names and are required to re-apply on an annual basis and their certification is reverified, said Surges-Moscato.

Additionally, certain minimum health and safety standards are spelled out and contact information for business owners must be provided to police. Originally the city's goal was not to prohibit legitimate practitioners, but to keep track of the massage businesses in town. Prior to the ordinance, massage parlors fell into the "personal services category" that were permitted to operate downtown, similar to nail or hair salons.

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Lafayette Planning Commission Vacancy

The City of Lafayette is looking for a volunteer to fill a vacancy on the seven-member Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is charged with development of the General Plan, implementation & administration of the Zoning Ordinance and review of development applications including subdivisions, land use permits, and hillside development permits. Applicants must be residents of Lafayette. The Commission typically meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month in the Community Hall at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center located at 3491 Mt. Diablo Boulevard. For more information about the Commission's duties, please contact Planning Director Niroop Srivatsa at 925.299.3206.

Applications can be downloaded from the City's web site at <http://www.ci.lafayette.ca.us/>. The deadline for filing applications with the City Clerk is March 7, 2014. Interviews will be scheduled in mid to late March.



The Lafayette City Council is soliciting applicants to fill the following volunteer vacancies:

Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee, Circulation Commission, Lafayette Community Center Foundation, Capital Projects Assessment Committee (CPAC), Creeks Committee, Design Review Commission, Downtown Street Improvement Master Plan Committee (DSIMPIC), Environmental Task Force, Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Public Art Committee, Senior Services Commission, Youth Commission and Lafayette's representative to the Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging.

Lafayette is a community that prides itself on its strong volunteer participation. For information about these vacancies and the responsibilities of each of these bodies please visit our website. www.lovelafayette.org Applications can be downloaded from our webpage or contact city offices (925-284-1968) and an application will be mailed to you.

All positions are OPEN UNTIL FILLED.



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Tuesday-Saturday 10-6