

LAFAYETTE IS FOCUSED ON ITS FUTURE

As Benjamin Franklin famously said, “If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail.” It’s just as true today as it was 200 years ago. Whether it’s your business or your personal life, understanding your priorities and long-term goals keeps you focused on where you want to be. This philosophy is also true for organizations such as the City of Lafayette. In this issue of *Vistas*, we’ll share information about the City Council’s priorities for the year, the recently adopted mission/vision statement for the City, and the new Vision Zero approach to improve transportation safety for everyone in our town.

In June, the City Council adopted the annual proposed budget and workplan, which was shaped by their top priorities:

1. Enhance wildfire prevention/preparedness and utility safety
2. Improve pedestrian and traffic safety and multimodal mobility
3. Create a Downtown and Mt. Diablo Corridor Specific Plan
4. Develop a fiscal sustainability plan for the short and long-term



Each of these priorities can only be achieved in partnership with you, the community. So, we encourage you to stay informed by subscribing to the Weekly Roundup — an email full of City updates, news, and community events — that is sent out on Friday afternoons. Subscribe at www.lovelafayette.org/e-notification. At the same time, you can also sign up to receive City Council agendas and other important notices.

LAFAYETTE ART, WINE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL IS BACK SEPTEMBER 17 & 18

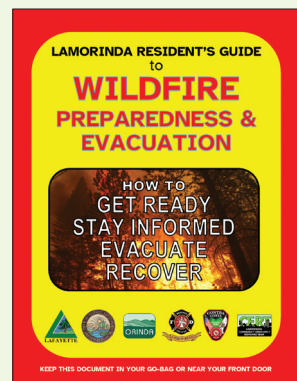
After a hiatus during the peak of the pandemic, the Chamber of Commerce is busy planning for the 25th Lafayette Art, Wine and Music Festival. Stroll among booths filled with art and handmade crafts, enjoy foods from local restaurants and food vendors, savor quality wines and microbrews, listen to music on four stages, and visit the KidZone with games, rides activities, and more. For the most up to date information, visit www.lafayettefestival.com.



Enjoy a wide selection of California varietals and craft beers, plus approximately 300 booths with art and handmade crafts throughout the Festival.

Did you receive the updated 2022 Lamorinda Residents Guide to Wildfire Preparedness & Evacuation booklet?

The booklet is a valuable resource to help you get ready, stay informed, evacuate, and recover from a wildfire. The more prepared we each are, the better our community will be able to respond if we suffer a large wildfire in our area. You can download a PDF copy from www.lovelafayette.org/ready.



FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

As part of the annual budget process, Staff prepares a 5-year forecast of the City's expenses and revenues. Although the City of Lafayette faced the challenges of the pandemic very well and revenues are improving faster than originally expected, the 5-year budget model shows ongoing, structural deficits each year going forward. In Fiscal Year 2025-26, the City's reserve is projected to dip below the established threshold of 60% of General Fund expenditures.

This reserve balance is important because it ensures that a significant buffer exists to fund unforeseen events, such as a natural disaster — or even a pandemic!

The 5-year model demonstrates that there may be significant financial challenges in the upcoming years that could potentially lead to service cuts if not addressed.

To tackle this issue, the City Council established a Fiscal Sustainability Subcommittee. Over the next several months, the Subcommittee will seek input from community members about their satisfaction with the City's management of public funds, priorities for City services, and how the City can sustainably and responsibly fund necessary projects and programs both now and in the future.

You can read the budget on the City's website to find out how each of the Council's priorities is funded at www.lovelafayette.org/budget.

A NEW MISSION/VISION STATEMENT

Back in December 2020 the City Council directed the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) to update the City's Mission Statement to better align with the current values of the Lafayette community. This effort was part of GPAC's work updating the City's General Plan document, which hasn't been revised in over 20 years. A GPAC subcommittee solicited community input on the key values to incorporate into the City's Mission Statement, and after working for more than a year on developing a consensus, created a positive, optimistic vision for our future.

On February 28 of this year, the City Council approved the new vision/mission statement for Lafayette:

Lafayette's vision is to be a welcoming, inclusive, safe, family-friendly city for residents and visitors alike, with excellent schools and a commitment to lifelong learning that respects and preserves its magnificent natural setting. We pursue this vision by engaging residents, community groups and business and property owners to work together with our city government to make Lafayette a highly desirable small-town community with a semi-rural ambiance that is guided by these principles:

- Value everyone
- Support environmental sustainability
- Build and maintain effective infrastructure
- Improve safety for all modes of travel
- Protect and enhance our parklands, trails, hillsides, ridgelines, open spaces, and creeks
- Support a vibrant downtown
- Maintain a fiscally responsible and transparent city government that encourages volunteer involvement on committees and commissions



LAFAYETTE COMMITS TO ZERO TRANSPORTATION-RELATED INJURIES AND FATALITIES

Unlike burgers, fries and shakes which go together perfectly — walking, biking, and driving do not always mix quite so well. In a modern, suburban environment, all these transportation modes are still necessary, so how do we make it safe and efficient for everyone? One way Lafayette has chosen to tackle this issue is through the adoption of a Vision Zero policy, which the Council did in November of last year.

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries, while improving safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. The Vision Zero approach views transportation-related fatalities as preventable, not inevitable, relies on multi-disciplinary collaboration and is data-informed and equity-centered. While safe mobility is not a new concept, a commitment to Vision Zero shifts the priority of transportation policies and projects from speed to safety, with the philosophy that crashes can be avoided if streets are designed to protect all people.



As part of the City's efforts to improve safety near schools for all users, particularly students walking and biking, City Staff along with consultants, Toole Design Group, recently wrapped up a six-month engagement process with the community and school district staff. This work resulted in Rapid Implementation School Safety Plans with recommendations for short-term, mid-term, and long-term safety projects around Burton Valley, Happy Valley, Lafayette and Springhill elementary schools, Stanley Middle School, Acalanes High School and the Meher-White Pony Schools (which are on land owned by the Lafayette School District).

This Spring, the City Council reviewed each of the Plans and signaled their commitment to Vision Zero by accepting the recommendations of the Transportation and Circulation Commission for most of the short-term projects and several of the mid-term projects and authorized a total of \$1,300,000 towards these efforts. In fact, you may notice some safety



projects identified in these studies that are under construction around Stanley Middle School, with additional work that will be taking place at Acalanes High School, and Springhill and Happy Valley Elementary Schools throughout the remainder of the summer and into the fall. The City will seek grant funding where possible for the remaining unfunded, long-term recommendations in the Plans.

While Vision Zero is an ambitious goal, it is achievable, but it will require dedication and resources and the support of the community. One of the

next steps includes developing a citywide Local Roadway Safety Plan (LRSP); an Action Plan that will assess the city's traffic safety situation, build a common understanding of challenges and opportunities, and identify roadway improvements. The LRSP will also include plans for education and identified enforcement, as well as strategies to implement emerging technologies to address the specific collision patterns that are happening. Development of the LRSP will be influenced by a volunteer multi-disciplinary task force with the specific mission to provide subject matter expertise.

For more information about Vision Zero, contact Patrick Golier, the City's new Transportation and Circulation Program Manager at pgolier@lovelafayette.org.





City of Lafayette
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Lafayette, CA 94549

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SHOP LOCAL LAFAYETTE eCARD PROGRAM

Support local brick-and-mortar businesses that are still recovering from the economic impacts of the pandemic through the City's **Shop Local Lafayette eCard program**. Launched in March 2022 using \$150,000 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, the program encourages spending in Lafayette through a "buy one, get one" promotional offer. When you purchase a \$10 card, the City will match your purchase and you will receive a bonus \$10 card, giving you \$20 to shop, dine or receive services at participating businesses. Keep the bonus eCard, or gift it to someone you love!

You can still buy a Shop Local Lafayette eCard and receive double the value to spend at participating businesses in Lafayette! Limit two bonus cards per purchaser.

If you have already purchased a Shop Local Lafayette eCard, remember to spend your Bonus eCard first, as it must be used within 90 days of purchase (unlike the eCard, which has a one year expiration date, after which, the eCard's value will begin to decrease by \$3 each month.)

For full details, including the list of participating businesses and how to purchase Shop Local Lafayette eCards, visit www.lovelafayette.com/eCard.



ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Election Day is November 8, 2022. Your vote matters! This November, voters will select three Lafayette City Councilmembers.

Voters must register by October 24. However, if you miss the deadline, you can still "conditionally" register and vote a provisional ballot, including on Election Day. You need to re-register if you have changed your name, address or political party since the last election. For more information about voting, visit these websites:

Contra Costa County Elections: www.cocovote.us

California Secretary of State: www.sos.ca.gov/elections

Dates to remember:

- September 29 (approximate): Voter Information Guide Mailed
- November 1: Last day to **request** a Vote by Mail Ballot
- November 8: Election Day – last day to return or mail your ballot

CITY DIRECTORY

For Council Members call: 925-284-1968

Messages to all Council Members:

cityhall@lovelafayette.org

Council Members

Teresa Gerringner	Mayor
Carl Anduri	Vice Mayor
Susan Candell	Councilmember
Gina Dawson	Councilmember
Wei-Tai Kwok	Councilmember

City Departments

Main Offices 3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #210
City Manager – Niroop K. Srivatsa
General Reception 925-284-1968
City Website lovelafayette.org

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Administration 925-284-1968
Admin. Services Director – Tracy Robinson
City Clerk – Joanne Robbins

Engineering Services & Public Works
Director & City Engineer – Mike Moran
Engineering Dept. 925-284-1951
Maintenance/Corp. Yard 925-934-3908
Submit Public Works maintenance requests
online at:
lovelafayette.org/maintenance-request

Report illegal dumping into waterways and
accidental spills to Contra Costa Hazardous
Materials Division 925-646-2286

Parks, Trails, Recreation 500 St. Mary's Rd
Director – Jonathan Katayanagi
Youth/Adult Recreation,
Parks & Trails 925-284-2232
Senior Services 925-284-5050
Lafayette Spirit Van 925-283-3534
LafayetteRec.org

Planning & Building 925-284-1976
Director – Greg Wolff
Building Inspection 925-299-0263
lovelafayette.org/Planning

Police Services 3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Police Chief – Ben Alldritt
Emergency (24 Hours): 911
Police Dispatch (24 Hours): 925-284-5010
Police Business Office: 925-283-3680
Code Enforcement: 925-299-3280
Anonymous tipline, traffic enforcement
suggestions & LEARN (Laf. Emergency
Action Response Network): 925-299-3230
or 94549Tip@gmail.com