

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGEND ITEM

Meeting Date: December 15, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director
Dante Del Prete, Public Works Superintendent
Subject: Approval of a Fourth Public Parklet Southwest of Weeks Way
Recommendation : Approve the Parklet
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No X N/A
Net General Fund Cost: N/A
Amount: \$0

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget (if applicable) AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:

The item tonight is for City Council approval by Minute Order of a Fourth Public Parklet Southwest of Weeks Way

BACKGROUND

The City of Sebastopol City Council approved public parklets along Main Street at its October 14, 2020 meeting. Since that time, three public parklets have been installed. A small group of local business owners would like to sponsor a fourth parklet just off of the south west pedestrian area of the Plaza, in the City's public pedestrian area southwest of Weeks Way (see attachments), to the rear of 6948 Sebastopol Avenue.

DISCUSSION:

The statement from the group of business owners, which includes partners Matthew Williams and Moishe Hahn-Schuman of Ramen Gaijin. Their intent is to provide a public parklet similar to those on Main Street and Sebastopol Avenue just off of the plaza to support local businesses and provide additional outdoor seating during Covid-19 restrictions on indoor businesses. Their statement / intent is excerpted below:

We are hoping to offer a privately sponsored Community "Parklet" in the outlined area. We are proposing to set up a 15 x 30 ft Catering Canopy with one or two sides attached as to adhere to SoCo Health Dept. guidelines. We will be decorating, lighting and furnishing the space. Our hope is that this space will promote business during these trying times and give our community and dining public a comfortable space to enjoy Ramen Gaijin offerings as well as our neighbors during the daytime and on Sunday Market days. The parties involved in the proposal are Myself, Matthew Williams, my partner

Moishe Hahn-Schuman. We support over 20 employees who live in and around West County. This tent will help us weather the unprecedented situation due to Covid-19. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to your decision.

If approved, the parklet would be completed 'adopted/sponsored' by the business owners, including the tent, decorations, and furnishings, and maintenance/cleaning. The parklet would also follow the same rules as the other publicly sponsored parklets, in that:

- The parklet will be open to the public, and would not be dedicated to any one business;
- The business adopting can put up a note saying they have adopted the parklet, but must note it is open to all
- No 'table service', but take-out/counter ordering would be allowed (essentially food to go customers can sit there);
- Social distancing will be required
- Tents are allowed (up to 50% can be closed but not more), with inspection by the Fire Chief;
- Pedestrian and ADA access must be maintained at all times (from the Plaza to Sebastopol Ave and Main Street at both the north and south sidewalks around the parklet),
- No extension or electrical cord can cross the pathways, but solar lights are allowed and, if permitted by the fire chief and not in conflict with the tent structure, portable heaters may be allowed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, a consent calendar item may be requested to be removed from the consent calendar if a member of the Council or public requests to provide public comment on this item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to scheduled meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight. The business owners will be sponsoring this parklet, and there are no CalTrans or other permits required. Bollards already protect the area from the vehicle traffic on Weeks Way.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Parklet as a public parklet.

Attachments:

Site diagrams and photos

ATTACHMENT: PROPOSED PARKLET







