

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE
WORKING GROUP AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting September, 2023

To: Climate Action Committee

From: Transportation Working Group

Subject: Active Transportation Survey

Recommendation: The Climate Action Committee recommends that Sebastopol issue a public Active Transportation survey that explores residents' views and understanding of Active Transportation (walking, scooter, and bicycling). The survey can be publicized and accessible through the City's electronic newsletter, weblink, in-person kiosk, and other appropriate means of communicating with Sebastopol citizens.

Background/Discussion:

Promoting Active Transportation [AT] and 'slow streets' to create vibrant, healthy communities can significantly reduce emissions and help Sebastopol reach its climate and safety goals. Transportation represents 66.7% of Sebastopol's GHG emissions inventory according to the RCPA 2018 GHG emission data in the Sebastopol Climate Action Committee Framework. The shift in behavior towards AT can decrease Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) and subsequently reduce traffic and the need for large parking areas. More bicycle and pedestrian traffic can help reduce traffic congestion near schools and possibly benefit the downtown economic area.

Goals:

We will measure and understand the current public use of Active Transportation and any barriers or underlying demand the city can unlock with changes to bicycle lanes, paths, sidewalks, or signage.

The Active Transportation survey will inform the Climate Action Committee's recommendations to reduce short-distance single-occupant vehicle travel (VMT). Survey results will guide targeted education efforts, program design, and transportation projects that will address transportation's large 60% share of city emissions.

The following Goals of the Sebastopol General Plan are potentially supported by getting the results of this survey:

Goal CIR 5: Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) in Order to Reduce Congestion and Help Achieve Regional Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

The following Goals of the Sebastopol Climate Action Framework are potentially supported by getting the results of this survey: (I.e)

T1. Prioritize active transportation in transportation planning to make Sebastopol people-centric, rather than car-centric.

T2. Reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by Sebastopol residents.

T3. Make biking, walking, and other active transportation options safer and easier by implementing a Complete Streets approach to street design.

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 will be made available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

FUNDING NEEDS:

[Staff to provide costs]

RECOMMENDATIONS:

[Staff to provide recommendation]

ATTACHMENTS:

- SCAC - Active Transportation Survey Equity Matrix
- Sebastopol Active Transportation Survey

Sebastopol Climate Action Committee Equity Evaluation Matrix

Project/Program/Policy: Transportation Survey

Working Group/Lead Members: Transportation Working Group

Timeline Summary: Once approved the survey will be posted within 2 months

| Who might be affected by this project?* | Potential benefits of project | Potential harms of project | How has this affected group been involved in designing this project? | How has this community been able to provide feedback regarding this project? | Comments/ analysis/plans |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| Sebastopol residents and visitors | Greater understanding of citizen current views and habits regarding active transportation, to better inform CAC actions | No harm is expected from a voluntary survey | The survey was informed by past surveys to understand bicycle paths | N/A | Survey may include in person solicitations for survey responses at community events |

*Please review this list when discerning potential effects of projects (but also include any other groups not listed here):

local tribes/indigenous groups, BIPOC persons, non-English speakers, undocumented persons, renters, unhoused persons, labor groups, youth, Latinx persons.

ADD LINES TO TABLE AS NEEDED.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Are fiscal implications regressive or progressive in nature? | Analysis: | Commentary: |
| N/A | | |
| Will this project/ program/policy serve a predominantly low-income or minority neighborhood? | Analysis: | Commentary: |
| N/A | | |