

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Mary Gourley](#)
Subject: April 2 City Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 3:45:32 PM

Dear Councilmembers:

I have read articles in the PD about your budget crunch-- the needs of the fire and police departments, the revenue shortage, the need to make cuts to some programs.

It is my hope you can save the funding for the Sebastopol Area Senior Center. It serves seniors for a much wider area than just the city and it serves them well.

For example, consider the Center's volunteer driver program where disabled seniors can get rides to their medical appointments. This is such a blessing. I can get rides to my much needed physical therapy that is helping me to walk again.

My stepdaughter who has been diagnosed with Stage 4 ovarian cancer, and who lives in Marysville, isn't as fortunate. I have called every possible source of rides for her to no avail. The only one accessible to her charges \$60 each way.

She lives alone. My other stepdaughter, a postal worker, must take time off work, and drive 120 miles to her sister's home, to take her to the appointments for blood work and immunotherapy that could save her life.

The Sebastopol Area Senior Center's programs are valuable, inspiring and life saving. Please save their funding.

Thank you.

Carol Benfell

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