

## Funds Needed for Road Repair

Dear Editor:

For more than 20 years, my family has been fortunate to live in Orinda, with its excellent schools, great location, terrific weather and so much more. Over that time, however, one aspect of our idyllic city has degraded badly: Years of tight limitations on budgets for road repairs have led to severe deterioration of our roads. Many of our roads are, quite literally, falling apart.

Through the combined efforts of the Orinda's Engineering Services department, the city council, and the Citizens Infrastructure Oversight Commission - along with a lot of input from Orinda citizens - the city has developed a five-phase plan to repair our roads along with the drains beside and beneath those roads.

This plan has been supported by Orinda voters, who strongly approved the funds needed to start implementation of the plan, voting in favor of a 0.5 percent sales tax in 2012 and a \$20 million bond measure in 2014. With these initial funds, a number of our worst roads have been repaired, and more are scheduled to be repaired soon.

However, these funding sources provide only the first part of the necessary financing. They were never expected to be sufficient to repair all of our roads. As projected in the plan, a large fraction of the existing funds have already been used or are committed to planned repairs. To keep this crucial project moving, we need to assure that the next funding increment is in place before the present funding is exhausted. Road repair is an expensive, complex process, and the city cannot commit to new repair contracts unless it is certain that the necessary funds are in hand.

The ballot this June includes a new bond measure, Measure L, which would add \$25 million to the city's road repair fund. Passage of Measure L will assure a timely continuation of the funding stream our city needs, so that this badly-needed repair work can continue.

Vote YES on Measure L this June!

Jud Hammon  
Orinda