

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Cc:** [Don Schwartz](#); [Mary Gourley](#)  
**Subject:** Essential to maintain full funding for critical need in Sebastopol: A vibrant Senior Center  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024 6:07:42 PM

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Dear Members of the Sebastopol City Council,

I was saddened to see that the City Council is considering eliminating funding to the Sebastopol Senior Center. The Senior Center is a vital hub of connection, education, and enrichment for our seniors. About 30% of Sebastopol's citizens are seniors, and more are becoming seniors every day.

In this time of increased and damaging social isolation, the Senior Center is a critical place for seniors to enjoy connection and to have a safe, comfortable place for connection. Over the last few years, the Senior Center has done a great job of providing a variety of programs for the physical and mental health of seniors, as well as important education about caregiving, decluttering, and many other topics that seniors need to know about. Additionally the Center has excellent cultural enrichment offerings. I personally have benefited, and continue to benefit from the programs and classes at the Senior Center. While the Senior Center does fundraising, it cannot survive without support from the City. I hope the Council understands that providing a hub for seniors, who have contributed, and continue to contribute to the vibrancy of this amazing city, is essential. *I urge you to continue providing the same level of funding to maintain this essential part of the fabric of Sebastopol.*

Respectfully,  
Paula Taubman