

Citizen Group Legal Challenge to Deer Hill Project Found Invalid

By Cathy Tyson

The legal challenge orchestrated by Save Lafayette – a group of Lafayette citizens who petitioned to repeal Ordinance 641, affecting the Homes at Deer Hill project near Acalanes High School – was found to be legally invalid by the Lafayette city attorney.

The grassroots group sought to slow down growth in the city, asserting that the city's roads, schools and public transportation capacities are already strained and that the town's semi-rural character is suffering from

excessive development.

Although a sufficient number of signatures were collected – over 1,800 registered voters signed the petition, which met the statutory requirement – it wasn't enough to change the overriding legal situation. Proponents were seeking to put the legality of multi-faceted Ordinance 641, which amends Lafayette's zoning ordinance to be consistent with the city's General Plan, on the ballot for the voters to decide on the issue.

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Celebrating Don Tatzin's 30 Years on the City Council

By Cathy Tyson



State Senator Steve Glazer presents Don Tatzin a proclamation honoring his years of service. Photo courtesy Teresa Gerringier

Local luminaries and statewide government representatives came together to honor Don Tatzin for his unprecedented three decades of volunteer service on the Lafayette City Council. Everyone in the packed Community Hall was affected in some way by Tatzin's indefatigable efforts. Each speaker expressed heartfelt gratitude for the many key roles that he has played, all at the princely pay rate of zero dollars; the best return on investment the city ever made.

It was a special night, and a first for the city – never has someone served for so long. Kicking off the

festivities, Bob Athayde, music director at Stanley Middle School, performed on a grand piano prior to dashing out for another performance at Stanley. The night's honoree plays the euphonium, or baritone horn, multiple times per week with one of the school's bands.

Tatzin has quite a fan club, receiving proclamations from District II Supervisor Candace Andersen, Contra Costa LAFCO (the Local Agency Formation Commission), and U.S. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier, and of course the outgoing mayor, Brandt Anderson.

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THAT LEAVE YOU WONDERING HOW YOU GOT SO

WE HOPE YOU CAN **PLAY** IN THE SUN OR

SOMEWHERE YOU THINK IS REALLY **FUN**

AND READ AN EXCEPTIONAL BOOK

OR TWO OR THREE. MAY YOU **DISCOVER** SOMETHING YOU NEVER KNEW

ABOUT YOURSELF AND WE HOPE

MORE PEOPLE **SMILE** FOR NO GOOD REASON

GIVE YOU A **SMILE** OTHER THAN THAT

YOU ARE A HUMAN BEING (AND THAT, MY FRIEND, IS WORTH A LOT)

MAY YOU **SURPRISE** YOURSELF BY YOUR OWN

CREATIVITY

AND AT LEAST ONE TIME LET SOMEONE'S

LOVE TRULY SINK IN

LUCKY

MAY 2016 BE YOUR YEAR!

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