
Support Rotary Club's Ives Improvements - Public Comment for Planning Commission Meeting 10/13

From Kate Haug [REDACTED]

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To Victoria Henkel <vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Mary Gourley <mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov>; John Jay <jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov>

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I urge you to support the Rotary Club's improvements for Ives Park. The design is thoughtful and accomplishes goals set forth in the 2013 Ives Park Master Plan. Due to lack of funding very little progress has been made in the 13 years since the Master Plan was adopted. During that time, a new interest in naturalizing Calder Creek has been put forth. As the staff report points out, Calder Creek is still in very "high level" discussions and has not received any significant funding to make its implementation possible within the next 5 years. At this point it is fully possible to move forward with the Rotary Club project, improve the area per the Master Plan, and accommodate the Creek naturalization if there is funding and staff availability at a future date. Due to Sebastopol's on-going fiscal crisis, it has been very difficult to implement any significant upgrades to Ives Park, which is a critical community resource that hosts festivals (Many Moons, Apple Blossom), concert series (Peacetown) and provides on-going recreation space for the community (playground, ballfield). Instead of seeing improvement and upgrades, the Park deteriorates each year.

The Rotary has thoughtfully designed and funded this beautiful upgrade to the park. The City and Commission should welcome it with open arms. We need to keep improving Ives. It is the Crown Jewel of Recreation Space in Sebastopol.

Please support Ives Park and its critical function for our community by supporting the Rotary Club's Project.

Best,
Kate Haug