



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Planning Commission

Tuesday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m.
Library Auditorium, Orinda Library
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Citizens' Infrastructure

Oversight Commission

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 6:30 p.m.
Sarge Littlehale Community Room,
22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

School Board Meetings

Orinda Union School District

Monday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m.
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 Dec. 3 to Dec. 16

Alarms	66
Noise Complaints	2
911 Calls (includes hang-ups)	4
Traffic Stops	106
Suspicious Circumstances	12
Suspicious Subjects	11
Suspicious Vehicles	18
Patrol Request	19
Service To Citizen	57
Supplemental Report	20
Abandoned Vehicle	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd.	
Accident Injury	
Rheem Blvd./Zander Dr.	
Accident Property	
10 Block Rheem Blvd.	
10 Block Wanda Ln.	
Brookwood Rd./Camino Pablo	
Glorietta Blvd./Rheem Blvd.	
Miramonte High School	
Moraga Way/Glorietta Blvd.	
Police Department	

Battery	
40 Block Las Cascadas Rd.	
70 Block Orinda Way	
Beat Info	
600 Block Miner Rd.	
Wb Sr 24 At Camino Pablo	
Civil	
100 Block Camino Don Miguel	
100 Block Camino Pablo	
Civil Problem	
10 Block Dolores Way	
Disturbing The Peace	
Holden High School	
Drunk In Public	
Casa Orinda Restaurant	
Dui Misd	
80 Block Moraga Way	
Found Property	
Police Department	
H&S Violation	
20 Block Wilder Rd.	
H&S/Tr Sale Drugs	
Chevron Ori	
Investigate	
Duncan Ct./Donald Dr.	
Minor Rd.	
Rite Aid	
Wb 24/ Orinda Exit	
Wb Sr 24 At Oak Hill Rd.	
Wilder Development	
Litter	
200 Block Camino Pablo	
Loitering	
St. Stephens Dr./Tahos Rd.	
Medical Hospital	
30 Block Charles Hill Cr.	
Ordinance Violation	
20 Block Ramona Dr.	
40 Block Camino Del Diablo	
Safeway	
Other Infraction	
Miramonte High School	
Other Non Criminal	
600 Block Miner Rd.	
Orindawoods Dr./Kite Hill Rd.	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear Creek Rd.	
Panhandling	
Safeway	

Experienced Mayor Amy Worth takes the helm in Orinda for 4th time

By Sora O'Doherty



Incoming Mayor Amy Worth
Photo Sora O'Doherty

Amy Worth, elected to the Orinda City Council for five consecutive terms since 1998, took the reins as mayor for the fourth time on Dec. 5. Formerly known as "The Fourth Bore Mayor," as she presided over the opening of the new bore of the Caldecott Tunnel, Worth has also presided over discussions of downtown development, and looks forward to continuing that work, particularly in the face of the challenge presented by Senate Bill 35, which goes into effect Jan. 1. A bill designed to encourage cities to approve more affordable housing will, in theory, cause cities to lose some control

over their planning process.

Looking back on her year as the "sinkhole" vice mayor, Worth said she was proud of how Orinda staff responded to community demands for information and did a really good job at communicating. In her upcoming term, staff will continue to work on the issues around the flooding caused by the storms and sinkhole, and navigating federal reimbursement of the \$3.5 million that Orinda had to advance for the sinkhole repairs. Worth noted that while the detours required to avoid the sinkhole had caused additional stress on other roads in the area, the repaving of some of those roads was brought forward from the original schedule.

The mayor's priorities for this term include settling library funding for the future, making progress on Orinda's roads and drains, and continuing to keep Orinda financially prudent. Worth is proud of Orinda's record as a small city with limited funds of stewarding a balanced budget. She would also like to see greater emergency communication capabilities in the future.

Like most Orindans, Worth is excited by the concept of restoration of San Pablo Creek, and says that the city is working with property owners to see how that might be accomplished.

The mayor acknowledges that the issue of housing development is a difficult one, with many factors favoring differing concepts. However, she noted that some older residents find that their homes are now too big, and would like smaller homes closer to downtown. That, she suggested, would also allow their children with growing families to move back to Orinda, into those bigger family homes. Similarly, Worth sees that those who grew up in Orinda would like to be able to live in the community, but many find housing too expensive. She favors consensus, but acknowledges that the discussions are really complex. Also, she said, cities don't build housing; developers build housing. There is a real housing crisis in California, she said, and Orinda wants to have housing for those who work in the city, such as nurses, even doctors, teachers, and so on.

She doesn't see the possibility

of a new city of "Lamorinda." As three separate entities, she says, Orinda, Lafayette and Moraga enjoy the best of both worlds: they cooperate closely on matters such as fire and transportation, but maintain three distinct voices, which gives them the stronger voice with three votes rather than one on regional issues.

Worth, who graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in history and obtained a master's degree in counseling from Cal State Hayward, has a keen interest in the historical development of Orinda. Worth's history of volunteering in Orinda began with the library, and she is an ardent supporter of that institution. Orinda has one of the oldest community libraries in Contra Costa County; it is jointly funded by the county and the city.

Worth grew up in Portland, Oregon, where her grandfather Edward Miller was the Managing Editor of The Oregonian newspaper. She met her husband Tom Worth at Cal and they settled in Oakland after marriage until moving to Orinda, where they raised their three daughters.

New Vice Mayor enthusiastic about Orinda downtown development

By Sora O'Doherty



Incoming Vice Mayor Inga Miller
Photo Sora O'Doherty

Like the "yang" to Mayor Amy Worth's "yin" new Vice Mayor Inga Miller has only been on the Orinda City Council for one year. She ran on a platform of downtown development, and she is feeling re-

ally good about the city's progress on first steps. She is very happy with the Thursday night food truck event that has been extremely popular with city residents.

She is also excited about the possible restoration of San Pablo Creek. She went to San Luis Obispo to look at their creek walk and talk to city staff. What used to be a dumping ground and had an "auto row" along the waterway has been transformed, although it took 30 years to accomplish. She also took the creek walk in Denver. Orinda is having serious dialog with the Friends of Orinda Creeks, and talks with owners of property adjoining the creek about things that could benefit both the property owners and the public. Next steps include obtaining hydraulic stud-

ies and finding the funds necessary to accomplish the restoration. The concerned parties are actively meeting. It is the beginning of a partnership, Miller says, and it involves the Streetscape Master Planning with which the city is going forward.

Miller feels that the negative views of downtown development are based on fear, but she believes that change can be done in a way that will make things better. She wants to keep the views of the hills, but bring more opportunity to do the things that residents want to do. The downtown subcommittee is very special, she says, and people feel that they can bring their views and really be heard. Miller sits on the subcommittee along with former mayor

Eve Phillips.

Miller believes that incorporation makes zoning easier. Before incorporation, Orinda had no city hall, the community center did not have the same level of activities, the roads were falling into disrepair, there weren't building restrictions and the community had no local control. Incorporation made zoning easier, and Miller praised the city's "extremely adept" planning department.

However, Senate Bill 35 is a real challenge, she says. She also says that the author, Scott Weiner, wants to go back and make changes. As it stands, Miller believes that the law actually is counterproductive to its primary purpose, which is to encourage more housing. ... continued on page A12

Special Storage SALE

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