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*all employees listed on website

July 1, 2025

Re: City Council Meeting on June 17, 2025

Agenda Item #14

Dear City Council & City Staff:

On behalf of the Sebastopol Area Senior Center, we'd like to share our support for the formation of an ad hoc committee dedicated to exploring and advancing "The Commons."

We've reviewed the report of the Library Ad Hoc Committee. The concept of the Commons, a space where resources are shared, inclusive, and accessible captures what so many of us are striving for in Sebastopol, particularly with an above-average senior population.

While we are in support of this vision, we also recognize that at this stage, the Commons remains a concept. Bringing it to life will require considerable planning, community engagement, and a substantial financial commitment. This work must be approached with both creativity and discipline.

In the meantime, the Senior Center will continue to pursue potential locations that meet the critical needs of the older adults we serve, who represent roughly one-third of Sebastopol's population. Until a larger Commons vision is realized, we remain focused on identifying realistic, near-term solutions to our own space constraints, which you are already aware of.

If the ad hoc moves forward, we will identify one to two Senior Center representatives to take part.

Regards,

Katie Davis

Executive Director

katie@sebastopolseniorcenter.org

167 N. High St, Sebastopol, CA 95472 707.829.2440 sebastopolseniorcenter.org