



Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, April 13, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, April 20, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, April 13, 7 p.m.
Lafayette Library & Learning Center,
Arts & Science Discovery Center,
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings

Acalanes Union High School District
Wednesday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.
AUHSD Board Room
1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette
www.aalanes.k12.ca.us

Lafayette School District

Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m.
Regular Board Meeting
Stanley Middle School Library
3477 School St., Lafayette
www.lafsd.k12.ca.us

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

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Adjustments Needed for In-fill Project

By Cathy Tyson

It's been almost a year and a half since local developer Lenox Homes came before the Design Review Commission for a study session about a proposed project directly behind Trader Joe's. And it was clear at a recent meeting that like almost all projects in Lafayette, the design needed to continue to evolve before approval.

Back after a pause to adjust the architectural plans, Lenox Homes president Dan Freeman explained, "Tonight's plan is a culmination of many of the ideas provided" from their previous visit, where commissioners encouraged the in-fill project to shrink and appear less monolithic. The proposed three-story building would have 11 units, with underground parking on a 0.3-acre parcel directly behind Trader Joe's on Mountain View Drive.

Freeman highlighted the revised architectural plans that provide pedestrian-friendly housing near public transit and downtown, and pointed out the unique, first-in-Lafayette car stacking technology meant to efficiently accommodate cars in the underground parking garage. While the parking requirement for a multi-family building of this size is 15 parking stalls, 22 are provided via the parking valet technology.

The developer realized the anxiety of neighbors who feared parked cars from the new building's residents and their guests would further clog up the already narrow street. While the proposed parking lift system could encourage, as the commission suggested, a truly more pedestrian lifestyle, they went a step further and suggested very limited parking spaces per unit.

Although one side of the project

backs up to the Trader Joe's loading dock, the neighbors to the south were still concerned about a large contemporary building with dramatic windows looming over their much smaller scale homes. To address that, the developer proposed three smaller units on the ground level to help relate to the neighborhood scale, and four units on both the second and third floors, each stepped back with generous terraces.

Ever tactful Associate Planner Michael Cass said this iteration is a "good start," but staff recommended a number of modifications—primarily to increase outdoor space and decrease the amount of development on the site.

Following on that theme, Commissioner Andre Ptaszynski suggested breaking up the units on the second and third floor to provide some relief between units, so it

doesn't look "like a long continuous freight train."

Other comments from commissioners reiterated that they think the structure is too big for the site and that reducing the number of units would be helpful. Many commissioners were troubled by the wall of windows on the southern elevation.

The project now goes back to the developer to respond to the Design Review Commission's comments and is scheduled to be back for further review at its April 13 meeting. If the architectural adjustments can't be completed by that time, the review may be postponed. While commissioners applauded the concept of pedestrian friendly, sustainable housing, they made it clear they were looking for a more unique, diverse configuration and changes in the number, type, size and orientation of the units.

Construction Coming Together for New Manzanita Room

By Cathy Tyson

"It's like a giant erector set," said Project Manager Doug Swanson, who, along with Associate Engineer Mike Moran, is supervising the construction of the brand new Manzanita Room. The crumbling 60-year-old former structure used to house two kindergarten classrooms, said Moran, but had

seen better days. The city of Lafayette purchased the community center in 1983 from the Lafayette Elementary School District; it was formerly Burton Elementary School.

With the foundation poured and steel support beams in place, the crew from JUV Inc. of Oakland is now

busy assembling the roofing sections. Economical, ready-to-go panels with exterior and interior finishes sandwiching insulation get lifted into place by a crane with what Moran and Swanson call an "octopus" — eight powerful vacuum suction cups on an assembly hoisted by the crane.

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LAFAYETTE POLICE	
Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report March 1-14:	
Abandoned Vehicle	
1500 block Silver Dell Rd	
Camino Colorados/St Mary's Rd	
Alarms	62
911 calls	16
Burglary, Auto	
10 block Olympic Oaks Dr	
30 block Olympic Oaks Dr	
3300 block Mt Diablo Bl (2)	
Burglary, Residential	
1700 block Reliez Valley Rd	
Burglary, Commercial	
3800 block Mt Diablo Bl	
DUI	
Mt Diablo Bl/Pleasant Hill	
Fire/EMS Response	
1300 block El Curtola	
1500 block Rancho View Dr	
3700 block Crestmont Pl	
Forgery	
1600 block Rancho View Rd	
Fraud	
800 block Avalon Av	
Hit & Run	
2nd St/Golden Gate Wy	
1st St/Mt Diablo Bl	
900 block Stow Ln	
3300 block Moraga Bl	
900 block 2nd St	
Health & Safety	
Happy Valley Rd/Hwy 24	
ID Theft	
3200 block Camino Colorados	
70 block Silverwood Dr	
1000 block 2nd St	
Loud Party	
3100 block Stanley Bl	
Lorinda Ln/El Nido Ranch Rd	
Missing Adult	
1000 block Pleasant Hill Rd	
1000 block Via Media	
1000 block 1st St	
3400 block Moraga Bl	
Petty Theft	
40 block Prado Wy	
3900 block S Peardale Dr	
1800 block Del Rey St	
10 block Green Pl	
1000 block Rahara Dr	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
900 block Reliez Station Ln	
1800 block Reliez Valley Rd	
3700 block Highland Ct (3)	
Promiscuous Shooting	
1500 block Rancho View Dr	
Johnson Rd/Rancho View	
800 block Acalanes Rd	
Public Nuisance	
Acalanes Rd/Glorietta Bl	
Crest Rd/Diablo Cr	
20 block Hidden Valley Rd	
Raintree Pl/Reliez Station Ln	
3300 block Springhill Rd	
Martino /Springhill Rds	
3300 block Hermosa Wy	
900 block Moon Ct	
Acalanes Rd/Fiora Pl	
Mosswood Dr/Highland Rd	
3400 block Silver Springs Rd	
3500 block Mt Diablo Bl	
Carol Ln/Janet Ln	
3200 block Ameno Dr	
1000 block Timothy Ln	
Mt View Dr/Mariposa Rd	
Reckless Driving	
4000 block Mt Diablo Bl	
Moraga Rd/Moraga Bl	
Pleasant Hill Rd/Deer Hill Rd	
Mt Diablo Ct/Mt Diablo Bl	
Pleasant Hill/Springhill Rds	
Moraga Rd/Mt Diablo Bl (2)	
Lafayette Park Hotel	
Upper Happy Valley Rd	
Shoplifting	
Safeway (2)	
Susp. Circumstances	18
Suspicious Vehicle	29
Suspicious Subject	25
Traffic Stops	220
Trespass	
Brookwood Park	
1100 block Cambridge Dr	
Unwanted Guest	
3200 block Lucas Cr	
Vandalism	
1400 block Rancho View Dr	
Rancho View/Pleasant Hill	
3700 block Mt Diablo Bl	
Pleasant Hill/Hwy 24	
Carol Ln/Mt Diablo Bl	
1200 block Summit Rd	
El Curtola/Old Tunnel Rd	
700 block Las Trampas Rd (2)	
3200 block Camino Colorados (2)	
1500 block Rancho View Dr	
Oakwood Athletic Club	
McDonalds	
Vehicle Theft	
1000 block Via Media	
Warrant Service	
4000 block Natasha Dr	

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