



See public meetings schedule on this pages and check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements  
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**Initial discussion on General Plan update**

**By Pippa Fisher**

Lafayette moved another small step closer to the update of its General Plan at the city council meeting Feb. 24. City staff was seeking council feedback and recommendations on the formation of a General Plan Advisory Committee; specifically, who should be included, how to recruit, the goals of the GPAC

and a meeting schedule.

Last updated in Lafayette in 2002, a general plan is the city's guiding document for land use matters required by state law. This will be the third time in the city's history that a comprehensive update will have been done. Staff hopes to have it completed within four years. It is a long-range document that will last thru 2040.

According to staff, the reasons for doing the update now include compliance with the city council's strategic goal No. 2, established in 2019 with the intention to explore community values, and compliance with changing state laws and regional plans.

Discussion focused on who should be appointed to a GPAC, with Mayor Mike Anderson suggesting somehow

incorporating a lottery-based system similar to the method used in selecting a panel for the city manager hiring last year, along with representatives of several different groups from around the city who would act as a referral body to the Planning Commission.

Planning and Building Director Greg Wolff said staff was eager to get going and

suggested PC liaisons Anderson and Council Member Steven Bliss form a subcommittee, with the PC chair and vice chair to conduct interviews and appointments.

Anderson said it was premature to set a meeting schedule at this point. "We will do that as we see how things work," he said.

**Rick and Janet Cronk, Lafayette Citizens of the Year**



Photo Pippa Fisher

**Janet and Rick Cronk, this year's Citizens of the Year.**

**By Pippa Fisher**

Whether the names of this year's husband/wife-team Citizens of the Year are famil-

iar or not, it's fair to say almost everyone living in Lafayette or the wider East Bay, has benefited from the philanthropy of Rick and

Janet Cronk. And while their financial generosity has contributed substantially to a state-of-the-art library and first-rate schools in Lafayette, a world-class hospital in Walnut Creek and a top-notch university in Berkeley, to name but a few from which many local residents benefit, the bigger picture of these two remarkable people is their ability to inspire and lead.

That ability to lead and inspire is particularly evident in Rick's lifelong involvement with scouting, locally, nationally and internationally. As a boy he achieved Life Scout. As an adult he volunteered as a leader in Moraga Troop 212 for his own three sons and even after they achieved Eagle and moved on. He serves on the Boy Scouts of America National Executive board and served a term as president (2006-08). In 2011, he finished his chairmanship of the

World Scout Committee, the executive body responsible for 50 million Scouts in 190 countries. He is also past chairman of the World Scout Foundation (2005-07) and continues serving on the WSF Board.

Rick and Janet sit on many boards. Rick has been a member of the Haas Business School Advisory Board, serving two terms as chairman and has just resigned as a member of the John Muir Health Board of Directors after his 10-year term.

Both Rick and Janet have been longtime supporters of Lafayette Partners in Education, the Lafayette Library and Learning Center and St. Perpetua Church. Rick has been involved with youth ministries through the church, and for many years, despite a hectic travel schedule for work, managed to coach soccer, including teams after his own children had

moved on. He has been a big supporter of water sports, especially at Cal, and is largely responsible for the building of Legends Aquatic Center.

Janet has been involved in Lafayette schools since moving here in 1983. She is a committed supporter of education. She is very involved with Cal, John Muir Health and Diablo Regional Arts Association. She has held many leadership roles over the years with the Happy Valley Garden Club, including president.

The list goes on, but it is through talking to others that one gets a sense of the unwavering support these people offer the community, their ability to inspire others to be better, and in particular their passion for educating and empowering young people.

Lafayette Resident Jill Douglas has worked as Janet's personal assistant for 15 years.... continued on Page A9

<p><b>Lafayette Public Meetings</b></p>	<p><b>City Council</b>                  Monday, March 23, 7 p.m.                  Lafayette Library &amp; Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Planning Commission Meeting</b>                  Monday, March 16, 7 p.m.                  Lafayette Library &amp; Learning Center, Community Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p>	<p><b>Design Review</b>                  Monday, March 9, 7 p.m.                  Lafayette Library &amp; Learning Center, Arts &amp; Science Discovery Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.</p>	<p><b>School Board Meetings</b>  <b>Acalanes Union High School District</b>                  Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m.                  AUHSD Board Room                  1212 Pleasant Hill Road, Laf.                  www.acalanes.k12.ca.us</p>	<p><b>Lafayette School District</b>                  Wednesday, March 11, 7 p.m.                  Regular Board Meeting                  Stanley M.S. Library                  3477 School St., Lafayette                  www.lafsd.k12.ca.us</p>
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