

**From:** Raye Elaine [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2026 11:53 AM

**To:** City Council <citycouncil@cityofsebastopol.gov>; Victoria Henkel  
<vhenkel@cityofsebastopol.gov>

**Subject:** Letter Opposing Grocery Outlet

Dear City Council,

Attached please find my letter to you opposing the proposal to allow a Grocery Outlet in downtown. I hope you will oppose this to maintain the beauty and character of our downtown.

Thank you,

Raye Elaine

Sebastopol Planning Commission  
City of Sebastopol  
390 Morris St  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

June 17, 2026

RE: No Grocery Outlet, Maintain Sebastopol's small-town feel

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to oppose the proposal to allow a Grocery Outlet to move into the space formerly occupied by RiteAid.

I have lived in Sebastopol for 20 years and I love it for its small-town atmosphere and the fact that we **don't** have big chain stores like Grocery Outlet. We already have 7 markets, with a wide variety of offerings and prices in a very small community. We do not need another one. Especially placed right in the middle of downtown that attracts locals and tourists alike for the unique and laid back atmosphere, Farmers Market, and other events in the plaza. Everyone knows that if you want big box stores and prices you can go a very short distance into Santa Rosa or Rohnert Park.

Sebastopol deliberately put policies in the General Plan to discourage national chains to prevent our town from looking like Santa Rosa or Rohnert Park with national chains on every corner. **The General Plan Land Use Element, Goal LU-1, calls for the City to "maintain Sebastopol as a unique, small-town community with a distinct identity."** Approving a national chain grocery store conflicts with this directive.

Please uphold the General Plan and deny the Grocery Outlet proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.



Rave Elaine

