

LAKEPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
LEDAC

City of Lakeport
225 Park Street, Lakeport, CA 95453

COMMITTEE MEMBERS		CITY STAFF
Wilda Shock, Chair	Monica Flores	Kevin Ingram, City Manager
Denise Combs, Vice Chair	Pamela Harpster	
JoAnn Saccato, Secretary	Scott Knight	Jenni Byers, Director Community Development
Bonnie Darling	Alicia Russell	
Candy De Los Santos	Laura McAndrews Sammel	
Bill Eaton	Marie Schrader	

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

7:30 – 9:00 A.M.

In-Person: Council Chambers, Lakeport City Hall, 225 Park Street

Remote: Via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER; INTRODUCTIONS - 7:35 a.m by Chair Wilda Shock

Members present: Wilda Shock, Denise Combs, JoAnn Saccato, Bonnie Darling, Bill Eaton, Pamela Harpster, Scott Knight, Marie Schrader; City Staff: Kevin Ingram, Jenni Byers.
Guests: Stacey Caico, Liberty Francis, John Aubrey.

2. LAKEPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN
Reports from Working Groups and Next Steps/Timeline

Groups will continue to meet during the winter.

3. LEDAC PROJECT: Business Walks – Denise Combs
Status Reports from Teams; Plan for Presentation to City Council

16 teams with 29 people assigned to survey; 102 surveys returned and processed by Bill Eaton.
Team experiences: Very positive responses, glad to know the City is interested in hearing from businesses.

- Top line responses:
 - Why like doing business in Lakeport: Easy going laid back, nice people, like small-town vibe.
 - Biggest obstacles: homelessness, sidewalks on S. Main Street; cost of insurance.
- Experience from teams:
 - Positive; people were open and willing; appreciated the interest of the city; interested in helping the homeless; concern about theft; happy with community; concern about lack of mental health services; events taking place downtown--better communication on various events; sense of community; people wanted to talk; history compared to today; transitioning from retail to personal services; inflation impacts beginning to show up in fast foods and other discretionary spending; new business starts encouraging; wine tasting coming in and encouraged; name badges for volunteers helpful; teaming up City staff with volunteer helpful; more contact with owners/managers this time; concerns about issues out of control of City.

- Presentation to City Council, in late January or early February when new Council members are on board. Pam Harpster and Bonnie Darling will work with Denise Combs and Bill Eaton to compile information from surveys and create slides showing comparison with past years and identifying any trends.

4. UPDATES ON CITY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Kevin Ingram, City Manager

Jenni Byers, Community Development Director

- Patrick Reitz, new Chief of the Lakeport Fire Protection District, sworn into office on Nov. 8.
- Tim Stephens, new CAO for Sutter Lakeside Hospital, is visiting today and will assume responsibilities on Dec. 5. Appreciation and gratitude expressed to Jenni Byers and Scott Knight for their service as Community Development Director and Sutter CAO, wishing them well in their next positions with the City of Bakersfield and Sutter Health Tracy.
- Michael Green is the new District 4 supervisor representing the Lakeport area.

Nov. 28 is the deadline for applications for appointments to City Council and City committees and commissions, including four openings on LEDAC.

The South Lakeport annexation apparently failed in the recent election, with a 3-0 vote in opposition. The City needs to wait one year before it can re-apply through the Lake Local Agency Formation Commission. City staff will regroup to determine next steps. Issues to address include availability of water, sidewalk improvements, law enforcement and cannabis policies.

Lakefront park construction underway:

- Mostly prefab and concrete projects; hoping to be open for Memorial Day 2023.
- Demolishing Natural High building concurrent with park construction.
- 20 design proposals for Art in the Park received. Can't fund all; exciting to move forward.

Capital improvement projects:

- New restroom buildings delivered for First Street and Third Street in Library Park.
- Micro-surfacing continuing on several streets; striping to come after paving cures.
- Hartley Safe Route to Schools project completed.
- Request for Proposals out for HVAC system in Silveira Community Center.

Development projects:

- Applications in for the former Kmart building; dividing into 3 parts - Tractor Supply, clothing store and other. Will go to Planning Commission in December. Expected opening in Summer 2023.
- Gas/coffee/hotel 10-acre project issued grading permit at The Hub (Parallel Drive).
- Courthouse project on track again; looking to open 2025.
- Lakeport Blvd. corridor, Vista Point shopping center – City is working on situation with owner given renewed interest in development occurring in other parts of the city.

Retail:

- Filling some vacancies; continuing work with The Retail Coach to attract interest.

Clear Lake:

- A drop in use this year due to low water level; Fifth Street ramp has been extended through cooperative efforts.

Pre-planning:

- Working on shelf-ready plans to increase readiness/competitiveness for grants.
- General Plan updating will occur in the next two years; approximate cost of work, \$750K.

Outdoor dining design guidelines:

- Going to City Council on Nov. 15.
- Limited to on-street dining in the Downtown area.

Parkside Subdivision development:

- Developer wants to provide mixed housing that serves more resident styles. To City Council on Nov. 15.

5. MEMBER REPORTS: Lakeport Main Street Association, Lake County Chamber of Commerce, CareerPoint LAKE/Workforce Development, Sutter Lakeside Hospital, Mendocino College/Lake Center, and others.

Members are invited to share announcements via email to the group.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

7. NEXT MEETING: January 11, 2023 - 7:30 A.M.

LEDAC is an advocate for a strong and positive Lakeport business community and a conduit between the City and the community for communicating the goals, activities and progress of Lakeport's economic and business programs.



**CITY OF
LAKEPORT**

Over 130 years of community pride, progress and service