

## THE CITY'S GOALS & OBJECTIVES: PLANNING FOR LAFAYETTE'S FUTURE

At the beginning of the year, the Mayor set out a series of ambitious goals and objectives for the City of Lafayette. The Council adopted the Mayor's vision unanimously. A roadmap for the City's future is coming into focus as the Council and City staff hold subcommittee meetings and engage a wide range of stakeholders. Action plans and reports are forth coming. The buzz of activity around the City Offices this spring is evidence that the City of Lafayette – not just in 2019, but for years to come – is being shaped now by the new Strategic Goals and Objectives.

The Mayor noted that it is imperative that the City Council foster an inclusive and transparent environment – one that prioritizes respect, kindness, and openness to everyone's views. The foundation of this vision rests on taking action that will unify the City, stimulate respectful and civil collaboration, and strengthen our community. The goal is to overcome divisiveness and focus on the values and character that make Lafayette the special place we love.

*What can you do?* Get involved! Council subcommittees are meeting and each has two City Council liaison members. Come to meetings, make your voice heard and help implement these goals and objectives for the City's future. To keep on top of the fast-moving work being done by the subcommittees, sign-up for Lafayette's daily and weekly publications, and our e-notifications to receive meeting notices via e-mail at [www.lovelafayette/connect](http://www.lovelafayette/connect). To be notified specifically about the Goals & Objectives meetings make sure to click the box for "Council Subcommittees" when you sign up for e-notification.

### GOALS

1. Develop a strategy to maintain local control on land use and development matters.
2. Develop and define the City's core values and corresponding key elements that represent Lafayette's character.
3. Develop a comprehensive Lafayette community transparency & inclusion strategy.

### OBJECTIVES

1. Develop a strategy to augment community emergency preparedness, specifically in the area of wildfire planning.
2. Develop a strategy to broaden senior community inclusion.
3. Develop a strategy to create and institutionalize holistic City-Schools collaboration.
4. Develop a strategy to expand City support of local businesses and commerce and to increase the vibrancy of downtown Lafayette.
5. Develop a strategy to address traffic congestion and improve mobility in Lafayette.

### Goals & Objectives Highlight: Seniors Creating an Age-Friendly Community



One focus of the City's Goals and Objectives is seniors. Back in February, the Parks, Recreation and Trails Commission held a Senior Services Age-Friendly Community Kickoff. Attendees were introduced to the AARP Eight Domains of Livability: Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation, Respect & Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication and Information, Community and Health Services. Attendees helped identify Lafayette's current needs and the packed house learned about the City's work to develop an Age-Friendly Action Plan. Additional meetings, which will each focus on a specific domain, are ongoing and you can learn more about the Age-Friendly initiative and Senior Services by visiting <http://bit.ly/LoveLafayetteSeniors>.

# LAFAYETTE'S HOUSING OBLIGATION

Maintaining local control over land use in Lafayette – one of the City Council's chief goals – has increasingly become a major challenge. And, we are not alone. With more than 200 bills concerning housing and development currently working their way through Sacramento, it is hard to know how far the State will go to mandate that cities approve new housing. One thing is certain however, it seems that regional and state-wide housing policies are driving the process, often at the expense of what many of our residents tell us they want or what our local long-range plans envision.

Bay Area Census data for 2010, the latest data available, indicates that the City of Lafayette has 9,651 housing units. California cities and counties are required to demonstrate via a "Housing Element," as it is known, how they will meet their Regional Housing Need Allocation (RHNA). Lafayette's RHNA number is 400 units, which is further broken down with regard to affordability: 138 Very Low income units, 78 Low income units, 85 Moderate income

units, and 99 Above Moderate income units. One way the City has attempted to meet this goal is through the adoption of an inclusionary housing ordinance that requires 15% of new dwelling units in Lafayette's Downtown to be below-market-rate units made available to income-qualified households.

be applied by the State should a city not comply.

But how much housing is actually being built in Lafayette? Since 2015, the City has issued 154 permits, and there are 177 housing units in the Downtown preparing to pull building permits in the next few months. Fifty-five units in

the Downtown are currently under review, and this year we anticipate receiving applications for Downtown projects that include over 200 housing units. Adjacent to the BART station is a recent example of how the City is addressing regional housing concerns. The Town Center III project, completed in 2018, includes 62 market-rate and seven below-market-rate condominiums. Lafayette is committed to meeting our housing obligation and



providing a variety of housing for all segments of our population.

Lafayette's General Plan and the Downtown Specific Plan are both available for anyone see at our City Offices. Best of all, you can also find all the City's planning documents online at [www.lovelafayette.org/planning](http://www.lovelafayette.org/planning).

## CASA and the Legislative Process

In March, the Lafayette City Council, the Moraga Town Council, and the Orinda City Council met in joint session to hear a Metropolitan Transportation Commission update on a compact prepared by the Committee to House the Bay Area, or CASA. Released in December, the CASA Compact is a 10-point plan and series of recommendations designed to address the Bay Area's housing shortage. With many of these recommendations now part of bills introduced in the Legislature, there is growing concern in Contra Costa County about eroding local control and imposing additional mandates on cities.

The focus is now on the legislative process. The City of Lafayette is joining the effort to provide feedback and respond to new housing bills coming before the State Legislature this year. Of note is the Tri-Valley Cities Housing and Policy Framework which is made up of five key themes designed to address these new bills:

- **Balanced Solutions** – considering housing, jobs, and transportation equally.
- **Promoting, Preserving, and Protecting Affordability** – securing long-term affordable housing production, and protecting local housing stocks.
- **Context-Sensitive Housing** – developing locally appropriate solutions that fit our neighborhoods, avoiding a "one-size fits all" approach.
- **Infrastructure and Services** – ensuring housing mandates are accompanied by adequate funding for critical supporting infrastructure.
- **Funding and Resources** – preserving local revenues and avoiding unfunded mandates.

You can join Lafayette in this effort. Subscribe to City Council agendas to track letters of support and opposition on pending legislation; and contact your State representatives to lobby for local control.

# KEEPING LAFAYETTE SAFE: OUR POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL REPORT



It really makes one proud to know that our Police Department is among the finest anywhere. With the publication of the Department's Annual Report in March, the facts and figures for 2018 demonstrate that the hard work of our officers and department staff, led by Chief Ben Alldritt, has paid off: Lafayette may be one of the safest cities in all of California. Let's take a look at the Chief's report.

The big news is that Lafayette experienced a 12% reduction of all reported crimes compared to 2017. And of those, only 5% were crimes against people. The vast majority of the 306 crimes reported in 2018 were property crimes. In

2018, Lafayette experienced eight residential burglaries, the lowest number of burglaries in over twenty years! Moreover, Lafayette detectives were able to make arrests in seven of the eight cases – recovering property from several the crimes.

The report goes into detail as well on the School Safety Program, Emergency Preparedness, Traffic Enforcement, Code Enforcement, and other important issues. There are also crime prevention tips and contact information that you and your family won't want to miss. You can read or download the full annual report here: <http://bit.ly/LPD-Annual2018>.



## EVACUATION DRILL: SPRINGHILL RESIDENTS GET PREPARED

One of the City's objectives – emergency preparedness and wildfire planning – was put into practice on a rainy Saturday morning in March. And it was awesome. The assignment: Get as many people out of their homes and down Springhill Road as quickly as possible. With 250 homes in the Springhill neighborhood, 106 Springhill residents opted-in for the crack-of-dawn exercise, making the simulation pretty accurate. Lessons learned: Utilizing contra-flow traffic control is a great way to evacuate people quickly. Contra-flow means that both lanes were configured to go in a single-direction. Another lesson was the importance of Contra Costa County's emergency alert system, CWS, and getting as many people signed up as possible.

Registering for alerts with CWS is vitally important to overall disaster planning. In cases of real emergencies requiring evacuations, the Lafayette Police Department and the Contra Costa Fire Protection District will use CWS as the primary method of communication with the community. The system logged 200 new registrations from Lafayette in just one month leading up to the Springhill drill. Let's keep that trend going! Be safe: Everyone in Lafayette should sign up for CWS alerts to make sure your family is prepared when a disaster strikes. Do it right now: <http://bit.ly/CoCoCoCWS>.

Thanks go out to everyone, some pictured below, who participated in the exercise and who made the drill a resounding success, including the Lamorinda Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), the Lafayette Emergency Preparedness Commission, Contra Costa Sheriff's Office, OES & Search and Rescue Reserve Deputies, Contra Costa County Fire, Moraga-Orinda Fire, Springhill residents, the Springhill HOA and its Board of Directors – and, of course, the Lafayette Police Department and City staff. See photos of the evacuation drill here: <http://bit.ly/SpringhillEvac2019>, and Lafayette Police Department drone video here: <http://bit.ly/SpringhillEvacDroneVideo>.





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### VOX POPULI - Street Interviews:

With the recent Springhill evacuation drill fresh in our minds, we thought we'd hit the streets and ask residents if they are prepared for an emergency and what important items are in their go-bags. Here's what they told us.



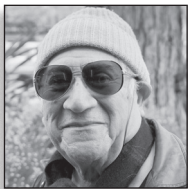
**Heather Cousins & daughter Stella:** We have important documents and papers in a steel filing cabinet in our garage right next to the exit. If we needed to leave quickly, we know where we can get all our passports, birth certificates, bank papers, things like that. We have important phone numbers and contact information stored in a Google Drive, as well as all of our photos in the cloud.



**Clarissa Mongcupa:** Ever since high school, I have been taught how to do CPR and AED (defibrillator) and so I know in case of any emergencies I can always be the first one to help. I have different bags: one for earthquakes, one for fire safety in my car, and then I also have a car safety one, like if I need to change tires. I also have my own AED in my car.



**Jane Frazier:** Nothing. Well, I do have a go-bag, a Tupperware box, for earthquakes. But right now it's not real easy to get to. I have a fire extinguisher, but we do not have an evacuation plan. I was just thinking about pets, so I do need to do that, because I always worry about what happens to everybody's pets. I'm going to go home and update my box. I haven't looked at it for a long time!



**Raul Torres:** We have first-aid kits and water. We keep our cars full of gas. We have a nice neighborhood where the people speak to each other and notify each other when there are any possible dangers in our immediate area. We have numbers for our doctors. I have personal items such as passports and birth certificates in our go-bag and some general foods that would be edible.



**Jessica Bacon:** I have water and an emergency kit in the house. My husband and I talk about how we need to talk to our children about what happens if we are not all together, finding a meeting place. There was a fire in Lafayette last year – a brush fire – and my house was the cut off out in Reliez Valley. That really was a wake up for me that I might not actually be home. This is very serious and it scares the hell out of me.



**Bob Lueck:** We have fire extinguishers in the house, by the kitchen, by the furnace, and in the laundry room, and garage. We've got an earthquake preparedness canister in the garage loaded up with supplies – dried foods, two large storage bottles for water, about 10 gallons each. We installed a gas shut off valve on our meter. We have a big first-aid kit and emergency supplies. Go bag? We don't. We probably should. If we have to flee... yeah.

### CITY DIRECTORY

For Council Members call: 925-284-1968

#### Council Members

Mike Anderson	<b>Council Member</b>
Steven Bliss	<b>Council Member</b>
Cameron Burks	<b>Council Member</b>
Susan Candell	<b>Council Member</b>
Teresa Gerringer	<b>Council Member</b>

Email all Council Members at:  
[cityhall@lovelafayette.org](mailto:cityhall@lovelafayette.org)

#### Administration

<b>General Reception and Niroop Srivatsa, Interim City Manager</b>	<b>925-284-1968</b> Fax: 925-284-3169
Tracy Robinson, Admin. Srv. Dir.	925-299-3227
Jennifer Wakeman, Financial Srv. Mgr.	925-299-3213
Joanne Robbins, City Clerk	925-299-3210
Mike Moran, City Engineer	925-299-3203
Greg Wolff, Acting Planning & Building Dir.	925-299-3206
Donna Feehan, Public Works Mgr.	925-299-3214
Jeff Heyman, Communications	925-299-3241

*If you observe illegal dumping in creeks & storm drains or accidental spills on roads, call Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Division 925-646-2286.*

#### Lamorinda School Bus Program

Juliet Hansen, Program Mgr. 925-299-3216

#### Parks, Trails, Recreation 925-284-2232

Jonathan Katayanagi, Director

#### Senior Services 925-284-5050

#### Police Services

Emergency: 24 Hours	911
Police Dispatch: 24 Hours	925-284-5010
Police Business Office:	925-283-3680

*Anonymous tipline, traffic enforcement, suggestions & LEARN (Laf. Emergency Action Response Network), 925-299-3230*

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**Website [www.lovelafayette.org](http://www.lovelafayette.org)**

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