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Begin forwarded message:

From: Lynda Hopkins <Lynda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org>

Subject: Gravenstein Commons

Date: June 18, 2024 at 11:28:12 AM PDT

To: "drich@cityofsebastopol.gov"
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Dear Mayor Rich and members of the Sebastopol City Council,

I am writing to express my continued support for the Gravenstein Commons Project Homekey initiative. As the Fifth District Supervisor, I have witnessed firsthand the pressing need for effective solutions to homelessness in our community. The proposed initiative represents a pivotal step towards addressing this urgent issue by providing much-needed housing and support services to our most vulnerable residents.

The scope and vision of this project align with our county's broader goals of ensuring safe, stable, and permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness. I encourage you to consider the Sonoma County Department of Health's offer of up to \$3,000,000 in Housing Homeless Assistance Program Funding that would create a safeguard for this project in the event of unforeseen loss, or cost overruns.

The community of Sebastopol has a long-standing tradition of compassion and inclusivity. Supporting Project Homekey is a continuation of this tradition, reflecting our collective commitment to caring for all members of our community. This initiative promises to have a positive ripple effect on the broader community. By addressing homelessness head-on, we can improve public health outcomes, reduce the strain on emergency services, and enhance the overall quality of life for all residents. It is an investment in our community's future, ensuring that we remain a place where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

Please know that I am committed to pursuing solutions to homelessness throughout the Fifth District, and we are moving forward with the creation of 21 permanent supportive housing units in Guerneville at the George's Hideaway location, also funded through Project Homekey. We anticipate residents moving in by June 2025. As we progress towards the goal of ending homelessness countywide, Sebastopol will not be alone in its efforts to advance solutions.

Thank you for reconsidering this critical initiative.

Lynda Hopkins
Fifth District Supervisor
County of Sonoma

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