

# Council Backs Measure B

By Cathy Tyson

It was unanimous, City Council members were all in favor of approving a proclamation in support of Measure B – the Lafayette School District Parcel Tax Measure. Council Member Don Tatzin, who is the liaison to the school district, described the state funding situation as “grim.” Calling the district an “efficient organization,” Tatzin explained that only twelve administrators serve 3200 students – and that the district has already cut \$2 million from the budget.

“I strongly support Measure B,” said Mayor Carl Anduri. “Everyone has an obligation – this is an investment in the future.”

The Lafayette School District is seeking an emergency, temporary \$176 parcel tax on the May 3 ballot, for a term of four years. Seniors 65 and over will be exempted. Without the funds generated by the tax, the district will

be forced to make further significant reductions in staffing. Even with the generous support of Lafayette Partners in Education, PTAs and Parent Clubs, and already having cut \$2 million from the budget, the District will be forced to cut basic educational services.

Noting that he can’t do much about impacted university programs, something he’s familiar with as a parent, Council Member Brandt Anderson supports this effort.

Council Member Carol Federighi, who volunteered at local schools when her kids were younger, commented that Measure B “helps all of us.”

A number of parents and their children, not usually in attendance at City Council meetings, echoed the sentiments of the Council.

For more information, go to [www.yesonmeasureb.net](http://www.yesonmeasureb.net).

# Recycling More Costs Less

By Cathy Tyson



Photo Cathy Tyson

Because she was concerned about the cost of an additional recycling cart, Traci Reilly started digging. While rates for trash pick-up differ across Lamorinda – the cost of having additional recycling and yard waste bins is standard. It seemed unusual and counterproductive to Reilly that adding a second recycling bin for bottles, cans and newspaper cost roughly twice as much as getting an additional yard waste bin - \$10.09 compared to \$5.67.

After looking into it Bart Carr, Senior Program Manager with Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority, changed the fee for an extra cart from \$10.09 per month to \$5.67. The change is slated to start during the April to June billing cycle.

“I’m thrilled. Waste Management and Allied Waste have agreed to lower the price for ad-

ditional recycling carts and our City Council members who sit on the Board have signed off on it. I was impressed with the speed at which this all occurred,” said Reilly. “Hopefully this will encourage more recycling without being financially penalized.”

Trash fees are based upon the size of resident’s blue garbage carts – the smaller the cart, the smaller the bill. However residents in some municipalities pay more than others. The waste fee for a 64 gallon cart in Orinda is \$60.78 while in Moraga it’s \$47.20, and \$49.95 in Lafayette. In nearby Walnut Creek it only costs \$35.59 for the same service. Factors that go into rate calculations include labor, fuel equipment and more. Regular massive garbage trucks just can’t fit on Orinda’s narrow, windy roads – so a smaller more nimble truck is used – necessitating more trips to the landfill.

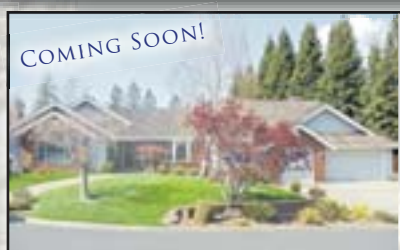


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