

The Orinda Way



RESIDENTIAL ROAD REPAIRS MOVE FORWARD

By Darlene K. Gee, PE – Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission (CIOC)

Thanks to the support of Orinda's voters, progress is steadily underway on repairing residential roads throughout the community for the first time in nearly a decade. With the successful passage of Measure L and Measure J, the City of Orinda now has the monies needed to fund Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the adopted Road and Drainage Repairs Plan. Prior to the addition of these new local funds, the City's limited infrastructure budget, using Gas Tax and County Sales Tax Return to Source funds, had been prioritized for the repair of the arterial and collector roadways that carry the majority of traffic. The local half cent sales tax from Measure L, which generates approximately \$1 million per year, and the \$20 million in bonds approved in the June, 2014 election as Measure J are dedicated solely to repairs for our residential roads and drains.

The Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission (CIOC) has worked over the last year, with input from the community, to develop a policy and criteria for determining which residential roads will be repaired with these funds. The City Council adopted this policy and criteria with final input modifications at the September 2, 2014 Council meeting.

The overarching intent of this policy is that it is fair, objective and benefits the greatest number of Orinda residents. Each year the CIOC with the support of the City's Public Works and Engineering Services Department will review the residential road network and select an annual list of roads for repair to be presented to the City Council for approval.

The list will be selected as follows:

- From street segments classified as residential.
- The street segments must be among the worst residential roads, which means the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) for that segment of road as calculated by the StreetSaver program is less than or equal to 25, with ride quality (roughness of ride) considered as well using an acceptable objective ride quality measure.
- The most heavily used residential road segments, based on actual traffic counts, will be repaired first. The road segments will be ranked in descending order of traffic volume, with the highest volume road segments forming a pool of candidate roads for the annual program.
- Other factors, such as safety, impacted drainage under the roads, cost efficiency of repairing contiguous road segments and underground utility repair schedules will also be considered in developing the annual list.
- Additionally, an equitable distribution of residential road projects throughout Orinda will also be considered as the program progresses.

For those who are unfamiliar with StreetSaver, it is a computerized pavement maintenance program that is widely used throughout the Bay Area as a standardized database system.

Public Works Engineers periodically make actual field visits to verify and update pavement assessments within the database.

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Ride quality is often directly correlated with PCI, but occasionally a road has a very low PCI but is not as rough to drive over as another low PCI road. The CIOC will give objective consideration to this condition as well.

Orinda's Public Works and Engineering Services Department has been collecting up-to-date traffic data throughout the community over the last year. Actual and recent traffic counts are being used to rank the worst residential roads for consideration. Additionally, the Public Works and Engineering Services Department, CIOC and City Council will take into account situations with utilities, drainage, significant cost efficiencies and over time the equitability of repairs throughout Orinda. Without question, the goal is to fully deliver on the plans and promises made to Orinda voters in regards to Measure L and Measure J and to consolidate the road repair activities undertaken with these local funds to achieve a consistent and cost effective approach. The selection process is open, transparent and the CIOC welcomes public participation and comment at regular meetings that are held at 6:30pm on the second Wednesday of the month at City Hall. Detailed meeting information can be found on the City's website, www.cityoforinda.org.

We look forward to continuing to communicate the progress and status of the residential road repairs as well as giving the citizens of Orinda an accurate reporting on the usage of Measure L and Measure J funds.

Three Feet for Safety by Police Chief Mark Nagel

As you've probably noticed, Orinda is a city that loves bicycles. Large groups and individual riders are frequently seen on roads in Orinda, especially on the weekends. You've probably also noticed Orinda roads are very narrow and when you combine narrow roads with bicycles and vehicles sharing lanes we have the potential for accidents.

Effective September 16, 2014, AB1371 added California Vehicle Code CVC 21760. This section is known as the Three Feet for Safety Act. Under this new law, motorists are required by law to give at least three feet of space between their vehicle and the cyclist. In cases where this is not possible, motorists must slow to a speed that is reasonable and prudent, and must pass only when doing so will not endanger the cyclist. The primary message is to "Share the Road!" Motorists and cyclists alike have responsibilities to ensure everyone's safety. Some safety tips include:

Bicyclists:

- ⇒ Ride with the flow of traffic, not against it.
- ⇒ Obey all traffic laws. Cyclists are subject to the same laws and fines as motor vehicles.
- ⇒ Be predictable, be visible, stay alert at all times.
- ⇒ When traveling slower than other traffic, allow faster traffic to pass when safe.

Motorists:

- ⇒ Watch out for bicyclists. Cyclists have the right to use all roads except where specifically excluded (freeways, etc.)
- ⇒ Give at least three feet when passing, or slow down to a reasonable and safe speed.
- ⇒ Be patient. If a roadway is too narrow for a cyclist to share with a vehicle, the cyclist has the right to ride in the center of the roadway.

Remember to have respect for one another on the road. Everyone deserves to get to their destination safely.



On Thursday, October 16, 2014 the City of Orinda will participate in the annual Great Shakeout. The Great Shakeout provides an opportunity for everyone to prepare and practice for when a large earthquake causes damage to Orinda. As we recently saw in Napa a few weeks ago, it's not a matter of if but when. On October 16th, City staff will activate the Emergency Operations Center located at City Hall and participate in a simulated disaster. The Operations Center is comprised of people from various agencies (Fire, Police, etc.) and City staff all working together to mitigate the disaster and provide relief and services to the community. The Center contains personnel working in logistics, operations, finance, public information (Media), communications, police, fire, and public works. All of these groups come together and work as a unit to serve the community.

The Great Shakeout is the state's largest earthquake drill and everyone can participate. Individuals, families, businesses, schools, government agencies, community groups and other organizations are all invited to register. You can register and find more information at www.Shakeout.org. The website has great information on how to prepare, protect and recover from a large earthquake.

Being prepared for a disaster should never be put aside and can make an enormous difference when an event occurs that disrupts our lives. Be prepared, practice for the real event and have a plan for your family. Visit the website listed above for ideas on how to survive living in earthquake country.

Keep Your Kids Safe When Visiting Wilder Park by Adhering to Parking Signs

Do your kids play sports in Orinda and play at Wilder Park? Recently, we had a near miss between a car and a soccer player due to parents queued up illegally along the roadway and cars entering/exiting the park.

The roadway between the entrance and first parking area is a "No Parking or Stopping" area. The roadway in this area is too narrow to accommodate through traffic and loading of passengers. In the attached image, areas in RED are "No Parking or Stopping at Anytime" and the small area in BLUE is appropriate for drop-off and pick-up. The Orinda Police Department will be enforcing these areas and will be ticketing offenders. Help us keep all players safe by parking and waiting in the appropriate areas.



Status of the 5th Cycle (2015 -2023) Orinda Housing Element

by Emmanuel Ursu, Director of Planning

As mandated by state law, the City of Orinda is in the process of updating the Housing Element of the Orinda General Plan. Housing Elements include an analysis of a community's housing needs for all income levels and regulatory programs to "set the table" for the private real estate market to provide for those housing needs. Specifically, state law mandates that each city include adequate land area zoned to accommodate its "fair share" of the regional need for affordable housing. The next update is due January 31, 2015 (overdue May 31, 2015).

What are the next steps in preparation of the Housing Element update and how can the public participate in the process?

After public input was received at five meetings held in June, July, August and September 2014, the first draft of the Housing Element was prepared and reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council. The next opportunity for public input is during the 45-day public comment period on the associated draft environmental impact report (EIR) which is scheduled to start in mid-October and end in December 2014. The Draft EIR will be available on the City's website, at City Hall and in the Orinda Library. The City Council, with input from the Planning Commission and the public, will then select sites to be zoned to accommodate the mandated housing allocation and approve a draft Housing Element to submit to the state for its review. Adoption of a final Housing Element is scheduled for February or March 2015.

Does existing zoning accommodate the City's "fair share" of the regional need for affordable housing?

Yes. However, the City has committed to consider anew whether to rely on the Santa Maria Church site designated for affordable housing during the previous update. Parcels of land identified in the previous update for the years 2007 to 2014 (4th Cycle) which were not occupied with housing by December 31, 2013 may be applied toward meeting the allocation of housing mandated for the current update for the period between 2014 and 2022 (5th Cycle). Housing allocations are not cumulative to the extent that zoning for housing established in one cycle remains in place in the next and the sites are not developed. Monteverde Senior Apartments (Eden Housing), Orinda Grove and Santa Maria Church sites fall in this category.

Is the City required to build affordable housing?

No. The City's mandated role is to establish the rules for development of housing, consistent with state law and to review development proposals. While the City may choose to partner with housing developers, as it did in a limited way with the Monteverde Senior Apartments project, it is up to private property owners to decide whether or not to develop their property.

Additional information is available on the City of Orinda website at: www.cityoforinda.org

Please visit the City's website at www.cityoforinda.org for the most up-to-date information. While you are there, sign up for City email notifications for Emergency Alerts, City Council Meetings, Community Notices and Events and all Commissions and Committees.

You can also subscribe to the electronic newsletter the "Orinda Outlook" which is a weekly email newsletter that provides a recap of accomplishments and a look ahead at activities and events in the community. To subscribe to the Orinda Outlook, go to www.cityoforinda.org, on the right side of the screen under "City News", add your email address to the yellow box and follow the instructions.

Halloween Parade for Tots
Thursday, October 30th, 1:00pm
Orinda Community Center Park

Come join the fun in costume and follow Glenda the Good Witch in a stroll around the park and then participate in Halloween themed activities



38th Annual Orinda Community Center
Holiday Bazaar - FREE!

Saturday, November 22nd 9:30am - 4:30pm

Over 55 exhibitors! Live entertainment! Children performers and pictures with Santa! You will not want to miss this Orinda holiday tradition to get your holiday shopping started! Vendors include children's clothing, home decor, one-of-a-kind jewelry, specialty foods, eco-friendly products, original art, holiday decorations, pet items and much, much more!

For more information, go to www.cityoforinda.org

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Weiss at jweiss@cityoforinda.org

Register Today for Youth Basketball League

Do your kids have dreams of dunking a basketball in front of adoring fans? Or do you want your kids to meet new friends? Or learn how to dribble a basketball while running? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then don't hesitate to register for the City's Youth Basketball program.

Early registration deadline is on November 7 and fees go up after this date.

Games and practices will be held starting January 10 and will run through March 7.

For more information please check out the Fall/Winter Activity Guide or call 925-254-2445.



CONTRA COSTA
CLEAN WATER
PROGRAM

KEEPING LITTER OUT OF OUR WATER

by Wendy Wellbrock,
Associate Engineer, City of Orinda

As pollution from litter increasingly becomes a problem, state officials are putting more pressure on municipalities to reduce trash loads from their storm drain system. In California, over 100 municipalities have passed ordinances banning single-use plastic bags and the state is poised to become the first in the U.S. to ban plastic bags statewide. The City of Orinda, along with many other Bay Area municipalities, is required to comply with the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP) for stormwater discharges to San Francisco Bay. The MRP, issued by the State Water Resources Control Board, requires each municipality to reduce trash loads (i.e. litter pollution) from its storm drain system by 40% by 2014, 70% by 2017, and 100% by 2022. Preparing a long-term trash load reduction plan, installing full-trash capture devices in storm drain inlets, and conducting creek cleanups are among the specific measures called out in the MRP to meet these goals.

The City continues to partner with the Friends of Orinda Creeks to conduct creek cleanups along San Pablo Creek in the fall on Coastal Cleanup Day, and in the spring on the City's annual Orinda Action Day. In June of this year, three full-trash capture devices were installed in the downtown areas. These devices are extremely effective in trapping trash and other particles and preventing them from flowing through the storm drain system, entering the creek and ultimately San Francisco Bay.

Earlier this year, the City submitted a Long-Term Trash Reduction Plan in compliance with the MRP to the State Water Resources Control Board. The plan describes control measures and best management practices (BMPs) designed to attain the target trash load reduction goals. Methods aimed at reducing the dominant sources of trash include increased street sweeping, on-land trash cleanups, increased storm drain inlet maintenance, and community outreach. As a result of implementing specific control measures, conducting on-land trash and creek cleanups, and installing full-trash capture devices, Orinda achieved a 35% reduction in trash that could have ultimately entered the storm drain system.

Please join in on the City's efforts to reduce trash in our community and keep our waterways litter-free. What can you do to help?

- * Take your own bags when shopping and reuse them
- * Pack food in reusable containers when going to work or school
- * Use reusable beverage containers instead of using bottled water or individually packaged drinks
- * Use the nearest trash or recycle bin
- * Participate in creek cleanup days

For additional information about keeping our waterways clean, please visit the Contra Costa Clean Water Program website www.cleanwater.org.

CITY COUNCIL

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Steve Glazer, *Vice Mayor*
Dean Orr, *Council Member*
Victoria R. Smith, *Council Member*
Amy R. Worth, *Council Member*

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Emmanuel Ursu, Director

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Charles Swanson, Director

EDITOR OF THE ORINDA WAY

Tonya Gilmore

We would like to hear from you!
Send your comments or questions to
publicinfo@cityoforinda.org
or call 253-4291

DIRECTORY

Administration **253-4220**

City Clerk **253-4221**

Parks & Recreation **254-2445**

Public Works &
Engineering **253-4231**

Planning **253-4210**

Police Offices **254-6820**

Police Dispatch **284-5010**

City Hall is open Monday thru Friday
8:00am to 12pm &
1:00pm to 5:00pm.

For information about City services
call 253-4200 during regular
business hours or visit
www.cityoforinda.org.

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON A CITY OF ORINDA COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE

The City of Orinda is seeking applications from **resident volunteers**
to serve on the City's:

Planning Commission (2)

Parks & Recreation Commission (3)

Citizens' Infrastructure Oversight Commission (3)

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (3)

Finance Advisory Committee (3)

Public Works Aesthetic Review Committee (2)

Public Safety Committee (2)

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (4)

The City of Orinda is also seeking applications from **resident volunteers**
to serve as the City's Liaison to the following local agencies:
Representative on the Contra Costa County Library Commission (2)

Contra Costa Transportation Citizen Advisory Committee (1)

Statement of Interest forms are available from the Orinda City Clerk's Office,
22 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563. If you have any specific questions regarding
the recruitment, please contact Michele Olsen, City Clerk at 925-253-4221 or
molsen@cityoforinda.org. Application forms may also be downloaded from the
City's website at www.cityoforinda.org.

Completed Statement of Interest forms must be submitted to the
City Clerk's Office by **Friday, December 19, 2014 at 5:00pm.**

**Qualified applicants for City Commission and Committee appointments
will be invited to interview before the full City Council.**



City of Orinda
22 Orinda Way
Orinda, CA 94563

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