www.lamorindaweekly.com **\$** 925-377-0977 Wednesday, September 23, 2015



**Public Meetings** 

**City Council** 

Monday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

**Planning Commission** 

Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m. Lafayette Library & Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

#### **Design Review**

Monday, Sept. 28, 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. 7, 7:30 p.m. AUHSD Board Room 1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Lafayette www.acalanes.k12.ca.us

#### Lafayette School District Wednesday, Oct. 14, 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

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## **Checking Appetite for Increased Sales Tax**

By Cathy Tyson

in order to get more parking, City Council members Traci Reilly and Mark Mitchell shared some concerns about forming an independent committee to explore the topic and make a recommendation.

In response to the recent "Community Conversations," council members reviewed the results of citizens' priorities, along with their willingness to pay for those items.

In addition, goals from other sources - the Downtown Specific Plan, and a wish list from the East End Public Works Group - were considered. Bottom line: it's all about the money. Is potential funding available

re residents ready to pay more to turn those requests into reality?

Although a letter arrived supportmore open space and improve and ing a sales tax measure from the maintain the downtown? Lafayette members of the Chamber of Commerce just before the Sept. 14 meettax measure considering the city's currently healthy budget. She said she would wait until the next meeting to see what a subcommittee comes up with through its investigation, and to see if the idea should go forward.

Some time ago, mayor Brandt Andersson and council member Mike Anderson were asked to clarify longterm visions and priorities for the city, from the Community Conversations, the Downtown Specific Plan and the East End Working Group. The DSP called for pursuing high priority goals, such as adding more parking,

spaces, moving city offices to the central district, adding public art, and more.

ing, Reilly was hesitant to support a Group, after more than a year of meetings, had a list of items that need significant capital upgrades and better maintenance.

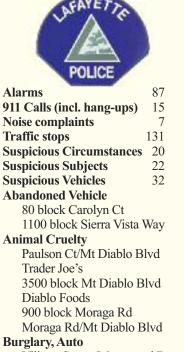
The Community Conversations' top priorities included open space, police services, more parking, revitalizing the Park Theater, and better bike and pedestrian access. Only police services are fully funded in the city budget; the other projects are either not funded at all or are inadequately funded.

City council members narrowed down priorities to three items this summer: provide more parking, pro-

new downtown parks and public tect and acquire Lafayette's remaining open space, and improve and maintain downtown Lafayette.

"Given the loss of the Redevelop-The East End Public Works ment Agency, there is no plan or resources for funding these ambitious programs. Absent new revenue, it is unlikely these goals will be achieved," noted the report by Andersson and Anderson.

> Council members at the Sept. 14 meeting voted to continue the matter until the next meeting on Sept. 28. At that time they may consider a revised mission for the investigative committee as more of a fact finding group, recognizing that if there is not community support, perhaps the recommendation would be to not go forward.



Lafayette Police **Department Incident** Summary Report Aug. 30 to Sept. 12 Intoxicated Round Up Loitering 30 block Silverwood Dr **Neighbor Dispute** 3500 block Brook St 700 block Solana Dr **Ordinance Violation** S Thompson/Mt Diablo Blvd Los Arabis/Upper Happy Valley Rd **Diablo Foods** Panhandling Post Office Police/Fire/EMS Response 500 block McBride Dr St Mary's Rd/Santa Maria Wy 3000 block Rohrer Dr 3500 Brook St

# **Plan Flowing for Downtown Creeks**

By Cathy Tyson



Village Center/Mosswood Dr 1800 block Reliez Valley Rd 3300 block Hermosa Way 1000 block Upper Happy Valley Rd Brook St/Hough Ave **Burglary, Commercial** 400 block St Mary's Rd **Civil Problem** 3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd 3300 block Betty Ln 20 block Camino 200 block Lafayette Cir 700 block Los Palos Dr (2) 600 block Doreen Way **Defrauding Innkeeper** Oakwood Athletic Club Mt Diablo Blvd/2nd **Disturbing the Peace** Pleasant Hill Rd/Reliez Valley **Drunk in Public** 3300 block Mt Diablo Blvd 3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd DUI Lafayette Cir/Mt Diablo Blvd Pleasant Hill/Stanley Blvd **Fare Evasion** 3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd Forgery 1100 block Sierra Vista Way Fraud 3600 block Chestnut St 3500 block Via Los Colorados 3300 Springhill Rd 600 block St Mary's Rd Harassment 30 block Old Millstone Ln 3500 block Mt Diablo Ave Hit & Run Round Up 3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd Trader Joe's (3) 3600 block Walnut St Moraga Blvd/Foye Dr Stanley Blvd/Pleasant Hill Rd Oak Hill Rd/Mt Diablo Blvd

#### **ID** Theft

reported to P.D. 3500 via Los Colorados 1000 block 2nd St (2) 600 block St Mary's Rd 1100 block Rahara Dr

900 block Dewing Ave

Possession Round Up **Public Nuisance** Peet's 3500 block Mt Diablo Blvd 3100 block Indian Way 60 block Knox Dr **Promiscuous Shooting** Stanley Middle School **Reckless Driving** 

3300 block Deer Hill Rd

Glenside Dr/St Mary's Rd (2) Silver Springs/Moraga Rd Reliez Valley/Pleasant Hill Rd 3700 block Happy Valley Rd Moraga Rd/School St Via Roble/Dolores Dr Hidden Valley Rd/Diablo Cr Pleasant Hill/Hwy 24

#### Shoplifting

Safeway (4) 3600 block Mt Diablo Blvd **Stolen Vehicle Recovery** Springhill Elementary at Police Department Mars Ct/Windsor Dr

#### Theft, Petty

30 block Hartwood Ct 500 block Merriewood Dr 900 block Hough Ave Safeway (2) 3300 Deer Hill Rd 800 block Avalon Ave 1000 block 2nd Ave 3400 block Mt Diablo Blvd 600 block Lancaster Dr 3200 block Beechwood Dr

#### Theft, Vehicle

700 block Solana Dr 1300 Summit Rd 1200 block El Curtola Acalanes High School 1300 block Sunset Lp 3200 block Camino Colorados

#### Threats

El Nido Ranch/Acalanes Rds (2) 10 block Ethan Ct **Unwanted Guest** Library

**Verbal Dispute** 3000 block Rohrer Dr Warrant Service

1500 block Rancho View Dr

Creek Dav volunteers

lthough creeks run through the City of Lafayette and are a sensitive habitat and natural asset to the area, the city does not own them with one exception: only Lafavette Creek near the reservoir is on cityowned land. The city is concerned about stewardship and the impact of future development on these babbling brooks.

"Without a Downtown Creeks Plan in place, opportunities for preservation and restoration of downtown creeks might well be lost," said mayor Brandt Andersson.

The Creeks Plan when complete

will be part of the Downtown Specific Plan, which was adopted in 2012. The DSP was prepared to preserve the downtown character through design, and preserve the downtown's natural features, notably creeks and trees, so they contribute to the community's quality of life.

Funding was recently authorized to generate a plan that would provide a framework to ensure the preservation and restoration of these waterways, and serve the city along with homeowners and landowners for years to come.

With the city budget looking

more robust, city leaders acknowledged it was a high-priority project. They approved \$150,000 to pay for a consultant in partnership with volunteer efforts to generate a preservation, restoration and development plan that will clarify a number of creek concerns: setback requirements, preserving existing trees and riparian corridors, and developing criteria for adjacent development. In addition, the plan also seeks to develop public access and prevent property damage via flooding or erosion, and identify environmental concerns.

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