



October - November, 2024

The City of Sebastopol community newsletter is one way to stay in touch with what's going on in Sebastopol. Our web site, CityofSebastopol.gov is another. It's chock-full of information on City services, public meetings, and community resources. Or, stop by City offices any time we are open!

FINANCE MATTERS

Measure U



Sebastopol's Measure U seeks voter approval to authorize a half-cent (0.5%) sales tax to maintain city services. If approved, the Measure is estimated to generate approximately \$1.5 million annually to support Sebastopol's General Fund.

A "YES vote" approves the City's proposal; a "NO vote" rejects the proposal.

If approved by a majority of the City's voters, the tax would remain in effect for 12 years.

Allocation of Measure U Funds if Approved:

At its September 17 meeting, the Sebastopol City Council unanimously passed a resolution on the allocation of sales tax revenues stating that:

1. 40% of the revenue shall be allocated for maintaining and repairing city roads, streets, drainage, and parks.
2. Sufficient revenue shall be allocated for maintaining public safety, including retaining existing police department staffing levels and providing sufficient funding for fire service after the reorganization of such services with the Gold Ridge Fire Protection District.

If revenue remains after items number one and two, revenues will be allocated to maintain Sebastopol services such as 9-1-1 emergency, medical, police, fire response, wildfire emergency preparedness, maintenance of streets, roads, parks, trails, library, youth and senior services, retaining and attracting local businesses, and for general government use.

Final revenue allocation should not be made until the 4th quarter of the fiscal year once actual revenues and expenditures for FY 2024-25 are clear.

For more information and FAQs visit:
<https://www.cityofsebastopol.gov/MeasureU/>

Fencing Around Libby Park Duck Pond to be Replaced



The City of Sebastopol, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Sebastopol and Rotary Club of Sebastopol Sunrise, is upgrading the fencing around the Libby Park duck pond.

After considering community concerns about permanently removing fencing in 2022, the city looked at the feasibility of various options given available budget and current building codes. Redwood and hog wire materials provided by the city were chosen to reflect the aesthetics of the park while creating safety for visitors. Starting October 12, Sebastopol Public Works will remove the old fence and deliver materials, while Rotary members will volunteer their time to build the new one. The project is expected to wrap up by mid-November.

Thank you to the generosity of the Rotary Club volunteers in this collaborative effort to ensure the pond stays safe and welcoming for everyone!

Free Compost

Applying Compost is one of many things you can do for the climate, it helps build soil health while retaining water!



Saturday, October 12th

9:00 am - 12:00 pm (until the pile is gone)

(NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE!)

425 Morris St., Sebastopol

(Behind Community Center Youth Annex)

Bring: Gloves, Shovels, Buckets, Bags, Tarps, Good Spirits

Get: Up to 1/2 Cubic Yard Organic Compost per Household

Please be prepared to wait your turn in line, with your car turned off to minimize hydrocarbon emissions. Vehicles will be directed to the pile as places open up.

This event is coordinated by volunteers from the Sebastopol Climate Action Committee.

Active Transportation Plan Draft Now Available for Public Comment



The City of Sebastopol is excited to announce the release of the draft Active Transportation Plan, aimed at enhancing the walkability, bikeability, and overall accessibility of our community.

Active transportation refers to modes of travel that are human-powered, such as walking, biking, and other non-motorized forms of transportation. The plan is designed to improve safety, connectivity, and ease of movement for residents and visitors alike.

The draft plan outlines strategies to create a more connected network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways, while also addressing important safety measures to protect all users. By promoting active transportation, Sebastopol aims to reduce traffic congestion, support healthier lifestyles, and contribute to environmental sustainability.

We encourage the community to participate in shaping this important plan by providing comments and feedback. Your input will help ensure that the final plan meets the needs of all users and fosters a more inclusive, accessible transportation network.

For more information and to review the draft, please visit the following link: <https://fp.mysocialpinpoint.com/sonoma-county-atp>

Let's work together to make Sebastopol a safer, healthier, and more connected community!

Final 2024 Sebastopol Walks: October 26 & November 30

Come on out for the last two Sebastopol Walks events of the year.

Walks are the last Saturday of the month starting at 9am (Meet at the Downtown Plaza).

Saturday, October 26, 2024 – 9am

Ragle Ranch Oaks Walk
Leader: April Lynch

Saturday, November 30, 2024 – 9am

Non-Profits Sebastopol
Leaders: Vice Mayor Stephen Zollman & Councilmember Sandra Maurer

Visit <https://bit.ly/SebastopolWalks> for more information.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Free Home Energy Workshop October 22

Your Energy Efficient
and Resilient Home

Your Energy
Efficient
and Resilient
HOME
FREE WORKSHOP



What uses the most energy in your home?

- What repairs or upgrades around the house will make the biggest impact on your energy bills?
- What DIY projects can you tackle yourself?
- Why all the buzz about going all-electric?

October 22nd, 2024, 6pm-7:30pm

Sebastopol Regional Library - 7140 Bodega Ave, Sebastopol

We dig into all of that and more during our free Home Energy Workshop brought to you by the County of Sonoma's Climate Action and Resiliency Division.

Presentations will also include information about current and upcoming incentives, rebates, and financing to get your projects done.

Registration recommended but not required. Pre-registered attendees will receive an additional drawing ticket for the Home Energy Score.

More info here: <https://bit.ly/47nxFL0>

To register for a workshop or to learn more contact:
(707) 565-6470 | energy@sonoma-county.org

Are You Earthquake Prepared?



**EARTHQUAKE
WARNING
CALIFORNIA**

It's always a good time to prepare for an earthquake.

We know that there are many things to be worried about,

but when it comes to earthquakes, it is not a matter of if but when one will occur. Earthquakes can cause severe damage to infrastructure and can result in injuries and fatalities. There is no earthquake season — they can strike any time of year.

Cal OES is encouraging Californians to take the time to update their emergency plan, share any emergency preparedness lists with friends and family, and download the MyShake App (<https://myshake.berkeley.edu>). So many things in life may catch us off guard, but now, earthquakes don't have to!

Please visit earthquake.ca.gov to learn more about the latest tools and resources and how to use them.