

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: October 15, 2019
To: Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Councilmembers
From: Police Chief James Conner and Police Lieutenant Greg DeVore
Subject: Traffic and Parking Modifications – Flynn Street
Recommendation: Approval of Requested improvements/modifications as detailed below in the Staff Report.
Funding: See each item below for funding

INTRODUCTION: These items seek City Council approval for the requested improvements/modifications as detailed below in the Staff Report.

BACKGROUND: Periodically, the Police Department receives requests for pedestrian, parking, bicycle and/or traffic safety modifications. These requests have been reviewed by Police Staff. After visiting the locations and discussing any concerns raised by the public, Staff is seeking approval for the requested improvements/modifications.

DISCUSSION:

Request #1 **Create a red zone on the east side of Flynn Street, starting at the driveway entrance to the City park and going 60 feet north.**

Source: Police and Fire Departments

Discussion: Residents on Flynn Street reached out to the police department with concerns about vehicles parking next to the City park and also across the street adjacent to the park. One of the concerns was that the parked vehicles create a bottle neck and reduce access to Flynn Street. The Police Department went to the location to visually check the area and immediately had public safety concerns.

The Police Department was concerned that if vehicles parked on both sides of the roadway, near the driveway to the park, where Flynn Street is at its narrowest width, that fire apparatus would not have enough room to pass. Based on the concern of access, the Police Department reached out to Fire Chief Braga and met with him at that location. Chief Braga inspected the area and found if both sides of the roadway are occupied by parked vehicles, the City's fire response units would not have enough room to drive through to get to the residences at the north end of the street.

Proposal - Create a 60-foot red zone on the east side of Flynn Street. The red zone would start on the north side of the driveway entrance to the park and extend 60 feet north.

On September 30, 2019, the Police Department met with residents of two homes on Flynn Street and explained that due to the situation for need for fire equipment, the City would be proposing a red curb and no parking signs. The City also sent out a letter to all

residents of Flynn Street on October 1, 2019, advising them of this proposal and the date it would be heard by the City Council. As of the writing of this staff report, the City has received no correspondence on this item.

Please see attached letter from Chief Braga, photos and diagram.

Request #2 **Create a 20 foot “No Parking” zone on the west side of Flynn Street, across from the driveway entrance to the City park.**

Source: Public Works.

Discussion: The City has a sewer manhole located on the west side of Flynn Street, across from the driveway entrance to the City park. The manhole is located on City property, near the west edge of pavement. Public Works occasionally needs to access this manhole for sewer maintenance and sewer backups/blockages. Currently there are no signs prohibiting parking where the manhole is located. Public Works has found, at times when they need to access the manhole, that vehicles are parked on top of the manhole prohibiting them from accessing it.

Proposal - Create a 20 foot “No Parking” zone in the location of the sewer manhole on the west side of Flynn Street, so that Public Works would always have access.

On October 1, 2019, a letter was sent to the residents of Flynn Street advising them of this proposal and the date it would be heard by the City Council. See attached copy of letter.

Please see attached photos and diagram.



SEBASTOPOL POLICE DEPARTMENT

6850 Laguna Park Way, Sebastopol, CA 95472

Telephone: (707) 829-4400 • Fax: (707) 829-0967 • City Hall: (707) 823-1153

James A. Conner
Chief of Police

September 30, 2019

Dear Flynn Street neighbors,

The physical characteristics of Flynn Street are such that it would be difficult to navigate public safety vehicles down the lane, particularly fire response vehicles and equipment, while vehicles are parked on both sides of the street. To address this condition, the City Council will consider establishing a 60' No Parking zone along the eastern curb of Flynn Street adjacent to the park area.

Additionally, the Department of Public Works has had difficulty accessing a storm drain point on the west side of the street because the manhole cover is frequently blocked by a parked car. Therefore, the Council will consider establishing a No Parking zone to prevent that blockage as well.

Both of these parking changes will be considered at the City Council meeting at 6:00 pm, on October 15, 2019, at the Sebastopol Community and Cultural Center Youth Annex.

Respectfully,



James A Conner
Chief of Police



City of Sebastopol
FIRE DEPARTMENT
7425 Bodega Ave.
Sebastopol, CA 95472
707 823-8061 (W)
707 823-4703 (F)



Bill Braga
Fire Chief

TO: Sebastopol City Council
FROM: Bill Braga, Fire Chief
Date: October 1, 2019
SUBJECT: Flynn Street Fire Access

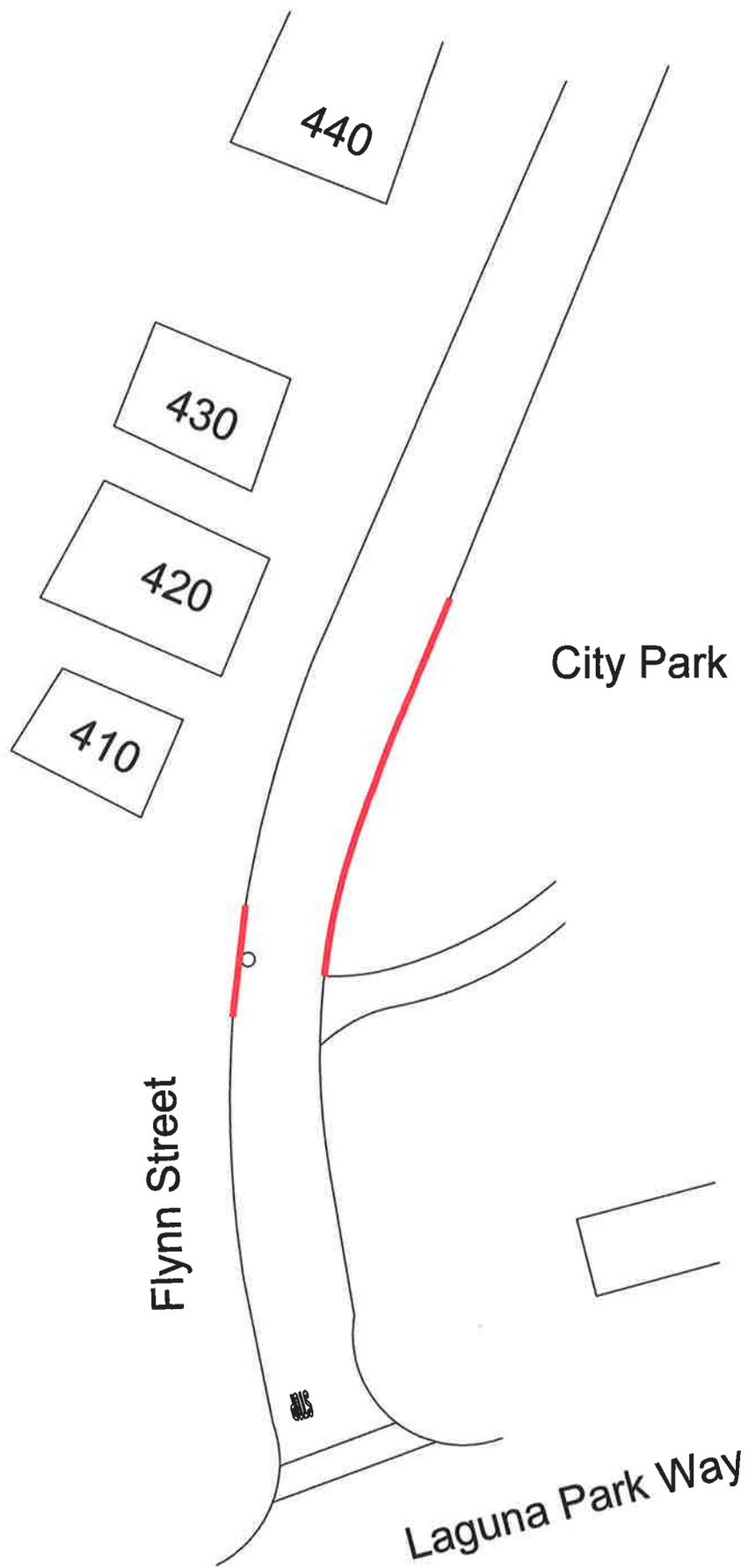
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I was contacted by Lieutenant Greg DeVore of the Sebastopol Police Department on Thursday, September 26, 2019, regarding concerns over Fire Access on Flynn Street. I inspected the area on two separate days, observing multiple vehicles parking on both sides of the street, across from the playground area. I was able to drive my small Fire Command vehicle between the parked cars, but concluded that a larger fire engine during normal response and, most importantly, during an emergency response, would be unable to safely drive down the street to reach the emergency.

Based upon my observations, I am requesting that Public Works designate an area of street parking to be changed to No Parking with Red Curbing. This area of No Parking would allow all sizes of Emergency Vehicles to pass through to reach the site of the emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Braga
Fire Chief
Sebastopol Fire Department



Proposed red/"No Parking" zones
for Flynn Street







