City of Sebastopol

Notice to the Community to fill a vacancy on the Sonoma County Library Commission

The City of Sebastopol invites interested citizens to volunteer and apply for **one (1) opening** on the Sonoma County Library Commission.

The City of Sebastopol appoints one voting representative to the Sonoma County Library Commission, the governing body of the Sonoma County Library system.

The Commission serves as the governing and administrative body of the Sonoma County Library. It is responsible for operating, managing, and administering the integrated free public library system throughout Sonoma County.

Applicants are not required to be residents of the City of Sebastopol; eligible candidates may reside within the City, the greater Sebastopol area, or elsewhere within Sonoma County. This item recommends that applicants indicate their understanding of the priorities of this City representative position to advocate for and focus on the needs, priorities, and interests of the City of Sebastopol within the context of countywide library services.

In addition to the standard Sonoma County Library Commissioner job description, the following Sebastopol-specific requirements are recommended and must be acknowledged by applicants in their submissions:

- The Commissioner shall prioritize and actively advocate for the City of Sebastopol's unique interests and needs within the countywide library system, including but not limited to:
    - Serving as a dedicated liaison and primary advocate for the Sebastopol Regional Library, elevating its specific priorities such as facility expansion or modernization (to address current inadequacies in space and functionality), enhanced staffing levels, improved programming tailored to Sebastopol residents, greater accessibility for diverse populations, equity in resource allocation, and long-term sustainability of local library services.
    - Acting as an effective information conduit by regularly communicating policy discussions, operational updates, strategic initiatives, and funding opportunities between the Sonoma County Library system and the City of Sebastopol; proactively raising Sebastopol-specific community concerns, feedback from the Sebastopol Library Advisory Board (LAB), and local data/trends to the full Commission.
    - Fostering strong intergovernmental collaboration by providing timely, periodic updates (at least annually, or as requested) to the Sebastopol City Council on Commission activities, decisions, and their potential impacts on Sebastopol, ensuring alignment with adopted City policies, goals, and community needs.

City of Sebastopol

- Participating fully in county-level deliberations and decision-making while maintaining a clear focus on how system-wide policies and budgets affect Sebastopol residents, including advocating for equitable distribution of resources that support the Sebastopol branch's role as a vital community hub for education, literacy, cultural programming, and public services.

The Commissioner serves a 4-year term, ending July 31, 2030.

Applications and further information are available at the City of Sebastopol, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

email: zhiggins@cityofsebastopol.gov or by phone 707-823-8597 for an application.

The deadline for applications is: December 22, 2026, by 4:00 pm.

All signed applications (emailed or mailed) must be submitted to the City of Sebastopol, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA, by 4:00 p.m. on December 22, 2026. Interviews before the City Council will be scheduled for a later date.

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