

The Lafayette Homeowners Council sponsors Candidates Forum, Sept. 20

The Lafayette Homeowners Council (LHC) is sponsoring its yearly Candidates Night at 7 p.m. Sept. 20 at the Lafayette Veterans Memorial Hall, 3780 Mt. Diablo Blvd. All residents are welcome. This year five candidates will be on the November ballot for just two City Council positions. Each candidate will have five minutes to introduce themselves and speak regarding their individual positions on various Lafayette issues. After each of the candidates have spoken, members of the audience will be able to ask questions of any candidate.

Also, the LHC has invited the four School Board "candidates" to its Candidates Night and each has been asked to introduce themselves and speak for 2-3 minutes regarding their views on schools and education in Lafayette.



The meeting will also include a brief "Annual Meeting" agenda by the LHC and we also hope to hear from our mayor.

Moraga Citizens Network hosts Candidates Night, Oct. 3

Moraga's Candidates Night will feature the three Moraga Town Council candidates – Mike McCluer, Dave Trotter and Steve Woehleke – who will speak on important issues from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 3 at the Holy Trinity Serbian Church, 1700 School Street in Moraga. Bring questions or submit your questions via email to MCN94556@gmail.com. This free event is sponsored by the Moraga Citizens Network.

Orinda City Council Candidate Forum, Oct. 3

The Orinda Association will host the City Council Candidate Forum, featuring candidates Dennis Fay, Eve Phillips, Kathleen Jenkins, Amy Worth and Nick Kosla, from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3 at the Orinda Library Auditorium.

<p>experience</p> <p>ANA ZIMMANK SRES GLOBAL LUXURY SPECIALIST M. 925.640.6008 ana.zimmank@camoves.com CalBRE #00469962</p>		<p>the difference</p> <p>When it comes to your most important real estate investments, trust the professional who is exceeding expectations every day. Whether you are looking for the perfect home to suit your lifestyle or want to sell your home for the best return, you can count on me to carefully guide you through the process.</p> <p>Experience the difference.</p> 
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Lafayette City council candidates

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I have a different, legal-based perspective, but more needs to be done to ensure that we have responsive municipal government that listens to its citizens.

Smith: The seminal issue is a lack of trust with many residents feeling outside and unheard. We must reimagine our community engagement strategies to better listen to residents. I have 15 years of experience putting the public back in public engagement and providing venues for dialogue that build empathy and trust.

4. Many residents have expressed anger about plans by PG&E to cut down hundreds of trees in Lafayette and have many safety concerns they want the utility company to address. How do you believe the city should proceed with PG&E regarding these issues?

Candell: As an engineer, I know gas pipeline integrity proj-

ects should include pipeline inspections, remote shut-off valve installation, old pipeline replacements, but not necessarily tree removal. The city should help residents protect their trees, listen to the CPUC regarding PG&E actions, and compensation spent on replacing trees in place.

Gerringer: The city (hosted) a forum with residents, PG&E, and the California Public Utilities Commission to address resident concerns and find common ground. Facilitating an open dialogue will result in better outcomes. Letting PG&E know our concerns and working with them is necessary to keeping Lafayette beautiful and safe.

Maggio: Our community cares about trees. The Tree Protection Ordinance protects them. Utilities should be required to follow the same ordinances that our citizens are required to follow. At the

Special City Council Meeting on September 10th the city and PG&E (explained) how they are complying with the ordinance.

Samson: I represent clients in litigation against PG&E and receive benefits from PG&E due to past employment. Accordingly, I am recused from all matters related to PG&E and cannot comment. I do, however, encourage everyone to actively join in the on-going city/PG&E debate.

Smith: Our city needs to set the table for community conversations where PG&E, California Public Utilities Commission, East Bay Regional Parks, and our concerned residents can work together on jointly owned solutions that prioritize safety, our natural environment, and builds trust. I specialize in structuring cross-sector partnerships to find collaborative solutions.

Orinda amends private street policy

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Gee pointed out that some 1,500 households of voters in Orinda live on private roads, implying that this could affect the passage of future road measures. Gee supports the formation of a task force to examine potential solutions to the private streets issue, which has been rejected by the council. "I have never found it beneficial," she concluded, "to not listen to people."

Mayor Amy Worth said that she had discussed the matter with Bobbie Landers, who was mayor of Orinda at the time it was incorporated. Most cities have public and private roads, she said, and most

cities do not have a policy on accepting private roads. "We would love to be able to accept all of the private streets," she said, but concluded that the city's very small budget made her mindful of taking on any public liability.

Several revisions to the revised policy were considered by the council. In the end, they added language that allows the city council to approve exceptions, on a case by case basis, to the rule that excluded private roads subject to homeowners' associations or similar entities from acceptance as public streets.

Featured Listing		1947 Eagle Peak Ave, Clayton
<p>Tania DeGroot 510.367.1422</p>  <p>CalBRE # 01094898</p>		<p>This charming 3/2.5 townhouse is a private end unit that overlooks a golf course and pond. Its light and bright open plan has 1595 sf with beautiful amenities to enjoy inside and a fenced garden for entertaining and/or gardening. Offered at \$635,000.</p>
<p>taniamdegroot@gmail.com</p>		<p>Better Homes and Gardens REAL ESTATE RELIANCE PARTNERS</p> <p>www.bhghome.com</p>

IVOR SAMSON Lafayette City Council

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When I was appointed to fill the last two years of a vacant City Council seat in December 2016, I thought that this was a real opportunity to contribute a meaningful public service for a limited period of time.

After being sworn in, it quickly became apparent that I was the odd man out - or at least in the minority - on a number of issues that reflected a different approach to my view of how local government should work. I have pushed back on that approach, sometimes successfully; sometimes not, and feel that it is important to have an elected Council member who consistently advocates the following principles:

TRANSPARENCY

- I pushed through a stringent Conflict of Interest Ordinance over significant opposition to help restore confidence in the integrity of the land use and permitting processes.
- I believe that all meetings should be open to the public to the extent allowed by law. Closed sessions should be limited to narrowly defined circumstances.

INDEPENDENT THINKING - NOT A RUBBER STAMP

- I was the only City Council Member who refused to approve the City Manager's contract because it contained terms which I thought were manifestly unfair to the City.
- I was the only City Council Member to advocate putting Measure L on the November 2018 ballot to allow for more reasoned evaluation and discussion instead of rushing it to the June ballot.
- I was the only City Council Member to oppose Measure L. I did not rush to judgement; I spent over a month trying to understand the various legal and factual issues before I came to my decision.
- I don't vote for "feel good" resolutions just for the sake of political correctness. I listen and stand up for my community. I try to carefully consider the merits of all matters brought before the Council and vote accordingly, regardless of peer or political pressure.

COLLABORATION, FISCAL DISCIPLINE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- As custodians of your tax dollars, we must spend the public's money sparingly and wisely.
- We need to look for areas where we can create better partnerships and share resources such as strengthening the collaboration between the City and our schools.
- We must consider how future housing development impacts our schools and traffic.
- We must listen well in order to lead and we must ensure accountability to the citizens of Lafayette at every step of our actions.
- The proverbial buck stops with the Council!

A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

- My professional career has been spent as a commercial litigator trying complex cases. I place great value on due process, fairness and openness while maintaining a position of strength.
- I will proactively protect the City's legal interests.
- I am not afraid to be in the minority if I believe it is in the City's best interest.

"Ivor and I have sometimes been on the opposite side of things, but that's OK because he fights for what he believes in and I want him elected to the City Council to continue fighting for Lafayette." – Vice-Mayor Cam Burks

I have been very fortunate to have lived a full life as part of this community. I started out as one of the founding members of the **LAFAYETTE HOMEOWNERS COUNCIL** in the early 1980's, then served on the **PLANNING COMMISSION**, and was elected to **THREE TERMS ON THE CITY COUNCIL**, stepping down in 2006. Along the way, I was honored to be selected as a **LAFAYETTE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR** and a **CALIFORNIA LAWYER OF THE YEAR**. I have brought a different - more independent and citizen focused - perspective to the Council.

HELP ME CONTINUE TO STAND UP FOR YOU!

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 Follow Ivor Samson @IvorSamsonforLafayetteCityCouncil