

Letters to the editor

... continued from Page A12

Please vote for Carl Anduri for Lafayette City Council

These are challenging times for our City, making the need for councilmembers with experience, skill, and proven leadership essential to implementing initiatives that will truly benefit our community. Carl has made complex land use decisions for us for sixteen years, championed the development of a 100% affordable housing project, led us through a recession, showed the way to improving our deteriorated residential roads, launched the City's response to climate change, drafted the ordinance that made it easier for our houses of worship to assist homeless families and led the City's effort that added ridgeline open space.

I am confident that Carl will continue to inspire and implement what is best for the City, and that he is the right person for Lafayette's future. I served with Carl on the Planning Commission for two years and on then on the City Council for eight, and the qualities I observed first hand -- his collaborative style of leadership, careful listening, analytical abilities, respect for all and competence to get things done -- are what we need now.

For Lafayette's future: Experience, leadership and civility are essential. Please join me in voting for Carl Anduri for Lafayette City Council.
Mike Anderson
Mayor, City of Lafayette

John Jex for MOFD Board for Fiscal Responsibility

I write to enthusiastically endorse and encourage my fellow citizens to re-elect John Jex as a Director of the MOFD Board. MOFD was established 23 years ago with a Board of Directors to be made up of community citizens; the very individuals that finance, through their tax dollars, the MOFD. From personal acquaintance and from observation of John's actions as a Board Member, it is clear that he is a judicious trustee of the community's funds allocated to the MOFD. John spent his entire professional career at the accounting firm of Deloitte, retiring as a Partner. That deep experience has already paid dividends to the community as he was instrumental in uncovering a \$23 million accounting error on the MOFD books.

We have an excellent Fire Chief to ensure our MOFD firefighters are well trained and that fire-wise strategies are being deployed. We already have three former firefighters or fire department employees on the Board. We need a voice expert in speaking to the financial interests of the District that will allow MOFD to complete its mission of fire responsiveness, fire prevention, and responsible management of the firefighters' pensions and other ancillary benefits. John has been and will continue to be a wise trustee of MOFD's resources.
Red Smith
Orinda

Re-Elect Darlene and Inga

Darlene Gee and Inga Miller should be re-elected to the Orinda City Council. They are endorsed by many present and former Orinda officials and volunteers. Their opponent is endorsed by outsiders such as

disgraced SF Asm. Phil Ting.

Darlene and Inga have spent four years participating in council meetings and know the issues. Their opponent has attended very few meetings and offers few details about her plans.

Darlene and Inga have participated in the public, open budget process, which includes several public meetings over many months with detailed documentation. Their opponent falsely claims that the budget process is not open and transparent.

Darlene and Inga have caused staff to aggressively pursue grants. Their opponent falsely claims that they have not.

Darlene and Inga have an excellent plan for wildfire prevention, fuel reduction, and evacuation, and placed Measure R on the ballot to fund those activities. There have been actual and virtual evacuation exercises. Their opponent is supported by people who voted against continuing the free chipper service over the summer. Their opponent also wants greater collaboration between Orinda and MOFD, without apparently knowing that the Council already formed a coordination subcommittee that includes Darlene. Nick Waranoff
Orinda

Vote Yes on Measure R!

Please join me in supporting this essential ballot measure and proving for a safer Orinda. Just eight years ago, Orinda voters approved a modest increase in the sales tax rate to fund repairs to Orinda's deteriorating roads. This critical funding source has helped complete road improvements on time and on budget but is set to expire. • Measure R renews the expiring voter-approved sales tax and increases the rate by ½¢ (50¢ on a \$100 purchase) to provide locally-controlled funding for local needs, including: • Improving wildfire safety by controlling hazardous brush and vegetation throughout Orinda • Protecting neighborhoods, schools, fire stations, roads and bridges from wildfire by maintaining defensible space • Repairing aging and collapsing storm drains to prevent flooding, sinkholes, and maintain safe evacuation routes • Improving disaster preparedness by enhancing emergency communications, early alerts and evacuation planning • Maintaining roads to minimize future costly repair This very modest tax is incredibly valuable in ensuring the safety of our community. Please vote YES on Measure R!
Dean Orr
Orinda

Please vote for Carl Anduri for Lafayette City Council

We are in difficult times and I am afraid this will probably continue. I would feel much better if we elect a councilmember who has demonstrated he can solve problems and provide leadership. Carl's problem solving and proven leadership abilities will be supported by his unmatched knowledge of our community—from the neighborhoods to our downtown. By his work with the City Council, Carl demonstrated his ability to get things done! I feel fortunate that Carl wants to bring this knowledge back to the Council and put it to work for us. Carl will

also add another critical dimension to the Council. Perhaps I am biased because I am an attorney, but I believe Carl's legal skills and judgment were a great benefit in the past and will be again. Experience brings knowledge.

Please vote for Carl Anduri for City Council—a proven leader.
Susan Price Callister
Lafayette

David Stromberg for Town Council

Several years ago, as a Planning Commissioner, I met David Stromberg when he was on Moraga's Design Review Board. He was serious, thoughtful and well prepared on the projects that came before the Board. When appointed to the Moraga Planning Commission, he has continued to work with a deep understanding and commitment to the principles of our Town: open space, citizen input, our ordinances, smarter development, and a serious awareness of how Planning will affect the future of our semi-rural Town. As a new Town Council member I am sure he will continue to demonstrate these qualities, values and skills to better our town. I support David Stromberg for Town Council.
Suzanne D'Arcy
Planning Commissioner, Moraga

Onoda for Moraga Town Council

We urge Moraga voters to return Teresa Onoda to the Town Council.

From her 39 years as a resident and her service on both the Planning Commission and the Town Council, she brings an energetic, informed and disciplined approach to Town governance. With her understanding of the values and priorities of the community, she collects the relevant information, listens to those who come forward to speak and then acts in the best interest of the community. While demonstrating a strong commitment to the protection of ridge lines and open space in land use matters, she supports managed growth consistent with the Town's semi-rural character.

A tireless advocate for the arts, she led the establishment of and has provided leadership to Moraga's Art in Public Places Committee, which has added color and vibrancy to the Town.

In both her public and private life, she is an avid practitioner of inclusiveness, encouraging involvement by all segments of the community. She supports expansion of retail businesses and common-sense steps to implement the Town's Climate Action Plan.

Teresa's experience, knowledge, core values and disposition make her an ideal candidate for the Moraga Town Council. Sam and Susan Sperry
Moraga

A vote for Renata Sos

I am urging Moragans to re-elect Renata Sos to the Town Council. She has a long record of serving our community. As a coach and volunteer, as a Planning Commissioner and as a Council member, Renata's experience is unmatched. She also combines intelligence and patience with passion and commitment. One of those areas of commitment is to defending our General Plan and our open space. The fi-

nancial pressure to "bend the rules" regarding open space preservation is strong. We need Council members with the knowledge and courage to enforce the Town's policies, laws and regulations. Furthermore, due to the epidemic and its economic impact, local governments will be facing unprecedented financial and resource challenges. Renata's legal and business experience will be critical for Moraga to survive these difficult times.

Please join me in voting for Renata Sos for Moraga Town Council.
Bill Vaughn
Former Mayor
Moraga

Re-Elect John Jex and Craig Jorgens for MOFD Board

Four years ago, Craig and John ran on a platform of Fire Prevention, long before prevention was even a topic of discussion and before the Napa, Santa Rosa and Paradise fires.

Craig and John, using intellect and innovation, put prevention into action on the MOFD Board. Craig identified the need for a chipper program to reduce fuel load in our communities and voted for funds to start it. Only John and Craig voted to continue this program over this summer. The chipper program has already removed 190 tons of fuel from Moraga and Orinda in 2020. In 2016, Craig worked with UC Professor John Radke and his grad students, using drone and satellite technology, to identify hot spots via computer burn simulations to guide fuel mitigation and evacuation plans.

In their first year on the board, John and Craig uncovered a \$23M double-accounting error and fought the entrenched system for months to correct it.

I am so impressed with the depth of sophistication Craig and John have demonstrated. They are looking out for the citizens of Moraga and Orinda and need to be re-elected.
Lucy Talbot
Orinda


Gina Dawson for City Council

We are supporting Gina Dawson for a seat on the Lafayette City Council. We have known Gina for about four years and knew of her work on environmental issues including gas safety and fund raising for Lafayette Partners in Education.

We know her best for her work with the Lafayette Hillside Memorial (formerly known as The Crosses of Lafayette) where her organizational skills and sharply focused suggestions in meetings have been a real help in guiding our group. The creation of the LHM website is an example of her enormous contribution. We are sure anyone who has worked with her will echo our opinion of how valuable her input has been for us and so many in our Lafayette community.

Gina Dawson will be a great asset on the City Council...
Lynn MacMichael and Howard Weamer
Lafayette

Re-Elect Craig Jorgens

Businessman  Engineer
Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Fire Safety is a Choice – Prioritize Prevention

- Endorsed by the Orinda FireWise Council representing over 1000 North Orinda homes and growing
- Initiated MOFD Chipper program in 2018 (removed 190 tons of fuel in 2020)
- Promoted sensors/cameras/software enabling early fire detection and evacuation
- HOA president, leading 150 acre open space fire prevention effort
- Uncovered \$23M double counting assets on financial books and fought to correct it
- BS in Engineering/Economics, MBA
- **Endorsed by CA Senator Steve Glazer and 250 other Orinda residents**

Craig has been instrumental in developing Orinda's fire prevention efforts to reduce our risk of a catastrophic firestorm. Craig fully understands that wildfires can only be controlled through prevention and not just suppression.

– John Radke, Cal Berkeley Professor, founder Center for Catastrophic Risk Management

I believe becoming FireWise is unifying our community as neighbors work together to prevent devastating fires.

– Craig



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