



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, July 24, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission

Wednesday, July 11, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

School Board Meetings

Orinda Union School District
TBA
Regular Board Meeting
8 Altarinda Rd., Orinda
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org
Phone (925) 253-4200

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report June 17 to June 30

Alarms	59
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	5
Traffic	114
Suspicious Circumstances	5
Suspicious Subjects	15
Suspicious Vehicles	16
Patrol Request/ Security Check	24
Service to Citizen	58
Supplemental Report	10
Vacation House Check	52
Welfare Check	6
Abandoned Vehicle	
80 Block Via Floreado	
Eb Sr 24 Jwo St Stephens Dr.	
Accident Injury	
Hall Dr./Moraga Way	
Accident Property	
10 Block Lavenida Dr.	
Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.	
40 Block El Toyonal	
Post Office	
Wilder Rd./Orinda Fields Ln.	
Camino Pablo/Miner Rd.	
Animal Cruelty	
Cvs	
Auto Burglary	
70 Block Brookwood Rd.	
Barking Dog	
20 Block Hacienda Cr.	
30 Block Barbara Rd.	
Burglary	
Rite Aid	
Civil	
10 Block Beaconsfield Ct.	
Civil Problem	
10 Block Richard Ct.	
Civil Standby	
70 Block Valley View Dr.	
Counterfeit	
Safeway	
Disturbance-Domestic	
Camino Pablo/Bear Creek Rd.	
Failure To Obey	
Moraga Way/Camino Encinas	
Forgery	
200 Block La Espiral	
Fraud Credit Card	
10 Block Camino Encinas	
Fraud False Pretenses	
10 Block Crest View Terrace	
H&S Violation	
Orinda Community Center	
Hailed By Citizen	
20 Block Orinda Way	
Harassment	
Orinda Country Club	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
10 Block Lavina Ct.	



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CIOC unanimously approves motion to form private road task force

By Sora O'Doherty



Photo Tod Fierner

The Orinda Citizen's Infrastructure Oversight Commission held a special meeting June 27 to consider whether or not there should be a task force to address the issue of private roads and, if so, what the composition of such a task force should be. The meeting was attended by Public Works Director Larry Theis and Paving Program Project Manager Farah Khorashadi. Theis opened the meeting by stating that, although the city council requested that the CIOC consider the formation of a task force, the CIOC didn't have to recommend that one be formed.

Theis expressed his concerns about the burden on the city of dealing with the maintenance of private roads. Staff feels that it is important that there be a "do nothing" alternative," he said. The costs for the task force could be very high, he pointed out, adding that the city attorney is very expensive. To properly evaluate a road's condition is also very expensive, he explained. The costs for repairs of any private roads could be very high, Theis added, and "liability is a huge concern." The possibility of sink-holes or trip and fall claims need to be weighed heavily, he concluded.

His suggestion, however, did not gain traction with the commissioners.

Theis also suggested that the CIOC consider a pilot program to limit the scope of the task force. Through roads would provide the most public benefit, he said. A bond would be very difficult from a voter perspective and Theis reiterated that "staff believes there is a huge concern here." In addition, he suggested that the task force, if formed, be fewer than nine members, perhaps three, five, or seven members. He thought it might be difficult to find a sufficient number of people to serve.

In the public forum portion of the meeting, the CIOC heard from a number of Orinda residents. Melissa Roeder said that the city has done a fantastic job on the public roads. "Private roads is a new idea," she said, and submitted a letter of support for forming the task force with nearly 400 signatures. Theis' suggestion of not forming the task force was in bad faith, Roeder said, and, in her opinion, it would not be hard to find nine members willing to serve.

Steven Cohn spoke in an impassioned manner to the commis-

sion. "The city council didn't ask you to consider if a task force should be formed," he argued, but asked how a task force should be formed and what it should do. He spoke of alternative ways to finance private road maintenance, including bond measures, real estate transfer taxes, or additional sales taxes. "It's nuts to say it is too expensive to even look at the private streets," he said, adding that many of the private streets, such as Wilder, Orinda Woods, and Orinda Downs are in good shape and don't need much more than maintenance.

Several points were agreed upon by the commissioners during their discussion. While a larger task force was desirable, allowing members with specific expertise, they agreed it might be a problem recruiting nine members. Seven members would be an acceptable alternative, if nine could not be obtained. The suggestion that the task force complete its work in nine months was questioned, and it was decided that nine months should be the goal for completing the mission of the task force, but it could be extended if necessary.

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10th anniversary of Opera in the Park

By Sora O'Doherty



The Orinda Rotary Club will present its 10th annual Opera in the Park in conjunction with Solo Opera. The free performance, which will feature professional opera singers performing favorite arias, duets, and ensembles, that organizers say will thrill even non-opera lovers, usually attracts at least 1,000 people. The concert will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, July 22 at Orinda Community Park.

"We have assembled a truly spectacular lineup of talent," says Sylvia Amorino, Solo Opera's artistic director/producer and master of ceremonies for the concert. According to Amorino, the program includes eight singers who have performed at prestigious venues, including San Francisco Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Opera San

Jose, West Bay Opera, Lamplighters, and Carnegie Hall.

Solo Opera was founded in 2000, and has producing 15 operas and many concerts at the Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek and other Bay Area venues. Their productions have receiving rave reviews and awards from the press and community including the recent 2016 Arts Recognition Award from AC-5 Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County. Solo Opera has been performing the Orinda Opera in the Park for several years now, and, according to Rotary event chairman Ken Jew, Solo has made the concert even better than it was originally.

The performers include: sopranos Liisa Dávila and Diane Squires, mezzo-sopranos Deborah Rosengaus and Leandra Ramm, tenors Michael Orlinsky and Stephen Cannon, baritones Ben Brady and Bradley Kynard and pianist Chun Mei Wilson. The singers will perform well-known selections from operas such as "Turandot," "Don Pasquale," "Carmen," "Don Giovanni," "Barber of Se-

ville," "Marriage of Figaro," "La Bohème," "Die Fledermaus," and much more.

According to the organizers, enjoying live opera has become so expensive that it's almost impossible for the average family to attend. Opera in the Park is a way to introduce children to opera, or even friends who might never attend live opera. There will be running commentary on the works by the master of ceremonies, so everyone will be able to understand the operatic plots. The music has been selected to represent pieces considered very likeable, and the master of ceremony's short explanations of what is happening in each piece or section is designed to make the performance even more enjoyable.

The Rotary Club and Solo Opera invite people to bring their entire families including children, a blanket and/or chairs, and a picnic. Free parking is available. For more information on Solo Opera or the concert, please visit www.SoloOpera.org or email solomail@pacbell.net.

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