

From: [Isabel Wundsam \(via Google Docs\)](#)
To: [Mary Gourley](#)
Subject: For the Meeting 11/2/2021
Date: Sunday, October 31, 2021 7:00:18 PM

[REDACTED]
attached a document



[REDACTED] has attached the following document:

Balance the budget/ NO MORE Transient Services



Untitled document

Snapshot of the item below:

I moved to Sebastopol 29 years ago. I lived in East Germany and West Germany before I came to California. I am an educator for 40 years and I am a High School teacher since 25 years at a local school.

I owned a house in Sebastopol from 1990 to 2010. After a divorce in 2010 I became a renter and this year I purchased a house, again in Sebastopol, close to Yves Park. I own my house and I am paying property taxes.

Sebastopol is changing.

What kind of change does Sebastopol want?

Who are the people living in Sebastopol?

Dear City Council, who are YOU listening to while planning Sebastopol's future?

What kind of success or progress are YOU leading us towards?

What does our future look like?

City planners of Sebastopol, what is your vision?

When I come home in the evening from work, sometimes massive Campers or Mercedes RVs are parked on the street I live on, and others are driving in circles, waiting till the baseball parents are leaving and space is made. When it's dark the night life begins: the owners of these campers are cleaning and carrying canisters, buckets, trash bags into the park. I heard

fights, terrible screaming in the middle of the night, and more. The Christian Church is a very giving space and provides chairs, food, showers for all people in need. Every morning their doors are open. That is good. That is nice. But it is not enough to be nice and good. More is needed to have a community, which works.

It feels irresponsible to invite the people in need or transients to live on Sebastopol's streets when there is not enough infrastructure to make it work for all people here. There must be, for example, the willingness or ability to enforce rules.

There is an outrageous situation going on on Morris Street. Nobody can walk anymore on Morris Street, for example from the Barlow Center to the community center.

Business owners are reporting unbelievable situations over there. When we had the flood a few years ago, I kayaked that way and the environmental impact was clearly visible through leaking fuels and other "things".

It is not safe to use the bike trail in Sebastopol since many years. I had a terrible experience on my bike even 10 years ago.

Now it is scary to walk in many parts of Sebastopol. It is not safe anymore to walk in the park, even in daylight. There are hardly any more people or children walking.

Morris Street is a perfect living example why an extended "housing" in public parking cannot work for a little unprepared town like Sebastopol. You were not able to enforce the cleaning up on Morris Street. Businesses and everybody else around Morris street are suffering under the horrendous filth, fecal, mental problems, life and death situation over there.

Sebastopol seems to advertise to get more transient people. The Safe Parking proposal will increase a transient population. There are no limits on overnight RV parking or illegal camping?

We will get more and more RV parking, and a more and more unsafe environment of living at taxpayers and residents expenses, especially on MORRIS STREET

IVES PARK

PALM AVENUE

We should care for ALL people.

We should think about the community as a whole.

Clearly, we should not destroy our community because we are not wisely preparing and distributing attention to all parts of our community.

We should care also for the people who live in houses, who work here, who care for their parks, their gardens, their houses, their schools, their local businesses, their children, their guests and visitors, for the older and old and young community members. We should care for the people of our city who are investing in the community and in the town, and who care for each other and for Sebastopol. We should care, so that we get the kind of diversity we need to develop. We also should care for our lagoon and environment.

I hope, dear City Council, that you will have informed yourself and others, what it means to live in community. We need to remember that it is not

easy to live in a community even without all our historical present complications.

Not only Sebastopol, or America, faces challenges, but all over the world one can witness the challenges. We need to learn from others and their mistakes. We can learn from our history in Monte Rio and Guerneville. We know what happened in San Francisco too. Things do not work when there are no enforcements, no rules, no agreements, no follow up, no wise PLANNING.

Community cannot work when not most of the people are on board about what it means to be in community. We will fail. Sebastopol will fail, unless the planners and leaders are planning and leading wisely!

My hopes and requests are the following:

Please, fix the streets and pavements in the neighborhoods, so that we don't kill ourselves riding bikes or walking on the side walks. Keep our city and parks clean. (I personally took already several times the trash from Ives Park and put it into my personal trash can.)

Support our businesses in downtown, on Mainstreet and in the Barlow.

Why would you not first find a balanced budget for the people who live in Sebastopol and pay taxes, and work here and are committed?

I actually think that there should be no more new ideas supported on the behalf of transients until we have a more solid concept of how Sebastopol can be a more solid place and community to live in. You should for example fully fund and equip our fire department.

I would like to go so far and ask you to enact a ban on overnight RV parking (esp. Mercedes sprinters) and to stop RV encampments on public streets.

It's not a good solution for a community to decrease our City resources till it's too late.

Sincerely and respectfully,
Isabel Wundsam

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