

Sebastopol

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2016



General Plan Completion, Zoning Ordinance Update Begins

The City Council is expected to adopt the new General Plan in November. This has been a major undertaking for the City, and has included extensive outreach and public process. In particular, the Council, Commission, and General Plan Advisory Committee have provided leadership and dedication to the public process.

The proposed General Plan is intended to reflect community values, and carry the City forward into the future.

Following adoption of the General Plan, the City will move into a comprehensive update of the Zoning Ordinance, to achieve conformance with the new General Plan.

There will be some rezonings of property, changes in some density and height limits, and several key issues will be addressed. These will include

reducing some parking requirements, addressing the vacation rental issue, reviewing regulations for very small homes, changing the Growth Management program, and updating a number of other provisions. One of the major focuses of the Update is promotion of additional needed housing in Sebastopol.

The Zoning Ordinance update will be led by the same consultants who worked on the General Plan, De Novo Planning Group, and is expected to take approximately 18 months to accomplish. To get involved, contact the Planning Department.

Public Art Project

Using monies paid by several development projects, the City's Public Arts Committee is spearheading the first commissioned public art project. After 30 artists submitted qualifications, the Arts Committee selected three finalists, who have provided art proposals. They may be viewed on the City web site. After a public presentation on

November 2, the Arts Committee will formulate its selection recommendations to the City Council, who may make a final decision in December. Fabrication and installation are then expected to take about six months.

City Investigates Housing Partnership with West County Community Services

The City is continuing to work with West County Community Services to investigate potential management and enhancement of the City-owned Village Mobile Home Park (located next to the Highway 12 bridge). Under the working concept, WCCS would assume management after various repairs and improvements are accomplished. WCCS would lease vacant apartments and mobile home spaces to needy households, and offer services to all residents of Village Park. The arrangement would provide affordable housing, and potentially remove a financial liability for the City.



Sebastopol World Friends Friendship Dinner

Sebastopol World Friends (SWF), a 501c3 nonprofit, all volunteer committee, began in 1985 when our first sister city relationship with Yamauchi, now Takeo, Japan was established. SWF is responsible for organizing sister city visitations and other activities that promote relationships, understanding, respect, and mutual concern for our sister cities, Takeo, Japan and Chyhyryn, Ukraine.

www.sebastopolwlf.org This year, in response to the suffering caused by the ongoing war in Ukraine, SWF has begun a new project to benefit our sister city, Chyhyryn, and continue to strengthen the bonds between our communities. We are raising money to send much needed medical supplies, equipment and training to our sister city hospital in Chyhyryn, through Project C.U.R.E.

www.projectcure.org a nationally acclaimed nonprofit organization.

SWF is having their annual Friendship Dinner from 6-9 p.m. on November 5, 2016, at the Enmanji Memorial Hall, 1200 Highway 116 S. The event will feature food and entertainment from Ukraine and Japan. There will be a silent auction during the event, and all proceeds will go toward our Project C.U.R.E. fundraising efforts.

For more information contact Leaf Roberts at (707) 823-4100 or chyhyryn@sebastopolwlf.org.

Skategarden Expansion Completed

In September, Mayor Gurney led a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Skategarden Park improvements.

A half-acre area has been added to the park, including play equipment, a barbecue, picnic tables and extensive landscaping. A new shade structure, night lighting, and drinking fountain (including for pets!) was added to the existing park. Check it out!

911 Center Upgrades

In a three-year process, the Police Department's '911' Dispatch Center upgrade is nearly complete. Most of the funding was from the State of California.

The upgrades are part of the City's ongoing efforts to keep its technology and equipment current, to provide a high level of service to the Sebastopol community.

New City Web Site

By press time, we are expecting that the new City web site will be operational. The old web site was becoming unstable.

The new site is easier to navigate and easier to update. When you have a chance, take a look.

www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us

Turn Lane Restored!

The temporary closure of the turn lane located at Petaluma and Sebastopol Avenue has ended. Closure was necessary for public improvements for a new CVS building, and to address other improvements planned by Caltrans. Elimination of the turn lane resulted in additional traffic congestion. The overall project is expected to be completed in January, and will include wider sidewalks, street trees, and undergrounding of utilities.

Highway 12 Bridge

Caltrans' work on the Highway 12 bridge is continuing, but the good news is that Caltrans anticipates that the bridge will be substantially complete by the end of this year.

City of Sebastopol, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, California 95472



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