

JUNE 2026

Letters to the Editor

Waste of Orinda tax dollars

This is a tough letter to write.

Orinda's elected representatives on the Moraga Orinda Fire District (MOFD) Board, Danziger, Roemer and Jorgens, put in a lot of time as volunteers for our benefit, but they are failing us massively. Two of them are up for re-election in November (if they choose to run), and they should either be replaced or pledge to do what they should have been doing all along – serve the best interests of their constituents in Orinda.

Twenty-three percent of Orinda's property tax dollars, \$23 million this year, goes to MOFD, compared to \$7.5 million directly to Orinda. MOFD is supposed to use this money, all of this money, to provide service to Orinda.

But what our "representatives" are allowing is for a lot of that money to be used for operations in Moraga, construction projects in Moraga, and to create huge employee benefit reserves, not just funding Orinda's

"fair" share, but paying for Moraga's share also.

How much money are we talking about? Ninety million dollars excess funding over the next 10 years by MOFD's projection.

We need that money in Orinda primarily for wildfire prevention so Orinda tax dollars can be used for other essential services. We need elected representatives to serve Orinda, not our wealthy neighbors in Moraga (they have their own representatives who are doing a heck of a job).

Consider this if you would consider running for office or in November when you vote.

For details see saferorinda.info/waste-of-orinda-tax-dollars.

– Steve Cohn | Orinda