



City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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September 15 - September 21 Edition of
Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING & TOWN HALL ON FIRE SERVICES DELIVERY - SEPTEMBER 26

DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT MEETING!

The Sebastopol Fire Services Ad Hoc Committee has scheduled a Special City

Council Meeting and Town Hall on September 26 at 6pm at the Youth Annex (425 Morris Street) to discuss Fire Services in Sebastopol. The committee will present a report on its work and provide an opportunity for the City Council to ask questions. They will also conduct a Town Hall for members of the public in an effort to achieve a comprehensive long-range vision for the future of Fire Services in Sebastopol.

Members of the public are asked to submit questions and comments as early as possible in advance to citycouncil@cityofsebastopol.org so the committee may address them during the meeting. If comments/questions are submitted in advance, there will still be opportunity to provide additional comments during public comment at this meeting.

[Meeting Agenda](#) including report summary, Zoom log-in information and Livestream link may be found on the Meetings page of the City website.

Results of the independent Fires Services Delivery Study completed in January 2023 and background on prior City Council meetings addressing delivery of fire services may be found at cityofsebastopol.org/fireservicesdeliverystudy

SEBASTOPOL WALKS: SEPTEMBER 30 - TIME OUT WITH SEBASTOPOL AREA TIME BANK



See what you've been missing from the driver's seat . . .

It's the best time of year to enjoy walking in Sebastopol! Be a tourist in your own small town and walk where you've never walked before. Most Walks are the last Saturday of the month starting at 9am (Meet at the Downtown Plaza).

September 30 – Saturday, 9am (Meet at the Downtown Plaza*)

Time Out with Sebastopol Area Time Bank

Leader: David Gill with members of the Time Bank

There's only one bank in Sebastopol with NO overdraft fees, NO late fees, NO teller windows, NO loan officers, NO ATMs, and NO safe deposit boxes! It's the Sebastopol Area Time Bank, where "currency" is TIME, not dollars.

This two-hour, walk-and-talk adventure will include water and treats and contests and even a software demonstration!

You'll finish the journey on North High Street near the library, so you may wish to park in the municipal lot between the library and the senior center, and then walk over to the plaza for the 9:00 am start.

Check the City's website [HERE](#) for more information and the full schedule.

CITY PROJECTS THAT MAY IMPACT TRAFFIC

Bodega Avenue Bike Lanes and Pavement Rehabilitation Phase 1.

Construction is expected to resume to complete sidewalk ramps on Bodega Ave across from Washington Ave, and at Bodega Ave/Florence Ave intersection. Bodega Ave pavement overlay from High St to Nelson Way remains tentatively scheduled for mid-October. During this 2-day operation traffic control will be in effect and delays are to be expected. Motorist are advised to use caution through the work zone. The project remains on track for completion by 11/21/23. Funding for the project was provided in part by local sales tax Measure M Transportation funds and federal highway transportation grant.



SR 116 Curb Ramps and Crossing Enhancements at Bodega/Florence and Bodega/Robinson.

The sidewalk ramp replacement at the intersection of Wallace St and N Main St is on hold until PG&E relocates an existing electrical facility, which is in conflict with the new sidewalk grade. The new Flashing crosswalks at Bodega Ave/Robinson Rd intersection and Bodega Ave/Florence Ave intersection are tentatively scheduled for installation the week of 10/2/23. All other contract work has been completed. Funding for the project was provided in part by local sales tax Measure M Transportation funds and federal highway transportation grant.

Ives Park Pathway Replacement Segment 1. The work began Monday, September 18. Duration of work is estimated to be 30 days from start, pending unforeseen conditions or inclement weather. As a reminder the extent of work is to replace existing asphalt path with new ADA-compliant path from the picnic table area to the public restrooms near the central play area. Tree protection fencing will be installed to protect existing trees during construction. During the construction period, the existing pathway and at times other areas of the park, will be closed. Please be aware of construction activity and carefully avoid the construction work zone.

Parquet Street Water/Sewer/Slurry Seal Improvements. Utility construction is ongoing. The new water main and fire hydrants have been installed. The water main has passed pressure testing and disinfection. Water service lines have been replaced. Next order of work started the week of 9/18/23 for sewer replacement, which involves manhole construction and sewer main installation followed by replacing sewer service laterals in October.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

2023

National Preparedness Month



National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. The 2023 theme is, **“Take Control in 1, 2, 3”. “Preparing for Older Adults. We know older adults can face greater risks when it comes to the multitude of extreme weather events and emergencies we now face, especially if they are living alone, are low-income, have a disability, or live in rural areas.”**

NPM is a project of FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency) and ready.gov (a Department of Homeland Security national public service campaign designed to educate and empower the American people to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural and man-made disasters.) Make your emergency plans today! Visit the following sites to learn more.

Preparedness Resources

- ready.gov – Emergency and disaster preparedness information from the Department of Homeland Security
- socoemergency.org – Sonoma County emergency and preparedness information
- caloes.ca.gov – California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services website
- readyforwildfire.org – CAL FIRE’s wildfire preparedness website
- firesafecouncil.org – California’s Fire Safe Council Website
- Pge.com/wildfiresafety – PG&E’s website on what to do before, during, and after a wildfire
- Prepareforpowerdown.com - PG&E’s website on how to prepare for Planned Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS) events

Sign up for Emergency Alerts

Nixle: Text your zip code to **888777** or sign up online at

<https://local.nixle.com/register/>

SocoAlert: Visit socoalert.com

SONOMA CLEAN POWER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Sonoma Clean Power is recruiting volunteers for seven (7) openings on its Community Advisory Committee. This is a meaningful



opportunity to provide input toward Sonoma Clean Power's innovative customer benefits, renewable energy projects, and assist with shaping clean energy goals for our community.

The Community Advisory Committee comprises volunteers who typically meet once per month to make recommendations and provide input to

our Board of Directors on topics such as: customer benefits; the review of budgets & rates; and the general operations of the agency. Members serve four-year terms following appointment by our Board of Directors.

We are seeking engaged, committed, and awesome individuals who want to help our equally awesome staff and Board combat the climate crisis. This is a unique opportunity for committed individuals to directly support the Agency's work. We welcome all applicants, and would especially encourage individuals that represent impacted, historically under-resourced communities to apply. We strongly encourage people of color, women and those who identify as LGBTQI+ to apply.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to download an application.

EMERGENCY SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS



PREPARE YOUR FAMILY

Evacuation plans for families with young children should include helping toddlers understand how to quickly respond in case of fire, and how adults can escape with babies. Prepare ahead of time by practicing your family's fire escape plan, and what to do to be safe when there is a wildfire nearby. It is important to talk to toddlers and small children at a level that they understand and that does not frighten. Click [HERE](#) for a few resources that offer guides and tips for families with young children about fire safety and preparing for a disaster.



Seniors and people with disabilities also need special consideration when preparing for a disaster. Click [HERE](#) for several resources that help individuals and families

CITY NEWS

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings will be held both in-person and virtually and are open to the public to attend.

Meetings will be held at the Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472, and are open for in-person attendance.

Agendas for upcoming meetings can be found on the City website by clicking the “[Meetings](#)” link on the home page. Agendas will contain information about participating both in-person and virtually in real time when this feature is available.

City Council Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before the meeting:
 - **For Items Not on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items not on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the virtual City Council meeting. All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org
 - **For Items Listed on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items listed on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the agenda item during the virtual City Council meeting. **Email comments must identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of the email.** All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

Special City Council Meeting and Town Hall on Fire Services Delivery: September 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM at Youth Annex. [Link to Agenda](#) including Report Summary, Zoom log-in information (for participation) and Livestream link (viewing only).

Next Regular City Council Meeting: [City Council Meeting of October 3, 2023 @ 6:00 PM](#)

Planning Commission Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA

- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Planning Commission Meeting of September 26, 2023 @ 6:00 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)

Design Review Board Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3:30pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to jjay@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of September 26, 2023 @ 3:30 PM has been CANCELLED](#)

Public Arts Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 1pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of October 10, 2023 @ 1:00 PM](#)

Climate Action Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to jjay@cityofsebastopol.org
- **Next Meeting:** [Climate Action Committee Meeting of October 10, 2023 @ 3:00 PM](#)



COMMUNITY NEWS

SONOMA COUNTY ART TRAILS COMING SOON

Sonoma County Art Trails open studios tour is coming soon! Mark your calendar for **Sept. 30 - Oct. 1** and **Oct. 7 - 8** and start planning your Art Trails itinerary.

See the Sebastopol Center for the Arts [website](#) for more information, a list of participating artists, and to download the Sonoma County Art Trails Collector's Guide.



OCTOBER 4 IS WALK & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY



Walk & Roll to School events create safer routes for students to walk and bicycle. They emphasize the importance of increasing children's physical activity, bicycle and pedestrian safety, traffic congestion mitigation, reducing our carbon footprint and building connections between families, schools and the broader community.

Students, along with parents, teachers and community leaders, choose ways to get to school that are healthier for themselves and the planet. The event helps Sonoma County achieve its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 25% below 1990 levels. Visit the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition's website at [BikeSonoma.org](https://www.bikesonoma.org) for more information.

SEBASTOPOL CARBON CONVERSATIONS: COMPOST AS A CLIMATE SOLUTION - OCTOBER 4



Compost as a Climate Solution

Xinci Tan, *Organics Program Manager at [Zero Waste Sonoma](https://www.zerowaste-sonoma.org)*, will share the ins and outs of composting in Sonoma County.

Learn of the role of compost in reducing food waste, building healthy soil, and its role in reducing and sequestering carbon emissions. Compost is also a fantastic community connector. We'll hear about the current municipal compost system and efforts to restore capacity in our county. Several strategies for back-yard composting will be shared by local folks.

Additional information to be shared:

- State law requiring composting.
- Resources for making your own or securing more for your garden
- Farmers using compost

Audience: Community, Teachers, Students, Everyone.

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Time: doors open at 6:30pm. Program starts at 7pm.

Location: Sebastopol Grange - 6000 Sebastopol Ave, Hwy. 12, Sebastopol, CA

Cost: FREE

RSVP: [HERE](#)

Learn more at: <https://rahus.org/scc/>

Contact Us



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