

Lamorinda Election Results

One message came through loud and clear in the Lamorinda elections this year – with only a handful of votes making the difference between sitting on the dais and sitting in the audience, every vote matters. In the council races, voters in Moraga favored candidates who prefer a cautious approach to development; while Orindans

bucked the status quo, casting more votes for a political newcomer than for any other candidate.

The Contra Costa County Elections Division updated its Nov. 4 General Election results on Nov. 12. Although the total numbers changed since the preliminary results were posted on election night, the outcomes did not:

Moraga Town Council (two seats):	Number of votes	Percent of total vote
Dave Trotter	3,532	37.94
Teresa Onoda	3,241	34.82
Ken Chew	2,453	26.35
Orinda City Council (three seats):		
Eve Phillips	3,704	21.36
Amy Worth	3,468	20.00
Dean Orr	2,973	17.15
Bob Thompson	2,886	16.64
Linda Delehunt	2,418	13.95
Carlos Baltodano	1,838	10.60
Orinda Union School District (three seats):		
Julie Rossiter	4,058	26.73
Jason Kaune	3,902	25.70
Carol A. Brown	3,583	23.60
Hillary Weiner	3,574	23.54
Acalanes Union High School District (three seats):		
Susie Epstein	19,151	28.53
Nancy Kendzierski	17,428	25.96
Robert Hockett	15,520	23.12
Kristen Correll	14,615	21.77
Moraga-Orinda Fire District Board, Division 1 (one seat)		
Kathleen Conroy Famulener	1,076	52.62
Nathan Bell	968	47.33

(Source: Contra Costa County Elections Division) - L. Borrowman

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City Leaders Consider Historic Landmark Designation for Orinda's Frank Lloyd Wright House

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In reaching their respective decisions, HLC members and planning commissioners determined that the Wright-Buehler complex met the following criteria: the home and gardens represent “a distinctive example of an architectural period, style or movement or its identification as the work of an architect or

master builder,” has “elements of architectural design, detail, materials or craftsmanship which represent a significant architectural innovation,” and “is a distinct work of art.”

The Orinda City Council is expected to review the Wright-Buehler House landmark

application sometime in the new year.

For an exclusive look at this architectural masterpiece, view Ohlen Alexander's photographs in our Sept. 24 article, “Frank Lloyd Wright House in Orinda a Structural Symphony” at www.lamorindaweekly.com.

Orinda City Government Operates Smoothly First Day Following Elections

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Staff hopes this will not only stretch city dollars, but will minimize the likelihood that newly repaved roads will need to be torn up and repaved again. Staff estimates the city will spend \$5,054,479 (Measure J), \$978,971 (Measure L half cent sales tax hike), and \$1,208,631 (Annual Paving Program) for a possible total of \$7,242,081. Observed Vice Mayor Steve Glazer, “Robust action is happening in the north and the south, and the east and the west – and all points in between.”

Staff also cautioned, however, that construction cost estimates shown on the 2015 Measure J list are “not based on design level field reconnaissance and therefore should be considered as a planning tool only.” The list will

be fine-tuned after the final designs are in, and presented in a follow-up report to the council. “Streets may be added or eliminated at that time to stay within the projected funding for FY 2015.” Factors which may affect the budget include design, inspection, monument preservation, and striping costs.

The highlight of the EIR public hearing was a presentation from the consultant helping Orinda through its housing element update. “Prior to the enactment of the California Environmental Quality Act,” said Patrick Angel, “there really wasn't an avenue for the public or resource agencies to express concerns about environmental effects of projects under consideration.” CEQA, he said, is “intended to

disclose if you take this action, what are the physical effects to the environment that will happen.” It also requires cities to explore ways to mitigate or find alternatives which could minimize or avoid the environmental effect. What the EIR under CEQA doesn't do is to advocate for or against development projects. “It also doesn't get into social or economic issues,” such as loss of property values or school crowding. “It's truly about physical effects on the environment.”

The EIR's public comment period ends at 5 p.m. on Dec. 1. Afterward, each comment will be included with its detailed response by the city in its final EIR draft. To learn more, visit the city's website.

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Transit Survey Needs Your Input

Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda are working with County Connection, the local public transit service, to investigate potential options to better serve the Lamorinda area. Organizers are reaching out to residents of the area for their input. The simple online survey is customized for each city, only takes a few minutes to complete and could benefit the community in the future with enhanced transportation options:

- www.moragatransitsurvey.com
- www.orindatransitsurvey.com
- www.lafayettetransitsurvey.com

Any questions, contact Paul Supawanich at PSupawanich@nelsonnygaard.com or (415) 281-6922. - C. Tyson

Southworth Chavez & Day-Seiter LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

<p>Estate Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wills Living Trusts Special Needs Trusts Irrevocable Trusts Pet Trusts Limited Conservatorships 	<p>Elder Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long Term Care Planning VA Benefits Medi-Cal Social Security
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