



Vol. 18 No. 02  
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Alameda Sun Almanac

Date	Rise	Set
Today	6:55	19:11
Sept. 21	6:56	19:09
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Sept. 23	6:57	19:06
Sept. 24	6:58	19:04
Sept. 25	6:59	19:03
Sept. 26	7:00	19:01

# Minimum Wage to Come Before Council

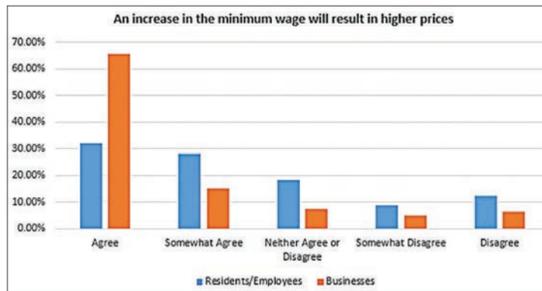
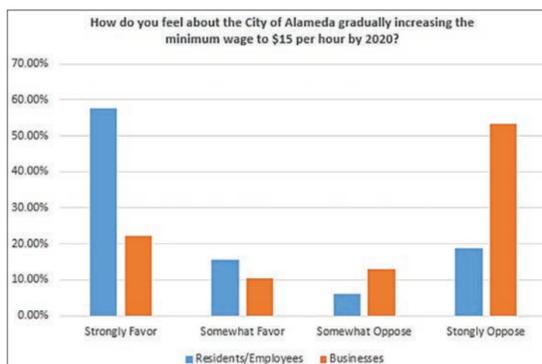
Dennis Evanosky

At last Tuesday's meeting, the City Council introduced an ordinance that would increase Alameda's minimum wage at a faster pace than the state of California is increasing its minimum. If it takes effect as introduced, the ordinance would require Alameda employers to raise the minimum wage they pay employees from the current \$11 an hour to \$13.50 by July 1, 2019, and then to \$15 by July 1, 2020. In contrast, California's minimum wage would not rise to \$15 an hour until 2023.

In July the city hosted community meetings and posted a survey to gather public input on raising the minimum wage. Once it reaches \$15, the city's minimum wage would remain in effect through 2021. Then on July 1, 2022, an increase based on the Consumer Price Index would come into play. The ordinance before the Council caps that raise at 5 percent, however.

The ordinance, as proposed, would apply to all businesses on the Island City, making no distinction between small and large companies. In addition a mechanism called an "off ramp," would allow the city to hit the pause button on the new minimum wage for a year if the state of California determines that economic conditions would require the state to pause its minimum wage any time before the city's \$15 target date of July 1, 2020.

In anticipation of the ordinance coming before the City Council, representatives of the Alameda Labor Council, Alameda Progressives, Alameda Renters Coalition and Alameda for Black Lives planned to join the Alameda Justice Alliance at a rally on the steps of City Hall. In



The city's survey results illustrate the differences of opinions in the community over raising the minimum wage. Most residents and employees surveyed strongly favor it (58 percent), while a majority of businesses surveyed strongly oppose it (53 percent). However, a plurality in both surveys agreed that an increase in the minimum wage will result in higher prices for goods and services in Alameda. According to the city, 79 business owners or managers answered the employer survey, while 747 respondents took the resident and employee survey.

a press release, the groups stated that they would show their support of the proposed increase in the city's minimum wage, which they

said would impact approximately 25 percent of Alameda's working people.

The Council meeting and rally took place after the Alameda Sun went to press on Tuesday.

Contact Dennis Evanosky at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).

# AFD Nets FEMA Grant

## \$1.8 million to support staff costs

Sun Staff Reports

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently informed the city that it is awarding a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant to the city. This funding will help the Alameda Fire Department (AFD) retain basic staffing levels and ensure adequate fire and emergency response availability to the community while not impacting the city's General Fund, AFD stated in a press release.

The grant totals approximately \$1.8 million paid over a three-year period and requires a funding match of 25 percent for the first

two years and a 65 percent match in the third year. The grant will come before the City Council at its Oct. 16 meeting. The money will allow the department to fund six existing positions that are currently vacant. Once the City Council approves the grant, the department will recruit candidates to fill these vacancies and will begin training them in January 2019.

"I would like to extend AFD's sincerest appreciation and acknowledgment to our internal grant writing team Captain James Colburn and Fire Services Manager Darci Vogel," said AFD Chief Edmond Rodriguez.

# Sweeney Park Grant May Be in Jeopardy

Sun Staff Reports

The Jean Sweeney Open Space Park received a \$2 million grant from the federal government's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). This grant was added to the \$2 million received from Tim Lewis Communities as part of the Del Monte development funds.

The money has allowed the city to develop the east end of Jean Sweeney Open Space Park. This federal grant possibility is now in jeopardy as the Trump administration is cutting funding for parks and open space nationwide.

Without the federal grant, the city will not be able to complete the park's playgrounds, the Rotary Picnic Pavilion and the other features the city is developing on the park's east end.

Our Lands, Our Voice is a nationwide campaign to stop

Congress from letting this parks program expire. Alameda residents can join the movement by calling congressional representatives to and telling them of a permanent extension of LWCF, along with full and dedicated funding is needed.

Learn more about LWCF at [doi.gov/lwcf](http://doi.gov/lwcf); read about the Jean Sweeney Open Space Park Fund at [SweeneyOpenSpacePark.org](http://SweeneyOpenSpacePark.org).

### Contact officials, help park

Contact these elected Federal officials and voice concerns:

■ Sen. Diane Feinstein: Washington D. C. (202) 224-3841; San Francisco, (415) 393-0707.

■ Sen. Kamala D. Harris: Washington D.C. (202) 224-3553; San Francisco, (415) 981-9369

■ Rep. Barbara Lee: Washington D.C. (202) 225-2661; Oakland, 763-0370

# Sister City Marks Anniversary

Sun Staff Reports

Yesterday the city celebrated its 10th anniversary as a sister city with Jiangyin, China. Mayor Trish Spencer declared the day as Jiangyin Day.

Six delegates from Jiangyin were on hand for the celebration. At the ceremony, the city honored the family of the late Nancy Li, who established the sister city relation-

ship between the two cities in 2008.

The Alameda Sister City Association was formed under Alameda's Social Service Human Relations Board to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding and cooperation.

Jiangyin's name means "River Shade" because of its location on the south or shady side of the Yangtze River.

# City Needs New Climate Plan

Input wanted at upcoming meetings

Sun Staff Reports

The City of Alameda is asking for the community's involvement while developing a new Climate Action and Resiliency Plan aimed at reducing Alameda's greenhouse gas emissions.

Alameda staff, community and outside experts will work together to build a plan that will set 10-year goals and strategies for reducing dangerous greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change, according to a press release from the city.

Before the city finalizes any plans staff is soliciting climate-control ideas from residents. The city will host three community input workshops to hear from residents (see box at right).

Alameda is more vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change than most Bay Area cities due to its location and geography.

The San Francisco Bay has risen eight inches in the last century, according to several sources, including the Union of Concerned Scientists, an advocacy group of engineers and scientists whose aim is to solve critical world issues.

Researchers believe the Bay could rise two feet by 2050 and five

feet or more by 2100. If researchers are correct Alameda will face increased shoreline flooding, reduced air quality and severe storms.

Climate change will also result in more heat waves, wildfire smoke, droughts and dangerous weather throughout the region. While it is not currently possible to

**Alameda is more vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change than most Bay Area cities due to its location and geography.**

### Upcoming Climate Action Plan Workshops

■ Monday, Sept. 24, at the Harrison Recreation Center at Lincoln Park, 1450 High St.

■ Tuesday, Sept. 25, at the Harbor Bay Isle Homeowners Association, 3195 Mecartney Road

■ Wednesday, Sept. 26, at the O' Club, 641 West Red Line Ave.

All three meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

attribute any single event exclusively to climate change, scientists believe, on average, we're going to see more frequent extreme and dangerous weather. These events put a strain on residents, businesses and infrastructure.

Alameda has been trying to curb greenhouse gas emissions for more than a decade. The city released the Local Action Plan for Climate Protection in 2008.

Other procedures taken include the Bicycle Master Plan update in 2010 and the Transportation Choices Plan earlier this year.

The city will plan additional community workshops if needed.

For more information on the community input workshops, visit [alamedaca.gov](http://alamedaca.gov).

Contact Sun staff at [editor@alamedasun.com](mailto:editor@alamedasun.com).



City of Alameda

The architectural firm of Denis Straub & Son built this city landmark in 1897. They charged their client, David Bruton \$4,200. The home is part of this Sunday's Legacy Home Tour.

# Legacy Home Tour on Tap for this Weekend

Dennis Evanosky

This Sunday, the Alameda Museum once again will join with the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society to present the Alameda Legacy Home Tour. The tour features six homes, three on the city's fabled Gold Coast, one of which Julia Morgan designed and another a city landmark that Denis Straub designed and built with his stepson Fred Fischer.

Denis and Fred have one of the more touching stories among the Island City builders and designers. Fred's father, Frederick Carl, a carpenter by trade, and mother, Louisa, both hailed from Ilsfeld, Germany, not far from Stuttgart. The family left Europe and lived in Pennsylvania for a time. The 1860 federal census lists the Fischers living in Alameda, where Fred was born on April 23, 1862. Fred was just seven years old when a lumber truck accident in Alameda took his fathers' life.

Frederick Carl's death left Louisa with eight children to raise. They included two teenagers—Charles, 15; and Louisa 13 — as well as six younger children: Annie, 11; Kate, 9; Henry, 5; Fred, 7; John, 4; and Lewis, just 2 years old. The Aug. 8, 1870, census records show that Louisa had married Denis. A photo of Denis, Louisa and the children hangs in the Alameda Museum.

Denis trained his son Fred in the home-building trade, both as a carpenter and architect. They worked together as Denis Straub & Son. Fred married Anna Louise Meyer. The couple had a daughter Bertha. Fred "signed" his home at 1601 Lincoln Ave. While standing on the Paru Street side, look above the window on the eave to see the letters "FPF" for Frederick Philip Fischer.

Advance tickets for the tour cost \$35 and are available through

this Saturday, Sept. 22, at: Alameda Shade Shop, 914 Central Ave.; Daisy's, 1347 Park St.; Wescafe, 1518 Webster St.; Frank Bette Center for the Arts (FBCA), 1601 Paru St.; and the Alameda Museum, 2324 Alameda Ave. Check for business hours.

Tickets are also available online through Eventbrite, [alameda-legacy-home-tour.org/ticket-page](http://alameda-legacy-home-tour.org/ticket-page). Exchange tickets from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday for wristbands at either Franklin Park — San Antonio Avenue and Morton Street — or FBCA. Day-of-the-tour tickets cost \$40 and will be available at Franklin Park and FBCA.

The ticket wristband has the addresses of the home tour locations printed on it. They will not be published online. On Sunday, Sept. 23, start the tour at any of the locations. Participants can pick up guide books and maps at their first stop on the tour.