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Public Invited to Air Downtown Parking Concerns at Orinda Meeting

By Victor Ryerson

Orinda residents, members of the city's business community, and others are invited to attend a meeting from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday Jan. 27 to discuss their concerns about downtown area parking issues. The public outreach meeting, which will be held in the Orinda Library Auditorium at 26 Orinda Way, is part of the kickoff for the six-month Downtown and Affected Neighborhoods Parking Study being conducted on behalf of the city by TJKM Transportation Consultants. The format of the meeting will include a presentation of the scope of the study, followed by an opportunity for members of the public to share their ideas and concerns about parking in the downtown area and adjacent neighborhoods, a growing topic of discussion with the city. "Comments from the public will be reviewed and considered when the final downtown parking improvement study is prepared," according to the city's announcement.

The study will cover a lot of ground. Topics that were identified late last year by the Orinda City Council include:

The existing parking supply, demand, and current utilization.

Current parking policies and alternatives to maximize utilization of existing spaces.

Parking enforcement strategies.

Intrusion of BART commuters into local business and residential neighborhoods.

Enhanced customer satisfaction.

Public-private partnership opportunities.

Permit parking for various users.

ADA compliance of on-street parking spaces.

Downtown residents, business owners, employees, customers, neighborhood residents, and other stakeholders are encouraged to attend the meeting and discuss these concerns.

Further information is available from Tonya Gilmore at (925) 253-4291 or tgilmore@cityoforinda. org.

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