


Agenda Report Reviewed by:  
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM

**Meeting Date:** August 3, 2021  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Councilmembers  
**From:** City Council Subcommittee:  
Councilmember Neysa Hinton  
Councilmember Diana Rich  
Public Works Superintendent Dante Del Prete  
Responsible Department: Public Works Department  
**Subject:** Approval of the Subcommittee Recommendation of the Locals Who Make a Difference (LWMAD) Recognition Program Honoree  
**Recommendation:** That the City Council approve the LWMAD Subcommittee’s recommendation to announce and recognize the succeeding honoree of the Locals Who Make a Difference Recognition Program.  
**Funding:** Currently Budgeted:  X  Yes   No   N/A  
Net General Fund Cost:  \$4,500  2021/22 Funding Source:  124-4103-4330

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

**INTRODUCTION:**

This item is to request that the City Council approve the LWMAD Subcommittee’s recommendation to announce and recognize the succeeding honoree of the Locals Who Make a Difference Recognition Program.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Locals Who Make a Difference Recognition Program was created to acknowledge and thank members of the Sebastopol community for their contributions in helping to make Sebastopol a better place to live. Honorees are announced and recognized with banners lining Sebastopol’s Main Street and Downtown Plaza, a proclamation by the City Council, and on the City website. There are three honorees each year, with each honoree being featured for approximately four months.

**DISCUSSION:**

The LWMAD Subcommittee reviewed the nomination applications for the next Locals Who Make a Difference Recognition Program Honoree.

The year-to-date nominees are as follows:

Dena Allen, Jim Pacatte, Michelle & Micah Sawyer, Rei Blaser, Myriah Volk, and Carson Pforsich

The LWMAD honorees are listed below:

- Carson Pforsich (First LWMAD Honoree)
- Meg Mizutani (Second LWMAD Honoree)
- Roger and Linda Collins (Third LWMAD Honoree)
- Pat Schoch (Fourth LWMAD Honoree)

Greg Jacobs (Fifth LWMAD Honoree)  
Pat & Craig Boblitt (Sixth LWMAD Honoree)  
Joe & Linda Maloney (Seventh LWMAD Honoree)  
Elizabeth Smith (Eighth LWMAD Honoree)  
Hunter Valencia (Ninth LWMAD Honoree)

Pending approval by the City Council, it is the LWMAD Subcommittee's recommendation that Micah and Michelle Sawyer be announced and recognized as the next City of Sebastopol Locals Who Make a Difference Honorees'.

Here is an excerpt from his nomination application(s):

*"[The Sawyers responded to COVID by making] cloth masks and giving them away. In addition, they have been distilling alcohol to 190 proof and making lavender infused "Sawyer Sanitizer." While all this is going on they have a 3D printer running nonstop making mask strap holders. In between they change it up and make 3D masks. Many nurses have been getting both types of masks and straps. They have had community members ask for masks and sanitizer, so they were sewing into the late hours to get masks to them. They estimate they donated 500 masks, 150 mask straps and about 100 bottles of sanitizer."*

*"They've formed a nonprofit called "Micah's Hugs." They are raising money to help those struggling with addiction, they have granted several scholarships for a sober living environment, they are creating an educational video to hopefully share with children regarding the dangers of drugs, and they are going to help with Narcan training and distribution."*

*"Micah & Michelle visit homeless encampments periodically handing out gloves, socks, jackets, blankets, food, and any other items they collect along the way."*

*"They organize and help with many community service activities and are always ones to step up and lend a hand."*

**GOALS:**

4.2.2, Foster a Sense of Community by Providing and Encouraging Participation in Community Events, Volunteering, and working with Non Profits to Support Local Events

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipates receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report. Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of the agenda 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 schedule meeting date.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Cost associated with this request can be accommodated within the current operational budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the City Council approve the LWMAD Subcommittee's recommendation to announce and recognize Micah and Michelle Sawyer as the succeeding honoree(s) of the Locals Who Make a Difference Recognition Program.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

None