

Lafayette

Public Meetings

City Council

Monday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Planning Commission

Monday, Oct. 17, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Design Review

Monday, Oct. 11, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Arts & Science Discovery Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

School Board Meetings Acalanes Union High School District Wednesday, Oct. 5, 7:30 p.m.

AUHSD Board Room 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafavette www.acalanes.k12.ca.us **Lafayette School District**

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7 p.m. Regular Board Meeting District Office Board Room 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



Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Sept. 11 - Sept. 17

Alarms 33 911 Calls (incl hang-ups) Noise complaints Traffic stops 107 **Suspicious Circumstances Suspicious Subjects** 14 Suspicious Vehicles **Abandoned Vehicle**

Acalanes Rd./Mt. Diablo Blvd. Moon Ct./Crescent Dr.

Disturbance-domestic

Dewing Ave./Mt. Diablo Blvd. **Disturbing The Peace**

Pleasant Hill Rd./Springhill Rd.

Drunk In Public

3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. Forgery

900 Block Dewing Ave. Found Property

School St./Moraga Rd. La Caminita/Reliez Valley Rd. 2nd St./Mt. Diablo Blvd. 1100 Block Crestmont Dr. Police Department

H&s Violation

3600 Block Bickerstaff St.

Hailed By Citizen Mt. Diablo/Lafayette Cir.

Harassment

3600 Block Bickerstaff St. 3600 Block Walnut St. Hit And Run Misdemeanor

50 Block Lafayette Cir. 3600 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 900 Block Moraga Rd.

1000 Block 2nd St. **Identity Theft**

3700 Block Happy Valley Rd. 900 Block Dewing Ave. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Police Department

In Custody Theft

3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. Juvenile Disturbance

1000 Block Carol Ln 200 Block Lafayette Cir. 1200 Blook Pleasant Hill Rd.

Litter

3200 Block Stanley Blvd.

Lost Property

3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Downtown **Motorist Assist**

1000 Block Pleasant Hill Rd.

Ordinance Violation

3200 Block Withers Ave. **Panhandling**

3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Patrol Request

1100 Block Orchard Rd.

Petty Theft

1200 Block Quandt Rd. Burton Ct./Burton Dr. Downtown

557 Merriewood Drive, Lafayette

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Dana Green

DanaGreenTeam.com | 925.339.1918

Measure C Supporters Want Money to Stay in Lafayette

By Pippa Fisher

the November election is not just the terrain of Hillary and Donald. Feelings are running high right here crease the city sales tax, and with in Lafayette, specifically regarding it the ability to keep those tax revtax Measure C.

It is a 1 percent sales tax for a period of 29 years, expected to provide \$3 million annually and, and according to supporters, will fund general city services, prioritize the protection of open space, reduce downtown traffic congestion, enhance public safety, add downtown parking, acquire land for downtown parks and revitalize the historic Park Theater, with the money monitored by a citizens' oversight committee.

Lafayette's current sales tax is at 8.5 percent. The additional one percent would bring Lafayette in line with Moraga and Orinda, whose sales taxes are 9.5 percent and 9 percent respectively.

The measure is the result of two years of community surveys, both online and by mail, as well as "Community Conversations" initiated by city council member and former mayor, Brandt Andersson. In those meetings, close to 1,000 people identified areas of spending priority within the city.

In the fall of 2015 a Sales Tax Revenue Study subcommittee was set up to review the current budget sources and uses, to coordinate a public conversation regarding citizens' willingness to pay a sales tax increment and to advise the council. A sample of 436 likely voters suggested that 64 percent would support a sales tax increase if the funds were guaranteed to stay in Lafayette.

"The 'Citizens Vision' that grew out of the Community Conversations is surprising in some respects, but it both addresses concerns and identifies improvements," Andersson says. "Measure C can make that Citizens' Vision happen."

Although the current financial health of the city is excellent, the priorities identified through polling cannot be achieved as it stands, Andersson says. Vice mayor Mike Anderson agrees, pointing out that, "If the state's 10 percent cap on sales

Public Nuisance

1500 Block Sunset Lp 3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Reckless Driving

Moraga Rd./School St. 3600 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. Silverado Dr./Rohrer Dr.

Residential Burglary 900 Block Janet Ln.

Shoplift

3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Subject Stop

Mt. Diablo Blvd./1st St. **Threats**

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3300 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Trespass W/ Vehicle

3400 Block Hamlin Rd.

Unwanted Guest

3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Blook Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Warrant Advise 1300 Block El Curtola Blvd.

Welfare Check Golden Gate Way/1st St.

Upper Happy Valley Rd./Rancho Rd. 1st St./Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

measures that are on the ballot, the city will lose the opportunity to inenues in Lafayette.'

Notably, local businesses represented by the Chamber of Commerce are backing this measure, after years of opposing a local sales tax increase. Jay Lifson, executive director of the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, says, "Our board voted to support for a few important reasons: There is an opportunity to raise the sales tax now or lose the chance if other agencies bring the sales tax over the cap. Our residents clearly support it and we want the voters to have a chance to vote on an increase."

Measure C requires a majority vote for passage. It is considered a general tax so the language of the measure can't specify or restrict the use of funds generated to specific

And that is troubling for some. At a recent candidates and issues meeting hosted by the Lafavette Homeowners Council, Scott Sommer, a local resident and attorney,

It seems all the controversy for tax is filled up by regional or state money with intent to build new city offices, something vehemently denied by former Lafayette mayor Anne Grodin who spoke in favor of the tax. She said that there is already a separate budget for a new city hall building.

> Save Lafayette which is strongly against Measure C, accused the government of having an alternative agenda and asked why this was not a measure requiring 66 percent approval to pass. "Fifty percent is a carte blanche for the city," he said.

> Sommer pointed out that if money were borrowed against the projected sales tax revenue, for example to buy open space as it becomes available from private owners, then the money would not stay in Lafayette, as interest would be paid to out-of-town lenders.

> He also cites several memos which he forwarded to the Lamorinda Weekly that indicated that the city was considering borrowing money against the (sales tax measure) to fund a "Civic Building."

"City memos dated Feb. 8 and July 11, 2016, state that the city said that the city is hiding informa- is actively studying a 'Scenario lice services, and help revitalize the tion from the voters. He accused 2 — Completely bonded; 30 year Park Theater," he said. the city government of raising the bond against 100 of the annual rev-

enue stream' to borrow \$58 Million in principal, and using 'Bond Proceeds from Sales Tax Measure \$13,000,000' to acquire a site for a Civic Building," he said. "A major borrowing for buying or building a city hall is not disclosed in the sales Michael Griffith, founder of tax measure," Sommer said.

> He also cites an email exchange of July 13 and 14, also provided to the Lamorinda Weekly, between a site owner and Lafayette officials that ends with the statement, "better for us to wait to see if the sales tax measure passes on the November 2016 ballot."

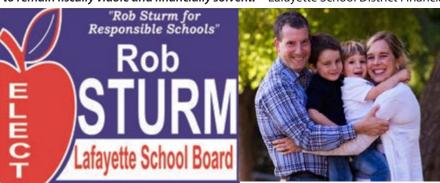
> "Clearly, acquisition of this civic building site is under consideration," Sommer says. "Legally, nothing stops this or a future city council from using the money for a 'borrowing' and a city hall."

> Andersson called Sommer's comments "scare tactics."

> "The Lafayette City Council has a long history of thoughtful, frugal decision-making, and has indicated, unanimously, that it will reserve Measure C funds to preserve open space, address traffic congestion, add downtown parking, support po-

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"The [current sizable structural deficit spending] projections highlight that deficit spending will erode reserves significantly by 2018-19. Absent increase in revenues, the District needs to reduce expenditures to remain fiscally viable and financially solvent." -Lafayette School District Financial Report, June 2016



"If elected, I will work tirelessly to eliminate nonproductive spending before we entertain new parcel taxes. That is the responsible approach."

Rob Sturm

- I am committed to: **Excellent Lafayette schools and teachers**
- Programs that fully engage all children academically
- Student character and well-being
- Skilled support for special education Fiscal Responsibility.

I have nearly 25-years of experience as a successful labor/employment attorney, corporate leader and negotiator and a long unblemished record of 8-figure balanced budget oversight and leadership.

Broadly Endorsed:

- Only candidate endorsed by every current and incoming Lafayette City Council Member
- Both incumbent (non-returning) Lafayette School Board Members: Jean Follmer (President); Nancy Wallace (Clerk)
- A great many other elected and appointed community leaders and engaged community members

For more information please visit www.robsturm.com or contact Rob at c robert sturm@hotmail.com. 415.913.8995



Patricia & Ashley Battersby

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Stylish home, totally rebuilt in 2008

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2809 Sq Ft* .3 Acre* 4 Bedrooms 3 Baths

Great Glorietta neighborhood, end of cul de sac location

Spectacular views of Orinda hills & Mt. Diablo, level lawn & play areas Great room open concept, plus formal living room and separate family room space

- Beautifully designed and crafted, high quality appointments and fine detailing
- Expansive windows and Andersen glass doors create light filled environment
 - Superb floor plan with spacious living areas that flow together Convenient area of Orinda with easy commute access and 12 years of top rated schools nearby
 - *per Public Records