

# **SEBASTOPOL COMMONS: BUILDING THE COMMONS**

**The Building the Commons Committee was established to guide concept development, assess community needs, explore funding, and report quarterly on progress toward creating a Sebastopol Common — a shared civic space for learning, culture, connection, and wellness.**



**City of Sebastopol**

# COMMITTEE GOAL

**To lay the foundation for a commons that reflects Sebastopol's values — community, creativity, and connection — and to establish a viable concept for future design and funding exploration.**



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# Vision for the Sebastopol Commons

- A multi-use community hub serving Sebastopol and West County residents through:
- Education and lifelong learning
- Arts, culture, and creativity
- Health, wellness, and senior services
- Recreation, community classes, and civic engagement
- Expanded and innovative library functions
- The Commons will strengthen social connection and regional vitality.



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# Two primary subcommittees were formed for focused work:

Community Needs Assessment  
Subcommittee: Evaluating local needs,  
demographics, and models for  
successful “commons” projects.

Funding Assessment Subcommittee:  
Exploring costs, feasibility, and funding  
strategies for different facility options.



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# Key Activities and Progress

**Committee convened five times since inception; established framework and work plans.**

**Gathered baseline data on West County demographics and community services.**

**Began comparative research on library/community hub models nationwide.**

**Advanced Community Needs Assessment — including interviews, surveys, and the creation of a proposed Sebastopol Health Index.**

**Completed Funding Assessment foundation work, comparing three development options:**

- 1. New construction**
- 2. Repurpose or remodel an existing building**
- 3. Remediate and reuse existing city/community assets**

**Began developing comparative cost and funding matrices and identifying potential grant sources and partnerships.**



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## Next Steps

- Next 3 Months:
  - Complete needs assessment synthesis
  - Advance funding analysis
  - Refine subcommittee focus areas
- Next 6 Months:
  - Develop recommendations and conceptual design pathways
  - Identify funding options and potential project partners
- By Q3 2026: Deliver final recommendations on occupants, needs, locations, costs, and funding sources.