From:

To:

City Council

Subject: Date: public comment for 11-7-2023 meeting Tuesday, November 07, 2023 2:34:35 PM

Sent from $\underline{\text{Mail}}$ for Windows

November 7, 2023

Dear City Council Members,

It has been brought to our attention that you still intend to place a tax measure on the Sonoma County March ballot. All the Fire Districts in Sonoma County have specifically asked that no one place a competing measure onto the ballot.

This very late notice does not give community members time to discuss such a decision.

The passage of the Fire tax will bring money to our own Sebastopol department. It would be much better to throw your support into this measure than to compete against it.

I am totally disheartened with this Council's continued lack of support for our own fire department that has protected and saved this City millions of dollars over their many years of service. We have had the expertise of Jack Piccinini for the past six months and he has offered many suggestions that you have ignored. Our Fire Department and Police Department should be the top priorities of our city.

We urge you to hold off on putting another tax measure onto the March ballot. Support the fire tax and then see what our budget needs after that.

Sincerely,

Chip & Loretta Castleberry

Business owners and residents of Sebastopol