

Will Lamorinda be broken up? Redistricting process underway

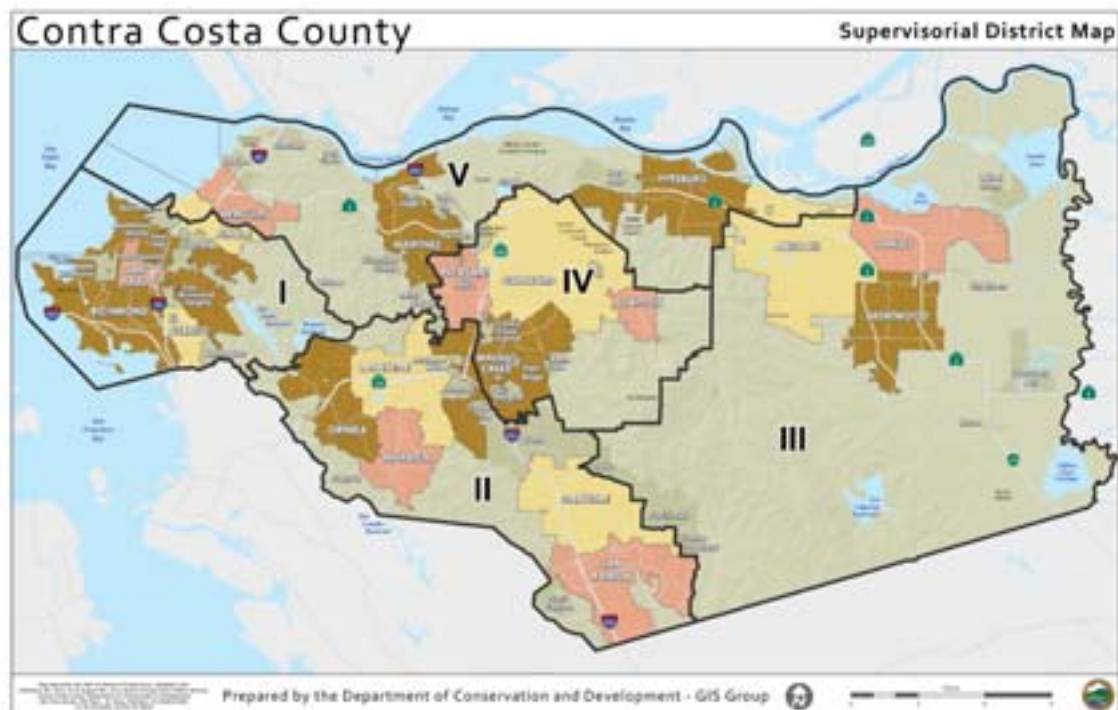


Image provided

By Sora O'Doherty

Once a decade, county districts for elective offices are redrawn in accordance with U.S. census data. In order to hear local concerns, the

county is seeking input about what are known as "communities of interest." State law defines a "Community of Interest" as "a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be

included within a single supervisory district for purposes of its effective and fair representation. The county has promised to keep communities of interest, which do not include "relationships with

political parties, incumbents, or candidates," together in a district.

On Sept. 20, the state of California released California redistricting data. This data differs from the U.S. census data in that it accounts for the population in state prison facilities according to their home addresses.

Contra Costa County is composed of five districts. Lamorinda currently falls into District 2, which currently contains the largest population in the district, at 243,779. The lowest population in the county is in District 1, with a population of 225,298. District 1 borders District 2 to the north-west boundary of Orinda, and includes unincorporated areas as well as El Cerrito, Richmond, San Pablo and Pinole. According to the county, based on the California Redistricting Data, equal population distribution is 233,613 per district. The current Supervisory districts have a deviation of 7.9%.

A series of Online Map-

ping Workshops will be held to assist residents in drawing and submitting Communities of Interest to be considered in the county's Supervisory Redistricting Process. The workshops will be hosted by DistrictR, the online mapping tool the county is making available to provide an easy way to draw and submit maps and comments.

An online mapping workshop will be held on Oct. 14, at 2 p.m. There is also a mapping workshop in Spanish on Oct. 13. The County's second redistricting public hearing will be held at the Board of Supervisor's meeting at 9 a.m. Oct. 5, and will be available via Zoom, online, and on Contra Costa Television channels. A District 2 forum is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23, at 9 a.m. at San Ramon City Hall.

There are a lot of ways to submit comments to the board of supervisors concerning redistricting and communities of interest, all of which can be found at www.CoCoRedistricting.org.

How local residents are preparing for power shutoffs



Photo provided

Chris Wright and daughters Holland and Madeline using solar power from their converted camper to keep their computers and iPads charged so they could work and continue distance learning last year.

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A Senior Climate Adaptation Specialist with a national consulting company, Rebecca Verity spends her days helping clients prepare for natural disasters. She does the same for her friends and family.

She has installed home batteries to supplement the existing solar panels on her Orinda home. She invites neighbors to share her outdoor charging stations or chest freezer if needed. "It's the right thing to do as a neighbor, and hopefully reduces the number of gas-

powered home generators during wildfire season," Verity states.

Taking it a step further, Verity, who lives "on one of those weird little cul de sacs" with only one possible exit, worked with the neighbor who backs onto her property from a second cul de sac. "We broke through a portion of our fence so both families now have a second emergency exit," she reports.

Additionally, Verity notes, "even with backup power at our house, we know we all may lose wifi and cell service in a PSPS." So her family

keeps cars, phones, laptops and tablets charged, has a communication-independent wildfire evacuation contingency plan and communicates regularly with neighbors regarding emergency plans.

"Our family installed whole-house batteries ... and will have ample power to share. So ... for those with important frozen items like breast milk or charging needs ... we will have freezer space and a charging station 24x7 during the shutdowns." This was a social media post written by Lafayette's Rod Strum.

Commenting on this generous offer, Strum says, "We have three young kids so we know how stressful it can be to lose power and possibly something as important as breast milk..."

Like Verity, Strum added both solar panels and home batteries to keep his house running in the event of a PSPS. He reports that his two Tesla Powerwall batteries will operate just about everything in his home, "meaning all lights, appliances and air conditioning. If I thought it was going to be an extended power outage," he says, "we'd be more judicious with the AC. Everything else draws the battery down relatively slowly."

Moraga's Hilleary and Chris Wright may have one of the more creative ways to prepare for a possible PSPS: they purchased a shuttle bus decked out like a camper. The vehicle already had an old solar panel on its roof and the Wrights added another panel,

giving them 300 watts of solar power.

The shuttle bus was actually purchased right before COVID. "We're a very outdoorsy family," Hilleary Wright reports, and had been looking for a camper-type vehicle big enough to accommodate their family of five. Between stay at home orders and searching for clean air, the Wrights have put about 8,000 miles on the vehicle since they bought it last year. They have plugged their older garage refrigerator into the van's lithium battery and with solar, the Wrights say, it can keep food cold for up to two days. During the shutoffs last year, the Wrights moved into their van to work and continue distance learning.

The van will serve as their go-bag if needed. "We have canned food and basic clothing stored in the van, we can sleep in it and can take off if evacuation is necessary," she says.

A Lamorinda resident referred to Trent Watkins as the "generator guru," noting that he freely offers advice on purchasing and installing generators. "He's exceptionally generous with both his

time and advice," she wrote.

"I spent a lot of time researching both solar and generators," the Moraga stay-at-home dad notes, "and I am happy to share the knowledge I've gained."

Initially learning about solar, Watkins, working with a small solar panel supplier, had a custom solar kit designed for his roof. Studying what he and his family needed to keep powered up in the event of a PSPS, they determined a 3,500-watt inverter generator would keep their full-sized refrigerators, small wine refrigerators, fans, air purifiers, house lights and TV running for up to 10 hours on 2.9 gallons of gas.

"My generator is very quiet and the size of an ice chest on wheels, so it's easy to put away." In fact, Watkins reports, 10 of his neighbors purchased the same generator.

Having evacuated his elderly grandmother from Santa Rosa four times in four years, Watkins speaks from experience when he advises that we need to seriously think about all the things we need to do to prepare for possible emergencies.

Fire District Public Meetings

Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors
Wednesday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m.
For meeting times and agendas, visit www.mofd.org



ConFire

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1 p.m.



For meeting times and agendas, visit www.cccfpd.org

Public Safety

Emergency response:

Emergency: 24 Hours 911

Police Dispatch: 24 Hours

925-284-5010

Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777

or go to www.nixle.com

Lafayette Police Department:

3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd. 925-283-3680

Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt

925-299-3221

Police Department Tip Line

94549Tip@gmail.com

Police Department Traffic Issues

94549Traffic@gmail.com

Moraga Police Department:

329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055

Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049

Orinda Police Department:

22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820

Chief of Police, David M. Cook

925-254-6820

Orindatip@cityoforinda.org

Lafayette Police

Department

Incident

Summary

Report

Sept. 5 - Sept. 18

Alarms	48
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	8
Traffic	101
Suspicious Circumstances	7
Suspicious Subject	23
Suspicious Vehicle	25
Service to Citizen	42
Patrol Req./Security Check	58
Pubic/School Assembly Check	14
Supplemental Report	30
Vacation House Check	6
Welfare Check	11
Ordinance Violation	2



Vehicle violations

Auto Burglary

1000 Block Miller Dr.

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

1100 Block Orchard Rd.

Hit And Run Felony

El Nido Ranch Rd./Upper Happy

Valley Rd.

Hit And Run Misdemeanor

Brook St./Moraga Rd.

Deer Hill Rd./Sierra Vista Way

Reckless Driving

Pleasant Hill Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Deer Hill Rd/Oak Hill Rd.

Pleasant Hill Cir./Acalanes Ave.

St Marys Rd./Glenside Dr. (2)

Mt. Diablo Blvd./Village Center

Mt. Diablo Blvd./Brown Ave.

Mt. Diablo Blvd./1st St.

Mt. Diablo Blvd./Hampton Rd.

Tc - Property Damage

Mt. Diablo Blvd./Oak Hill Rd.

1800 Block Reliez Valley Rd.

Vehicle Theft

3000 Block Old Tunnel Rd.

Other criminal activity

Commercial Burglary

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Fraud Credit Card

1000 Block Orchard Rd.

Fraud False Pretenses

900 Block Buchan Dr.

Grand Theft

800 Block Mountain View Dr.

Golden Gate Way/Mt. Diablo Blvd.

3300 Block Beechwood Dr.

Police Department

Grand Theft Veh Parts

1000 Block Miller Dr.

1200 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.

Identity Theft

600 Block Doreen Way (3)

Petty Theft

3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (20)

900 Block Acalanes Rd.

Petty Theft From Veh

1100 Block Palomares Ct.

Shoplift

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (6)

Nuisance to the Community

Disturbance-domestic

3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Loud Noise

800 Block Solana Dr.

Loud Party

3100 Block Somerset Dr.

600 Block St Marys Rd.

3200 Block Camino Colorados

Valley Rd.

Public Nuisance

1000 Block Viela Ct.

Vandalism

3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

10 Block Ethan Ct.

Moraga Blvd./3Rd St.

Other

Animal Cruelty

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Defraud Innkeeper

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Fire/Ems Response Info

3500 Block Wildwood Ln.

3500 Block Old Mountain View Dr.

3400 Block Golden Gate Way

H&S Violation

900 Block Moraga Rd.

In Custody Theft

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

K9 Outside Assist Request

900 Block Mitchell Way, Eso

Loitering

30 Block Lafayette Cir.

Neighbor Dispute

10 Block Dollis Park Rd.

Tc - Fire And Amb Enroute

3400 Block School St.

Victoria Ave./Moraga Blvd.

Threats

600 Block Doreen Way

3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Trespass

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Violation Restraining Ord

900 Block Hough Ave.

Moraga Police

Department

Incident

Summary

Report

Sept. 7 - Sept. 19



Alarms	1
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	14
Traffic	35
Suspicious Circumstances	6
Suspicious Subject	5
Suspicious Vehicle	1
Service to Citizen	46
Patrol Req./Security Check	14
Supplemental Report	2
Vacation House Check	0
Welfare Check	3
Public/School Assembly Check	2
Ordinance Violation	0
Vehicle violations	
Accident Injury	
Campolindo Dr./Moraga Rd.	
3700 Block Campolindo Dr.	
Accident Property	
2000 Block Ascot Dr.	
Auto Burglary	
1900 Block Ascot Dr.	
Excessive Speed	
Thune/Larch Ave.	
Larch Ave./Wandel Dr.	
Campolindo High School	
Camino Pablo/Rimer Dr.	
Moraga Rd./Moraga Way	
Reckless Driving	
Moraga Way/Moraga Rd.	
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.	
90 Block Shuey Dr.	
Canyon Rd./Larch Ave.	
Rheem Blvd./Center St.	
St Marys Rd./Rheem Blvd.	
Tc Property Damage	
Rheem Blvd./Zander Dr.	
Other criminal activity	
Grand Theft	
Not Available	
Petty Theft	
Not Available	
Joaquin Moraga Int. School	
Petty Theft From Veh	
Not Available	
Shoplift	
Safeway	
Warrant Arrest	
Moraga Rd./Ascot Dr.	
Nuisance to the Community	
Loud Music	
Country Club Dr./Canyon Rd.	

Ascot Dr./Moraga Rd.	
700 Block Moraga Rd.	
Canyon Club Brewery	
Canyon Rd./Country Club Dr.	
200 Block Rheem Blvd.	
Loud Noise	
2100 Block Donald Dr.	
Loud Party	
1400 Block Camino Peral	
2100 Block Donald Dr.	
2000 Block Donald Dr.	
Hacienda (2)	
2000 Block Ascot Dr.	
Public Nuisance	
Wandel Dr./Larch Ave.	
Vandalism	
300 Block Rheem Blvd.	
Other	
Fire/Ems Response Info	
100 Block Goodfellow Dr.	
Fireworks	
100 Block Ascot Ct.	
Windeler Ct./Larch Ave.	
H&S/Pos Paraphenalia	
OSH	
Indecent Exposure	
1400 Block Moraga Rd.	
Mentally Ill Commit	
St Marys College	
Other Felony	
Safeway	
Tamper With Aircraft	
Lucia Ln./Natalie Dr.	
Unwanted Guest	
Not Available	
20 Block Hour Fitness	



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report will be back next time