

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

### MINUTES FOR Meeting of October 6, 2020

As Approved by the City Council at their regular meeting of October 20, 2020.

The public is advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5 all writings submitted to the City Council are public records and will be made available for review.

Please note that minutes are not verbatim minutes and are meant to be the City's record of a summary of actions that took place at the meeting. City Council video recording are kept for a period of one year from date of meeting.

Notice: All resolutions and ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda are waived of all reading of entire resolution(s) and ordinance(s).

The Sebastopol City Council welcomes you to its meetings that are generally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your interest and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

SIMULTANEOUS MEETING COMPENSATION DISCLOSURE (Government Code § 54952.3): Members of the City Council receive no additional compensation as a result of convening a joint meeting of the City Council and Successor Agency to the Former Community Development Agency.

SB 751 Legislative bodies of local agencies must publicly report: (1) any action taken and (2) the vote or abstention on each action taken by each member present for the action at a meeting.

\*\*\*\*GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20\*\*\*\*  
\*\*RE CORONAVIRUS COVID-19\*\*

CITY COUNCL MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS WHICH SUSPENDS CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT.

*This meeting complies with the Sonoma County Health Officer's COVID-19 Order to Shelter in Place issued on March 17, 2020, and pursuant to California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020.*

#### CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) ADVISORY

To protect our constituents, City officials and City staff, the City requests all members of the public to follow the California Department of Health Services' guidance and the County of Sonoma's Public Health Officer Order for the Control of COVID-19 restricting group events and gatherings and maintaining social distancing.

Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, in-person participation by the public will not be permitted and no physical location from which the public may observe the meeting will be available. Remote public participation information follows this agenda.

The public is advised that pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5 all writings submitted to the City Council are public records and will be made available for review.

NOTICE: All Resolutions and Ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda are waived of all reading of entire resolution(s) and ordinance(s).

The Sebastopol City Council welcomes you remotely to its meetings that are generally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Your interest and participation are encouraged and appreciated.

SIMULTANEOUS MEETING COMPENSATION DISCLOSURE (Government Code § 54952.3): Members of the City Council receive no additional compensation as a result of convening a joint meeting of the City Council and Successor Agency to the Former Community Development Agency  
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City Council Regular Meetings are available in real time and archived on Livestream. Important Notice  
The City of Sebastopol shows both live broadcasts and Video Archive of City Council Meetings over the Internet. Your attendance at this public meeting may result in the recording and broadcast of your image and/or voice.

- Here is the link: <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>

*There are times that the meetings may not be live streamed due to technical issues; if that is the case, the meeting will be video-taped and uploaded as soon as possible to the City Web Site.*

**Anyone using abusive, vulgar, offensive, threatening, or harassing language, personal attacks of any kind or offensive terms that target specific individuals or groups will be muted and removed from the meeting.**

6:00 PM Convene Regular City Council Meeting (ZOOM VIRTUAL FORMAT)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Slayter called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Mayor Slayter opened the meeting in honor of Fred Bollinger.

Mayor Slayter commented on voting and secure ballot drop off box.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mayor Patrick Slayter – By video teleconference  
Vice Mayor Una Glass – By video teleconference  
Councilmember Michael Carnacchi – By video teleconference  
Councilmember Sarah Gurney - By video teleconference  
Councilmember Neysa Hinton -By video teleconference

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager/City Attorney Larry McLaughlin  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Mary Gourley  
Administrative Services Director Ana Kwong  
Engineering Manager Henry Mikus  
Fire Chief Bill Braga  
Planning Director Kari Svanstrom  
Police Chief Don Mort  
Public Works Superintendent Dante Del Prete

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Slayter led the salute to the flag.

**PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

The following was presented:

- Proclamation – Proclamation Proclaiming October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Public Comments Received by Email Prior to the Meeting:

A copy of the emails submitted prior to the City Council meeting have been made a part of the public record. A list of emails received are as follows and were made available to the City Council as well as placed on the city web site from the following persons:

Jann Eyrich	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 9)
Kate Haug	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
Eris Weaver	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
P.J. O'Brien	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
Lawrence Jaffee	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
Lynn Deedler	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
John W. Cruz	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
JoJo Sanders	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 6)
Lillian Sanders	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 6)
Patty Sanders	Public Comment (Agenda Item Number 10)
Suzanne Lande	Homelessness

Jann commented on the Sustainable Transportation Grant from Caltrans

**STATEMENTS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY MAYOR/CITY COUNCILMEMBERS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA** (This is the time for the Mayor or City Councilmembers to indicate any statements of conflicts of interests for any item listed on this agenda). *There were none.*

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Mayor Slayter read the consent calendar.

Mayor Slayter questioned if any Councilmember(s) wanted to remove any item(s) from the consent calendar.

Councilmember Carnacchi requested Items Number 4 and 5 be pulled from the consent calendar.

Mayor Slayter asked for Public Comments on the Consent Calendar Item(s): There were none.

**MOTION:**

Mayor Slayter moved and Councilmember Hinton seconded the motion to approve Consent Calendar Item(s) Number(s) 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7.

Item Numbers 4 and 5 were removed from the consent calendar.

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes:	Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter
Noes:	None
Absent:	None
Abstain:	None

1. Approval of Minutes of the City Council Meeting of September 15, 2020 (Responsible Department: City Administration)

**City Council Action: Approved Minutes of the City Council Meeting of September 15, 2020**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-197**

2. Receipt of Notice for Upcoming Openings for Planning Commission :

PLANNING COMMISSIONER	TERM ENDING DATE
Patrick Wilson	December 31, 2020
Paul Fritz	December 31, 2020

**City Council Action: Approved and Received Notice for Upcoming Openings for Planning Commission**  
**Minute Order Number: 2020-198**

3. Receipt of Notice for Upcoming Openings for Design Review Board:

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEMBER	TERM ENDING DATE
Ted Luthin	December 31, 2020
Gregory Beale	December 31, 2020
Cary Bush	December 31, 2020

**City Council Action: Approved and Received Notice for Upcoming Openings for Design Review Board**  
**Minute Order Number: 2020-199**

4. ~~Approval of Amendment to Façade Improvement Program (Responsible Department: Planning)~~

5. ~~Authorize the City Manager to establish the new classifications and salary range of Principal Civil Engineer and Senior Civil Engineer, effective October 6, 2020 (Responsible Department: Administrative Services)~~

6. Receipt of Report of Gravenstein Health Action and Recommendation to Schedule City Council Liaison Appointment to a Future City Council Meeting (Requestor: Vice Mayor Glass)

**City Council Action: Approved and Received Report of Gravenstein Health Action and Recommendation to Schedule City Council Liaison Appointment to a Future City Council Meeting**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-202**

7. Approval of Modification to City of Sebastopol Business Loan Program (Allocation of Unused Percentage of Funds for Tier 1 to be Allocated to Tier 2 Applications) and Extension of Loan Program for 10 Days (Requestor: CoMission/Responsible Department: Administrative Services)

**City Council Action: Approved Modification to City of Sebastopol Business Loan Program (Allocation of Unused Percentage of Funds for Tier 1 to be Allocated to Tier 2 Applications) and Extension of Loan Program for 10 Days**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-203**

**Consent Calendar Item Number 4:**

4. Approval of Amendment to Façade Improvement Program (Responsible Department: Planning)

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Discussed bullet point number 3 – Second sentence
- Are we allowing or considering allowing that option at this time?
- As stated, it is unclear

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Replied yes, this is the proposed change
- Stated an applicant currently needs approval prior to construction of work, the modification would allow 'in progress' projects to be eligible as well
- Stated this option was included based on comments received by the public

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Would request the language be clarified
- Suggested directing staff to allow projects not completed to be eligible for the rebate

Mayor Slayter opened for public comment. There was none.

Council Deliberations: There were none.

Councilmember Gurney moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to approve the Amendment to Façade Improvement Program as modified:

- Language to be clarified to read directing staff to allow projects not completed to be eligible for the rebate

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Approved Amendment to Façade Improvement Program as modified:**

- **Language to be clarified to read directing staff to allow projects not completed to be eligible for the rebate**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-200**

**Consent Calendar Item Number 5**

5. Authorize the City Manager to establish the new classifications and salary range of Principal Civil Engineer and Senior Civil Engineer, effective October 6, 2020 (Responsible Department: Administrative Services)

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Discussed the Senior Civil Engineer Director position
- Questioned if the City is advertising and recruiting for that position

City Manager McLaughlin stated that is correct.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- What is the annual salary of the new position in comparison to what the current Engineering Manager is making?
- What is the difference between the pay?

Administrative Services Director Kwong commented the difference is \$17,000 at the top step (Step E).

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Stated we are creating a position and recruiting for
- Questioned how the recruitment is being done
- Asked if the City is doing the recruitment or going through a consultant

City Manager McLaughlin commented the City is using its Human Resources (HR) consultant RGS.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- Stated the budget subcommittee reviewed this item
- Stated this will be saving consultants time as the position requires an Engineer “Stamp”
- Stated the budget subcommittee did background on this issue and financially it makes sense

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Overall the costs will be doing down
- Eliminating the need for outside consultants
- Will have in house capacity and capability

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Discussed the Engineering Manager staff position
- See benefit of work through the main item tonight of the Capital Improvement Program

Mayor Slayter opened for public comment.

Kyle commented as follows:

- Discussed the salary range
- Curious of what puts it on the higher side of what we should expect locally.
- I will draw your attention to the background I have.
- It's Glass Door Website
- The distribution is what we call in statistics, skewed to the right
- You can see, the average base pay is listed at \$114,127, but what is not shared is the median price.
- For statistics we like to use median price, being the middle value and the numbers are smallest to largest, as opposed to the mean because the mean is influenced by the extreme outliers
- If instead, a median base pay was used in calculating the proposed salary, I would expect a range around \$100,000.
- I would ask the Council to consider the range of \$87,000-114,000.
- By adopting the pay scale, you are saving the city nearly \$20,000 per year.

Jann commented as follows:

- Appreciates Kyle's perspective on this
- I have a good friend who is in a similar situation in San Francisco and I told them of the salary range and he went how much does it cost to live in Sonoma county?
- He does not make this and he has quite an interesting position.
- There are other factors I don't understand.
- It seems on the high side especially if you are adding a second, very qualified civil engineer to the team.

Mayor Slayter closed the public comment period.

Council Deliberations:

Councilmember Gurney questioned if the public comments have been previously considered, the content of the comments, and if not, asked staff to comment on it now.

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- We had our consultant advise us as to the salary range.
- Would recommend this evening that the Council approve the salary range with the stipulation that staff can adjust it downward
- We can reconnect with our consultant that gave us the figures and share what we learned this evening to see if we should adjust the salary range.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- Know when we looked at the salary range for our fire position, we had our own Human Resources consultant firm (RGS) do a salary survey of similar size cities close to us within Sonoma County and it was presented it to the Council.
- I would be interested in seeing that instead of just going with the consultant's recommendation.
- If the consultant is helping us hire, it is probably easier to hire with the salary range hire.
- Maybe we should do a salary survey like we did for the position.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Perhaps this question is for Mayor Slayter or perhaps for our Engineering Manager, but my experience of looking at a lot of these like Glass Door and these kinds of organizations that come up with these supposed surveys is that they are one size fits all.
- They are not very detailed in the types of licensing or the particular types of expertise
- There is a big variety in what civil engineers can do.
- I think the Mayor deals more with civil engineers seeing as he is an architect and I'm wondering if in that is your experience, do we have varying types of civil engineers that we may be looking at here and varying types of expertise that we may be looking at for our city.
- For example, floods and understanding flood issues

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Yes, there are a wide variety of specialties within the civil engineering field.
- Think of it akin to nursing where you might have hospice nurses and emergency room nurses and you might have all the different pediatric nurses .
- It goes on and on and on.
- Civil engineering is much the same way with specialties in wastewater, specialties in grading and public types of projects.
- There's a wide range.
- Some civil engineers who do structural engineering of buildings are licensed as civil engineers with a specialty in structural design.
- It's a wide range of specialties and I think that the field is so large that looking at a regional average median or mean, any of who those methods, it may not be specific enough to really inform us as to what an appropriate salary range would be.
- I'm not saying it's too high or too low. I just simply don't know what that would be within the wide-ranging field of civil engineering.
- We would go forward with it with the note that we would revisit the salary range.

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- The only comment that I wanted to make is I think it's crucial that the Council go ahead and approve a job description and move the item forward because of the pending retirement of Mr. Mikus

- I was going to suggest possibly the Council could consider delegating the matter through the budget committee to review any further information they deem necessary concerning the appropriate salary ranges.
- As Councilmember Hinton indicated we have discussed this before with the budget committee.
- I just do not want the delay going out and announcing the job opening and starting the recruitment process time wise.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- I'm not sure that we need to complicate our process by referring it to the budget subcommittee
- They are doing a lot of work for our next meeting and have done a lot of work.
- The first recommendation was that we include a stipulation that refers our comments tonight to the City Manager as the hiring person to review with our consultant who is providing those services and I would be comfortable delegating the decision to the City Manager to take our comments and review them again.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I was looking at the agenda item and the job description and Vice Mayor Glass brought up a point about a flood
- The job description does say activities including flood mitigation.
- Are there more qualifications needed to approve or not necessarily approving for the engineering position other than just mitigation?

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- There are a number of things that can weigh in to the hiring of an individual, one of them is the flood plain administrator for FEMA
- We have to have that position filled and right now, we have the contract building official who holds that certification.
- Many civil engineers also hold that certification, so we may be able to gain the benefit of somebody with that certification who then is a senior staff member at the city rather than depending on an outside consultant for that work.
- That would be certainly something that would be discussed in an interview process and the application process.

Councilmember Carnacchi questioned if the job description should be changed to make it a requirement.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Would not recommend that.
- Personal feeling on that is the right person for the position may come along and doesn't currently have that but would be interested in obtaining that kind of a certification.
- It could be used as a not a stick but a carrot
- I don't want to use that as a disqualifier if somebody holds all the other parts of qualifications that we look for.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Disagrees
- Think it should be a requirement considering how much flood affects our city



- We need to put it as part of the job description and require it, because if we have to go out for a consultant to do the flood mitigation, then what's the point of saving money and paying another person a higher wage when he can't do the job any better than the person doing the lower wage.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I'm tending to want to agree with Councilmember Gurney
- I know that our City Manager and senior management staff along with department heads have worked together to come up with the description and figure out what it is that we need to hire.
- They know more details about it than I do.
- That's their job.
- I want to support them in appropriately figuring out what we are looking for.
- I don't want to micro manage what they are putting in to the job description
- I trust them to put the job description together in consultation with our department heads that are smart people and then, they are going to find the right person for the job.
- If you have hired a lot of people, you need to have flexibility because you don't always get exactly the person you described in a job description, sometimes you find somebody that exactly matches it and sometimes you don't.
- You get a sense of what people's capacity and experience is, and you figure out the right person for the job and who's the best candidate based on a lot of interviews.
- I want to support our City Manager and the salary range and job description but ask him given the input from the public, to double check on that.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Questioned if the job description is not being approved tonight.
- Questioned if we are leaving it open and then what?
- Does it come back to Council or does staff review it or we are giving the City Manager a free hand on it and approving it as is with the caveat that staff can change the job description

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The item has authorized the City Manager to the establish the new classification and salary of the two different types of engineer class people.
- Whatever that entails is whatever that entails.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I agree with Vice Mayor Glass that you don't always get what you want, but we want the best person for our city
- Since we already have a consultant on the team that can do the flood mitigation until we have somebody staffed up, that makes sense to me as well.
- I want to go with the consensus to go and do a deeper dive in to what we need to pay, especially considering where we sit with city finances and try to see if that as really what we need to pay or we can come in a little lower for had this position.
- I trust them to do that but to do it more thoroughly than the advice of one consultant.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- Think the notion is to have to City Manager doing the hiring process.
- We are not the hiring committee.
- We are reviewing it as it relates to policy and budgeting.

- I would prefer that we delegate the responsibility to the person who makes the hiring decision to review the salary schedule based upon the comments we have tonight rather than delay this further
- We really need to move forward to make sure that we have a full complement of staff given that we are anticipating this retirement and other retirements.
- We can't always micro manage every decision and I think staff has done an adequate job
- We have had two valid public comments and I think we can simply refer those to our City Manager to compliment his hiring process to add sophistication to the discussion about salary and leave the decision to him as the hiring party.

**MOTION:**

Councilmember Gurney moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to approve and establish the new classifications and salary range of Principal Civil Engineer and Senior Civil Engineer, effective October Establish and approve the new classifications, classification specifications, and salary ranges effective October 6, 2020 and authorize City Manager to make non-substantive changes to all city job classification specifications that do not affect scope, complexity, discipline, wages, or job level with the following modification:

- That the job description is corrected to change to read registered as a civil engineer
- That the approval is with the caveat that the City Manager will take the comments tonight and review them with the Human Resources Consultant for Salary Ranges to see if a different salary can be used for the position.

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Approved and established the new classifications and salary range of Principal Civil Engineer and Senior Civil Engineer, effective October Establish and approve the new classifications, classification specifications, and salary ranges effective October 6, 2020 and authorize City Manager to make non-substantive changes to all city job classification specifications that do not affect scope, complexity, discipline, wages, or job level with the following modification:**

- That the job description is corrected to change to read registered as a civil engineer
- That the approval is with the caveat that the City Manager will take the comments tonight and review them with the Human Resources Consultant for Salary Ranges to see if a different salary can be used for the position.

**Minute Order Number: 2020-201**  
**Resolution Number: 6314-2020**

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I think this is just further evidence of the professionalization that our city has been undergoing in the last six to eight years with new ideas and new people coming in.
- I think that this is going to serve us very, very well.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- It has gotten more sophisticated and challenging, with every disaster that comes to us.
- We have had them and we are surviving and we will work on them together.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/PRESENTATION:** (*Please Note: Although informational/presentations items are routinely informational in nature, some informational items may contain request for actions such as support, direction to staff, follow up, or receipt of item based on the presentation/information provided.*)

No Items

**REGULAR CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS (DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION):**

8. Discussion and Consideration of Actions for Support of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee Proposal for a Lottery in Support of Sebastopol Artists (Responsible Department: Planning)

Planning Director Svanstrom presented the agenda item recommending the City Council.

Marghe Mills-Thysen commented as follows:

- I believe they received the full proposal, and it was mentioned that there will be a budget discussion in eight days.
- We would like to move on this as soon as possible and help the artists sooner rather than later.
- We ask that the proposal be approved and the \$2000 comes from the Public Art fund that the public arts committee has recommended.
- We can use those to get started, and hopefully on the 14th, the City Council would consider and approve matching our funds so we can double the amount of gifts that we are giving.
- Right now, we have \$2,000, which means four gifts of \$500 each to lottery winners and otherwise, if the City does match, then we would have eight gifts.

Director Svanstrom commented to clarify, we had questions before hand from Councilmember Gurney asking if the discussion could wait until the Oct 14 meeting, but aware that others might be interested in further discussions.

Mayor Slayter opened for questions.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- I like to ask questions ahead of time in order to deal with staff respectfully and give them a chance to answer without being on the hot seat.
- One of my questions was about that timing with the budget subcommittee coming in next week with the budget.
- We have this \$2000 issue that we can decide tonight or delay as Marghe said
- Other question was about locations.
- I can see a lot of unattractive places in town that could benefit from art display and I shared those ideas with our representatives from the public arts committee and I had thought they can handle it from there with my suggestions.
- I think they have better judgment than I do about where art goes.
- I just know where it might go.
- So, the question that I had for you is other locations such as along the fence that goes from the island on Jewell and Willow all the way to South High street.
- It would be lovely if that were decorated in some artistic way.

Marghe commented as follows:

- The more beautiful art we have, the better it is
- It also will depend on who the lottery winners are.
- What their art forms are.
- What they are interested in doing.
- We have had some ideas, very basic.
- Simple ideas that would, they would be able to display for three weeks.
- That was a start.
- We are open to other things but I think that would be after we get the lottery rolling.
- Then we will be able to see who wins and how many gifts we have.

Councilmember Gurney questioned the timing.

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Know our PAC is interested in getting started on this right away.
- They actually had finalized the work in the beginning of September
- The hopes are to get it started and then, if additional funding can be added, that would help us move the process more quickly.

Marghe commented as follows:

- We actually started in July talking about this.
- The sooner we can get help to people, the better.
- We don't know what the future is doing to be.
- It could be easier, it could be a lot harder.
- Our plan was that if our proposal was approved tonight, tomorrow we would e-mail.
- We are using the e-mail list from the Sebastopol Center for the Arts and possibly from the Sebastopol Gallery.
- We explained why we, at this point, limited it to that for efficiency and just to be able to move ahead at this point.
- The deadline that we set for receiving the entries was November 2nd.
- That is in aiming at our next public arts committee meeting on November 4th when we would draw the lottery.
- That's as fast as we can figure and we would rather not go slower.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- So for the eligibilities of the artists it's in the staff report, it's in the bold lettering - Page number 4.
- The first one says that you are currently residing in Sebastopol's zip code of 95472 or 95473.
- The 95473 is the post office.
- Does that mean anybody with a post office box in Sebastopol is eligible?

Marghe commented that is correct – we decided to not exclude people who have post office boxes.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I could understand using the Sebastopol Center for the Arts mailing list, but the Sebastopol Gallery co-op is a private co-op

- I don't know that that feels right to use.
- I'm pretty sure that the people on that mailing list are getting the e-mails from the Sebastopol Center for the Arts.
- It's kind of like an overlap there, so it just feels like that's a private business that I think we should drop them off the list.
- Is that a problem?

Marghe commented as follows:

- If there's an overlap, I don't think there will be any problem.
- We tried to find organizations that we knew that supported artists and were professional artists and people who made their living through their art.
- That was an additional suggestion.
- If the Council feels it's important to limit it, personally that would be okay.
- We can discuss that with the whole committee or whatever we need to do.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Discussed a legal question
- I know that nonprofits can't actually have a lottery.
- I'm wondering can jurisdictions have a lottery legally and is there a problem with us awarding the taxpayer's money to outside -- to people living outside our city limits.
- Is there any kind of legal problem with that?

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- The way it's structured, there's no problem with the lottery.
- There's also no legal restrictions in terms of awarding monies outside of our city borders.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Just for clarification purposes I'm not sure everybody in the public knows that we actually have an arts fund.
- We are collecting funds, specifically for the arts.
- I just wanted to make sure that everyone knew that this is money that we can only spend in the realm of the arts.
- I wanted to say public arts and the business of making your living by being involved in the arts is really important to Sebastopol and to West County, and that in a lot of countries there is a huge amount of support for the arts and there's a lot of arts activities in other places.
- We want to nurture in that community because arts are really important.
- It's an important part of our economy.

Director Svansson commented the funds do not come from the general fund. It comes from commercial projects that will be doing development in the city.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- We have an item after this about the possible installation of temporary parklets on the downtown street
- They have the potential for needing a decoration.
- It could include art or holiday related and I'm wondering if that may be a good or appropriate suggestion to these lottery winners as you meet them.

- Is that workable

Jen commented as follows:

- One of the things we didn't want to do was have any major requirements on the artists.
- So, if it was an opportunity for them, yes, but I don't think that we were really saying if you win this, then you will need to do this.
- It would be great as an opportunity to offer it to any of them.
- Even people that might not have won.
- So there's an opportunity for suggestion but you would like the artist to follow their heart and inspiration.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- My second question is for the budget subcommittee
- We have a \$2,000 request from the Council
- I am anticipating that's a small ask
- Whatever our budget situation we are not looking at that until next week.
- Does the budget sub-committee have an issue wanting to delay that \$2,000 request from the rest of the budget to the 14th or do you feel comfortable talking, doing it, taking that the action tonight?

Councilmember Hinton stated she would like to hear from the public.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- In reading this I don't see any benefit to the City.
- This is nothing but a money gift
- That's the way this is intended.

Marghe commented in terms of benefit to the City, if you go back to what Vice Mayor Glass said about the benefit to supporting the artist, in terms of spirit and morale, it's a benefit to the City. There is no quid pro quo.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- We are not getting designs for post cards or asking for temporary installation of a sculpture somewhere or displays of any type.
- That is not at all part of this.

Marghe commented

- It was strongly felt by many members of the public arts committee not to tie strings to the gift.
- This is the City supporting the artists.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The reason for the question is because I didn't get it from the staff report.
- I assumed just that they were designed as gifts.
- I have heard other Councilmembers say, it could be located here or installed over here.
- I don't have clarity on what that is.

Marghe commented as follows:

- I would also like to say, I love the ideas that are coming up for future possibilities.
- Maybe future funding for artists and art in the city.

Mayor Slayter opened for public comment.

Jann commented as follows:

- I just wanted to underscore what Vice Mayor Glass brought up
- I understand the importance and the value of art being visible and being interactive if you will.
- Just by looking at it
- Its interest, experiencing it.
- Our West County is hugely endowed if you can use that term with artists.
- It's saturated
- To speak from a commercial point of view, getting in to the Mayor's concept this is a step forward.
- This is an identity. This is huge. It's as big as farm to table. It's bigger.
- I think it nurtures our community from babies to the seniors and I really would like to see a bigger number attached as you go back to looking at your overall budget because just supporting the arts is not just enough.
- You have to lead and you have to build this and you have to make these artists feel valued and I really appreciate what the public arts committee is doing with very little.

Council Deliberations:

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Given that the budget is coming up in a week- I'm in support of this
- However there are many, many, many creative people in our community.
- I will use musicians to use as an example.
- We have a public arts committee
- There are other creative endeavors that don't fall under the sort of technical definition of an artist that belongs to one of these major organizations that are held in such high esteem for good reason.
- I wish it were broader in ways and the request to double the amount.
- Personally, I'm in favor of holding off until we have our budget discussion and look at it through the community benefit grants program.
- In alignment with that discussion, I think is probably where for me, that's where that conversation belongs.

Councilmember Gurney concurred.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I think there's another request on this agenda for money.
- There's going to be a lot of tough decisions made when that budget comes forth and this is just a small one but it all adds up
- It also does concern me just a bit, that we are using public art money that I think the intent is to have art displayed.
- While I want to support all the artists, I feel like this is, this is tax dollars that are meant for public art on display.
- So, I'm a little uncomfortable with using the fund for that.

- Maybe just a community grant and not pull from the fund.
- Maybe I'm not understanding exactly how the dollars are ear-marked, my understanding they are for art, for us all to enjoy.
- I'm not sure it should be coming out of the fund, I would just offer that.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I just want to support the concept.
- We have been providing some money to our business community as loans and actually small artists are part of our business community.
- They just happen to make their money not as a retailer, or as an accountant or attorney or something like that.
- They are artists and in particular we have a lot of struggling artists in our area and it seems to me, it behooves us to keep them keeping on.
- We need to keep them continuing to produce art because it's really an integral part of our community
- It's really important to our spirit right now because everybody's kind of on a downer these days because things don't seem to be doing so well.
- Having artists contributing to the arts in our community in general is a good thing.
- I think the other part is that a lot of our artists, especially the younger ones who are just emerging, we don't want them to go away.
- I think this is just a little tiny way where we can keep them contributing in our community.
- It's just keeping the mix of artists alive out there.
- That's why I would be supportive of it.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- A question for the budget subcommittee
- Do you feel there's a need to wait or from what as a budget subcommittee member, we heard from Councilmember Hinton, are you prepared to decide tonight with a motion?
- Do you feel we should wait the eight days and see it in a greater context?

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I am a little bit concerned about waiting.
- I mean, for \$2000 in the overall scope of how bad our budget is, \$2,000 is a drop in the bucket in how depressing our budget is.
- I am concerned that the public arts committee has put this idea together and if, if they are wanting to move on it really fast, then I don't see how they can move until we go through the whole budget process
- This is going to be probably at least a two-week delay before they can move forward with what it is that they want to do.
- I would tend to want to just go for and it say, this \$2,000 and an additional \$2,000 contributed through the community grants process
- It's still not really the community grants process, but because it's kind of different, \$2,000 is a drop in the bucket in the scope of how bad things are.
- Do I think we should be spending the money?
- Yes, I think we have to spend a little bit of money to keep the little guys going in our community.
- There are people out there that really need help and some of those struggling artists are barely buying the groceries.



Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I will also say there's other creatives struggling out there also.
- The event planner who comes up with the fantastic scenes for weddings
- They are not technically artists but they are incredibly creative people and all the other industries that are tied to that kind of thing.
- Chefs, pastry artists, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Can I just say one thing I heard what you were saying about musicians?
- Actually, from my standpoint, the arts commission is not limited only to visual arts.
- The Public Arts Committee wanted to expand their vision to beyond vision to auditory, that is actually part of the arts.
- The arts include auditory arts.
- It includes visual arts.
- It includes more
- I think we could think of it as bigger right now they are thinking about what they are thinking about.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- The part about it that I like so much, I think relates to what the Vice Mayor just said, and this is to the whole public arts committee.
- I like the initiative that this committee has shown.
- We have a high talented body working together and coming up with creative ideas stretching our concept of their scope.
- I think that is remarkable and that's what I'm particularly appreciating in people who are appointees and volunteers in our political process.
- I would be in favor of it to support the public arts committee.
- I have given my suggestions and I trust them with my suggestions and like I said, they are better judges than I, about who is deserving and what kind of art goes in what kind of placement.
- I think we just keep challenging them like the Vice Mayor said, think about what you want to do.
- We said, earlier, with the appointment process, how big do you want to be?
- How can we get more going for you, because you have the potential to make use of all this this?
- So, I think a vote in favor of this tonight, would show great support for the public arts committee and their commitment as volunteers to our community keeping the arts alive.
- We have to deal with the Mayor's issue.
- I don't have the answer to that.
- But I think the public arts committee can do it.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I want to bring up one thing, Vice Mayor Glass brought up that we have supported the business community and we have.
- We supported them with a long, long view which is how they create tax dollars for us.
- They are all in the City.
- Councilmember Carnacchi brought up that the mailing list goes to 95473 so just want to throw it out there.

- The people that get the awards may all live outside the city.
- Maybe that's okay.
- Because I do think of us as all in Sebastopol together.
- I just wanted to bring that up.
- Because there's a slight difference there that artists sell art and they pay taxes as well.
- But if they are outside the City, that money goes to the County instead of to our coffers, just wanted to bring that up.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- It important to know where the funds are from.
- Which is the public art fund.
- Which is paid for by developers by projects within the City.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I know I have heard that a couple of times and it comes from the public arts and the fund that, those monies are collected on behalf of the residents for their good
- I just want to be clear on that.
- I think it's important that we think about that when we say that this comes from development funds
- The reason we have the development funds is to benefit our residents.

**MOTION:**

Mayor Slayter moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to approve Support of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee Proposal for a Lottery in Support of Sebastopol Artists for initial \$2000.

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Approved Support of Sebastopol Public Arts Committee Proposal for a Lottery in Support of Sebastopol Artists for initial \$2000.**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-204**

Vice Mayor Glass moved and Councilmember Gurney seconded the motion to approve the additional \$2,000; funds to be used from the General Fund money as a match to the monies just approved that are coming out of the arts fund.

**Discussion:**

Mayor Slayter questioned if there's a chance that there's the possibility of a slight modification and deferring this to the budget meeting of October 14th.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- I understand the modification is to defer this motion until the 14th.
- Maybe we can take a straw vote.
- If the motion fails, we can also refer this to the 14th for further discussion, isn't that correct?

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Gurney and Vice Mayor Glass  
Noes: Councilmembers Carnacchi, Hinton and Mayor Slayter  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**City Council Action: None. Motion Failed.**  
**Minute Order Number: 2020-205**  
Motion fails.

Mayor Slayter moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to return this item to the October 14th Council meeting to discuss additional City Council funding.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- Can we make the motion so it has with the understanding that maybe to expand the parameters for who's eligible for the next set of monies?
- To include musicians, to include the people that we were saying maybe that are not being served here.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I'm not sure how fast we put together that kind of a program.
- That is certainly within the realm of my interest.
- They can always come back.
- Discussed Mid-year budget review

Marghe commented as follows:

- I would like to say that the proposal that we have put forward is specifically about this lottery in support of the artists from the public arts committee.
- If people want to create an additional form making it broader, finding out ways to validate that people are indeed living here or there, that indeed people make their living this way, or that way, and so on, and so on, and so on, it gets complicated, but if people want to do that, that's fine.
- I would like to suggest that, if you are holding it over until the 14th, that it be this proposal that is being held over with the request that we made for the City to match the funds.
- I think other support is wonderful, but I don't think we need to take it away from what is being proposed and done because of others not yet included.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I do want to say that it's not just about the Center for the Arts because what they are doing is using the Center for the Arts mailing list to recruit people.
- Which I think is a really appropriate idea, I also just want to assert that I do think that the idea of broadening the idea of what the arts committee covers is a good idea however not in a one-week timeframe when we are trying to get this thing going.
- I think that gets back in the realm of micro managing and the arts committee is doing an amazing job as volunteers.
- I want to support the work.
- From my understanding, music, performance art, they are all forms of public art.

- So, I do believe that some, if a musician, I don't see it how that would affect this, so, I do think that those folks would also be e-mailed or eligible to apply.
- I think that is broad enough.
- I have no problem with your moving the 95473-zip code if that makes any of this easier.
- I do understand that people from outside of Sebastopol have P.O. boxes here.
- I'm only speaking for myself.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I know it is not a lot of money, but I think it's important for us to use it as a model of us being responsible and considering these things as had they come and not looking at the actual dollar figure as to their importance.
- Clearly the art community is an incredible economic driver in the area and there are a lot of creative people that live here.
- Thank you to the PAC for bringing this up.

Restating of the Motion:

Mayor Slayter moved and Vice Mayor Glass seconded the motion to return this item to the October 14th Council meeting to discuss the additional funding from City Council.

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

VOTE:

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

**City council Action: Approved return this item to the October 14th Council meeting to discuss additional funding from City Council.**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-206**

9. Discussion and Consideration of Approval of Application For and Temporary Installation of Parklets Downtown to Address Impacts of Covid-19 and Request for Funding (\$8500) (Requestor: Councilmember Gurney/Responsible Department: Engineering)

Engineering Manager Mikus presented the agenda item recommending the City Council Approve the Application For and Temporary Installation of Parklets Downtown to Address Impacts of Covid-19 and Request for Funding (\$8500)

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- Just a few things that I want to report on about the activity
- It was a commitment in our first and only meeting to engage the business community to see if there were support for this activity and Jann had already been involved and one of the people nudging us along with Paul.
- I also reached out to Rei Blaser of the SDA, and Linda Collins of the Chamber of Commerce and Danielle at Retrograde and others of us did the same.
- They are just united in the interest and enthusiasm for the idea because I think, we are seeing interest in collaborating, and creating more dynamic downtown, that is a wider grid of streets like from High Street to Morris Street.

- From the Feed Store, basically, that kind of South end of the business district to right in that kind of area that is harder to name those areas because they are not streets that delineate as clearly.
- The notion is something that unites all of that, such as white lights which the downtown has been doing for a couple of years.
- Creates a new sort of pizzazz about downtown, Rei mentioned that the Ned Kahn sculptures will be coming to the hotel site, hopefully that timing works.
- There's a lot of enthusiasm for bringing people to all of our downtown so they are able to walk from here to there, to have this socially distanced outdoor holiday experience.
- How about rolling it out to January 15th, at least, and creating this opportunity through the holiday season and then I think maybe it was Jann who named it the holiday parklet project.
- We have a great opportunity to market a united downtown and repopulate it with our citizens to market and potentially bring in holiday celebrations and holiday shoppers.
- I think it would be a great lift to downtown, to the wider downtown area to have the support from the Council through this holiday parklet project.
- Paul Fritz is here this evening.
- He is the person that nudged the Council.
- We all got his e-mail saying what about parklets and he followed up with Saratoga
- I wonder if Paul can get an opportunity to share with all of us and the members in the zoom meeting.
- His perception of parklet and his interest in having the temporary parklets come to us.

Paul Fritz commented as follows:

- I have obviously been interested in parklets for many years I was part of the core project parklet team that put those together several years ago for the demonstration day that we felt was successful.
- We participated in parking day in various venues downtown.
- In this time of COVID and what it's done to our downtown business community, I think that we need to really really be looking at any opportunity to be able to support the businesses
- We have seen and I'm sure you have all heard and seen examples of streets being closed, parklets across the country.
- Everyone is doing this, Santa Rosa closed fourth street.
- Others closed a block.
- Petaluma has exactly the same parklet as that we are talking about, with the k rails and downtown.
- Unfortunately we have to deal with Caltrans.
- All the other places have done it and have been doing it for months.
- Some of the places have started in May or April even.
- We are kind of behind the ball a bit since we are coming to winter and it's October already.
- I think we all know we have good weather usually for a good part of the year.
- I think they can still be valuable spaces.
- There's been several kind of discussions and questions
- I know Screamin Mimi's asked for one
- We have to go through the application process with Caltrans
- It seems that all the things would be good for helping extend this idea through the end of the year.
- I would not see why Caltrans would be opposed to it.

- It's furniture like anything else.
- If we put furniture in there, I think we can put shade structure or heaters in there as the weather gets more inclement
- I think that the staff report suggests three locations
- I like to throw in a fourth possibility, and just another one on the block of Main Street closer to Bodega Avenue, between Bodega, and kind of between Portico and the gem shop and that area.
- The businesses have been trying to do it on the sidewalk for several months now, and they are one of the few businesses actually opened in the evenings.
- I think it would be good to reward them as well and give them an additional opportunity for outdoor seating.
- So, it's something to consider.
- We have had a conversation with Screamin Mimi's and based on the discussions with the group, about closing off the block of Depot Street kind of in front of Screamin Mimi's, from the sidewalk all the way over to that landscaped kind of traffic island.
- She is thrilled with the idea.
- That's what we did when we did the parklet demonstration day.
- We closed the block off.
- There's a lot of places to sit and it changed the dynamic on of the area.
- So, that would be kind of k-rails at either end of that little section of Depot Street.
- That would not also need a ramp constructed because you could just use the curb ramp that you would use to get to the crosswalk and then from the crosswalk in to the parklet area.
- So that would be one less ramp needed.
- I'm not sure how many k-rails were needed in the location.
- We could sort of adjust the numbers as we needed to.
- That would be a clarification for the staff report on that one location.
- Even the details of it could change as we go through the application process with Caltrans.
- The ramp does take up quite a bit of space.
- If we can kind of figure out a better way working with Caltrans to get accessibility, that would be desirable to provide more space for seating in the parklet areas?
- I think it's a great opportunity and I'm happy to kind of donating my time to put the help, with the application graphics together.
- I have found at least one contractor so far that is willing to donate materials.
- I'm looking for others to donate a carpenter to construct the ramps.
- We seem to be getting a lot of enthusiasm
- People are expressing concern about parking.
- If anybody has been downtown at any time of the day or evening.
- There are a lot of empty parking spaces.
- I don't really see this impacting parking
- We are talking like 6 or 8 parking spaces downtown.
- I think we can sacrifice that for the next few months and I think it will help a really more vibrant place and give the people a place for people to be downtown.
- There are tons of places for the people to be, and there's a lot of activity downtown
- We just have the sidewalks and it's just not enough.
- It's not enough for people to hang out, especially now that you cannot go in to businesses.

Mayor Slayter opened for questions.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Well, I am happy that this is on the agenda and that we can have a chance to talk about it.
- It was authored and I sent the letter that the Council authorized to the state.
- I have done a lot of research with communities around the area.
- I had a long and detailed conversation with the Mayor of St. Helena, who was suddenly very busy with another project – most unfortunately recently.
- That was forestalled but we will get back to it.
- The Mayor of Sonoma and I have been in touch because they have some of this situation where they have commercial district on a state highway and I know Councilmember Hinton has been working on it as well with other people at the State.
- So we have a lot of cooks in the kitchen and it's like we are all running parallel governments here.
- We are all one government, so I'm glad we have one item here for us to focus our energy on.
- Honestly, all I'm seeing is positive energy and good intent and a desire for it to move forward.
- I'm pleased it's here and I'm happy we are talking about it.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I wanted to report tonight, once we did Council direction and you wrote the letter, I forwarded that to Mike McGuire's office and Marc Levine's office
- The latest update as of tonight is from McGuire's office and it said yes, we are working on this this Sebastopol issue
- Specifically, we met last week with a district director of Caltrans for District 4 that covers the whole bay area and met with legislative staff from Sacramento headquarters of Caltrans.
- We are not just working on Sebastopol, although that is in the forefront of our mind, we are also working in telling them that this is an issue that is significantly impacts our rural regions all across the North coast.
- So they are trying get it all, I guess, fast tracked
- They had a meeting that Henry participated in or gave feedback for and they are going to get another meeting this week to try to get this fast tracked for us.
- Discussed waiving some of this application stuff.
- That's what Paul and I talked about, to try to make it simpler so that would be great.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I have a question about compliance with ADA, the Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.
- You are right, the ramp takes a lot of space.
- I'm curious about the cross slope
- We have fairly significant cross slope on the parking surface, which is what the intent is, if I'm understanding the proposal – is that something that is within standards?

Paul Fritz commented as follows:

- The locations that we are looking at have relatively minor cross slope, compared to some locations downtown
- The East side is ridiculous.
- I think it would not be easy to do this method
- You have to build a platform on the East side.
- I did ask that exact question of the Saratoga engineer, I have been in discussions with him.

- I have a copy of the application, I'm using their application as a guideline and putting it together.
- They did not have to do everything that they kind of outlined
- Saratoga literally took the diagram and the Caltrans guidelines and said this is what we are going to do.
- Absolutely no detail and did not show the details or the k-ramp or anything.
- It was much, much reduced kind of, kind of drawing requirements.
- I asked the question to the Caltrans engineer about the cross slope and he said it was not an issue.
- The street slopes toward the curb and gutter and as long as the ramp was compliant, the, they were fine with it.
- So, hoping, again, we get the same kind of treatment from Caltrans that Saratoga got.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- My question was and I would like to pose this to Caltrans and I don't know if they would see this or not, and being an architect, maybe you can give me your feedback on this.
- My thoughts are, if you put tables right adjacent to the curb or adjacent to the parklet, you are considering those to be the accessible tables and you can still serve people
- People can sit and hang out whatever, and leave the parklet itself just for someone that can step down on the curb.
- What if half the parking stall had a platform so you built one platform, one parking stall size and used half of it in one spot and half of it with the other that was flush with the curb and that equivalent facility
- That's something that I think the technicalities of it and for obvious reasons the accessibility needs to be full and in compliance with the law
- That's just kind of a floating question that we need to make sure that we are covered
- It seems like it's just a possibility.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I was just wondering would it be viable or is it a viable idea to put the tables more up against the walls, up against the businesses so that the parklet then provides more of like more side walk space.
- So that the sidewalk gets taken up by more tables because in many instances that is underneath an awning.
- So it's kind of got some natural light cover space and then the sidewalk then ends up kind of snaking so that people are moving on to the parklet and then off the parklet and then on to another parklet
- That would mean that the tables on could be closer to the businesses and they would also have the advantage of the awnings.

Mr. Fritz commented as follows:

- Not sure what the Caltrans standard is on that
- They have the right of way, including the sidewalk.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- A lot of the time the right of way is not the entire sidewalk.
- For downtown, the right of way goes right up to the buildings.
- I think it's an interesting idea to do it



- The parklets are repurposing a parking place for social outdoor community use.
- Rather than impeding pedestrians that want to be in the floor from store to store to store, I think that's what we are looking at.

Mr. Fritz commented as follows:

- I think you have to build a platform across the parklet, otherwise you have a ramp down
- I think it would be more material and more construction.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I have a question of safety and liability.
- Imagine that you are in your automobile and you are headed South on North main street and you are at the light at McKinley at the point where it turns in to two lanes in front of Miller oil.
- Then, the light turns green and you go
- Both of those lanes do a shift to the East by almost a full lane about the size of the parking space.
- Since the construction has happened downtown, the markings in the lane marks are not clearly delineated
- You can be stopped at the light at McKinley headed Southbound and you are in the Eastern lane and you are unfamiliar with what happens and the light turns green and you continue straight.
- If there's a car to the West of you, that car is forced over in some cases according to the Cookie Company, almost in to the sidewalk and in to the bicycle lane where the parking is
- Some of those cars are forced over and there's people honking constantly.
- I just want to bring that to mind.
- We already have the Caltrans meeting on Monday, but maybe I on could reach out to them to find out what their timetable is forgetting that restriped.
- I think it's really important that we delineate to avoid a possibility of somebody being forced right in to the parklet.
- The other thing is, in the drawing, I'm imagining the drawing being on North main street there, by the Gypsy Café, so you are not seeing the North side of that parklet.
- Understanding when I did a bit of research on a different type of k-rails that, that if we just use the plastic ones which are not as heavy as the concrete ones that if we have a perpendicular to the traffic and somebody hits that, that plastic k-rail is just going to go flying in to the parklet
- Whereas if it's the concrete k-rail and you put it at an angle, that if a car hits it, it will deflect and it will be much safer for the pedestrian.
- I would think that, we should make the end caps at an angle and those k-rails are made from concrete
- You have to get an encroachment permit to stop the traffic to set them in place.
- These would be safer I think, in my opinion than the plastic one - at least for the end caps.
- The other question that I would have, is liability issues.
- What are the liability issues for the city if something tragic were to happen?

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- I would argue that the city is not liable.
- The city's following the Caltrans application process.
- We assume that does not create a dangerous condition of public property and the scenarios that you laid out, tragic as it may be, the fault is on the drivers or Caltrans if it does not restripe the areas as you referenced.
- The city would not be liable in that situation.

- Obviously, it's the practical matter, we don't want to just escape liability in court.
- We want to really have a safe situation.
- When you do these parklets on a state highway, along with an application process that is quite difficult.
- You also have the issue of the additional traffic that is inherent with state highways.
- Either way, you put some dangerous element at play.
- Either having the tables right in front of the store fronts on the sidewalk from the pedestrians having to use the street, otherwise the other way around, are you are introducing restaurant patron who is are eating their food in the street.
- There's the potential.
- But we assume that Caltrans has a lot of these things inherent in the application process.

Councilmember Carnacchi questioned if they would approve it as is.

Mr. Fritz commented as follows:

- Discussed what Saratoga did and stated the City is doing the same thing with the k rails
- Know that Dante had concerns about the concrete barriers, he does not have the equipment to move and place the concrete ones.
- Was the reason we decided to go with the plastic.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- When I was doing my initial research and I had sent the information on to Jann, she is aware of it too, there's a company that rents the concrete ones and they are not too onerously expensive.
- It's not cost prohibitive and they have the equipment.
- That's where you have to make sure they have traffic control for the time it takes to bring the truck.
- It takes a special crane, a truck can only carry a maximum of two barriers at a time.
- So you have to pay for the time it takes for them to go back to the yard and get a couple more and come down.
- It's really important for safety in my opinion, that we definitely should make the end caps out of concrete and put them in an angle.
- I think that would make the parklet way more secure.
- I think that in regard to that, I think all of us have an interest in making these as safe as humanly possible.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The question I had about the specificity of the k-rails and their material.
- Where are the ones from that are on Bodega heading out of town?
- Where did we get those that are on Ragle intersection?

Manager Mikus commented that the city purchased those.

Mayor Slayter opened for public comment.

Nate commented as follows:

- I ask myself if you guys are aware that we are in the middle of a pandemic.
- I have two kids and I cannot walk in front of restaurants because there's so many people.

- I get that you are wanting to make money but you are putting people at risk.
- If people in Petaluma and Saratoga jump off the bridge, do you jump off the bridge.
- Flu season is coming, elderly people in town.
- You have more people in masks.
- Talk about Screamin Mimis, I cannot walk in front of it because there's so many people.
- I cannot walk across Main street because there's restaurants on both sides.
- I walk downtown until there's curbside eating and you talk about parking.
- Eight parking places.
- How many parking places are now ten-minute parking places because it's pick--up only, so you are not talking about eight parking places, you are talking about ten the, 15 parking places.
- You are talking about bike lanes.
- You are talking about COVID-19.
- You are talking about the flu.
- You are talking about walkways.
- I question if we are in a liberal town or a right-wing town.
- Is COVID real or not real?
- I feel it's real.
- If I were an elderly person, I would not walk down Main street right now, because it's so packed and you add in the fact that there's so much traffic, people going to the ocean right now because there's nothing else to do.
- I mean Sebastopol is packed all the time.
- It's constantly people in town no mask coughing, sneezing.
- It feels like you are begging to increase the numbers.
- And I just think it's absolutely ludicrous to consider what you are talking about.
- That's my opinion on the whole thing.

Diana commented as follows:

- My comment is an invitation to Paul to get in touch with me.
- To discuss the possibility of having the Rotary Club of Sebastopol provide the construction assistance to the extent that the project goes forward, that's exactly the kind of thing that the rotary club is really good at did doing with Jim packet and others in charge.
- So, we like those hands-on projects and please, reach out to me.
- It's exactly the sort of thing that we would be a great way for us to contribute to the community.
- So, we are there for you.

Kyle commented as follows:

- I like to congratulate this Council taking such quick action on the item after being reminded recently at the meeting two weeks ago.
- My only concern is that their functionality at this late in the fall with El Nino conditions expected to bring us a wet winter
- I like to request the Council to consider the timeliness in taking the lead in decisions that could have provided an abundance of recovered sale tax revenue for restaurants over the last four months that this existed on the Council's radar.
- Well in completion time line.
- Finally in regard to the tight transition that Councilmember Carnacchi had mentioned I encourage you to reach out to the City of Arcata, on a similar downtown one-way street.

- Discussed increased awareness and excellent prevention

Linda commented as follows:

- I want to take the opportunity to thank everyone that is involved with this project.
- For the time and effort that you have put in to it, the thought process, I think that while it may be a little bit late in the game for us.
- I suggest that we move forward.
- It's a great opportunity for us to enhance our downtown and let will people know, the businesses know

Jann commented as follows:

- Here's the comment and I really appreciate Paul Fritz, and the rest of you, the whole team, team downtown.
- That has really pushed and slumped through hoops to imagine what it would, what they can do with that extra space.
- You have to understand it costs them money to do so.
- It costs planning and all that kind of stuff.
- I would have to question it, especially this late in the game.
- The direct returns on that investment.
- But what it does, it creates a community gathering space a focal point and if we can translate that throughout with lights and whatever the coordination with the holidays can bear.
- I am concerned with Nate's comment.
- Certainly, we don't want to endanger our community people are making their own choices.
- Allowing restaurants in particular, and cafe and such, ice cream shops to expand for people to get off the sidewalk will allow a better traffic flow on sidewalks.
- I think that is all taken in to consideration.
- The health and safety of the employees is critical.
- I think there's many things to discuss, and I love to be part of the project especially if we can entertain doing something for the holidays.
- It's enough to make a splash, it may give the retail sector a boost, and what I think overall, it will create a good feeling in town.

#### Council Deliberations:

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I would like to just briefly comment on the comments that were made regarding that are we aware that we are in a pandemic and I think that is an important message that we need to remember to put out there.
- I thank Nate for joining us this evening and bringing that to our attention, reminding us of that, and that we need to take it seriously.
- We need to protect ourselves and yes, it's easy to start to get a little lax because it has gone on so long.
- That reminder, I think is important.
- We have a lot of people who are in vulnerable populations in our neighborhoods.
- In our community that we need to protect as best as we can.
- I know that there have been mixed reports ask to the success, but I will remind everyone that Sonoma County does is a, a COVID compliance complaint hotline and I will go ahead and repeat the number.

- 1-833-Safe-7070 is the compliance headline.
- I think what I heard during the first discussion and questions was there was some concern over the safety of potential parklets.
- We have the number of parklets and I think also, just some technical questions about compliance with accessibility and things like that.
- None of which, I think, are at least for me, any, there's nothing there that causes me any concern of an issue that can't be overcome with just a bit of engineering.
- Regarding the material, I mean, concrete is concrete.
- The ability for something to withstand an impact, I think we want to try to maximize
- I don't know which is the safer one?
- I can make some assumptions, I would think that a concrete k-rail would be safer than a plastic one filled with water but I don't know.
- I have not seen data on that.
- Otherwise, it's a guess on my part.
- I think the locations as noted, are ideal.
- We have got the proposal for two on the West face of North Maine and then the one on South main and the one in front of everybody's favorite ice cream shop.
- All of those seem like ideal locations to me.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- This proposal it's just for one on North main in between, closer to McKinley and I think when it first, the discussion first came up, I made it a point of walking to every business in both of those blocks on both sides of the street and to get their feeling on using that parking for their customers, and it was about split 50/50
- I think if we are going to do any approval tonight, it should be for the one as originally stated in our staff report.
- And to see how it goes.
- Rather than taking up four spaces initially and we don't know what the parking situation will be.
- So, I think that the Mayor said there are four but we are looking at three at this point.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- It's three in the staff report with the additional work since the staff report was published there's an interest in a fourth location
- It's either something that we want to consider or decide not to consider Interested in fourth location

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- So I would say no at first on that.
- Otherwise, for the proposal as long as we use the concrete k-rails as the end caps.
- I think that is really important and I would be able to find that information on a quote, but they were not too expensive if we were going to rent them.
- I don't think it would be fair to the merchants without doing more outreach and doing a second walk through, that takes four or five hours maybe at the max.
- To walk in to every business and to get feedback as to what they think.
- Especially going in to holiday Christmas season.
- They are just as depending on the tax revenue created from sales as the restaurants are.

- I really like Portico and it's an ideal place, but I don't think that we should move yet and take up the parking on the West side.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- It's somewhat anecdotally, my understanding from the merchants downtown suffers from too many good ideas in a lot of ways where we had the idea of a people's lane, which was to remove the entire block face of parking - to increase the width of the sidewalks.
- Some would be used as parklets some used as sidewalk and some of them nonspecific, just wider sidewalk.
- And for me, what I was hearing from merchants was that was not working for them.
- What I heard, one or two parking places to the restaurants was great
- Again that's in no way a formal survey.
- That is what my understanding was when the people's lane was the shorthand for some type of human oriented space along main street.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- We have a parking lot at the plaza, the theater and at Hop Monk, those so these lots are empty
- We have a lot of parking.
- CVS
- All of us who do park at Rite aid and shop multiple places including rite-aid downtown.
- I'm not concerned about the parking.
- I'm going to connect the dots on Jann's comments.
- What we are looking at is the possibility for marketing the downtown for the downtown and that could include request for use of some of Holly's time.
- We have to be realistic and support the businesses there's a notion.
- It could assist bringing artists downtown.
- It's in the future if we go with the idea.
- We can jazz it up and make it attractive.
- Same with the consistent lighting in the big gridded area that we are talking about that will then go from Main street to Morris street and pull that look together which will allow us a place to walk.
- Remember this is public space only.
- If you take your take out and sit at the table, that's your business, you still have to do the social distancing.
- All of the areas have can be signed as public space.
- That is one of the requirements.
- I think we need to figure out how to mobilize and what all, how many people will take it to the next level in the application process and the business community wide discussion.
- To make sure that we are answering the questions that the downtown merchants have had.
- Not just restaurants but the retailers.
- Make sure that we have a design element that works and just a lot of volunteers and rotary is a possible resource, we have to get under way and do it quickly.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I'm definitely for approving the fourth tonight if we are going to move forward.

- It's one application process is my understanding.
- We need to have them all in.
- I can speak for myself - I have not had any trouble parking on Main street or behind Main, when I go downtown these days, there's not as many people out and I look at these as not just fun but as a marketing thing.
- Helping our restaurants and helping all the businesses.
- Because every time I go down to eat, I see something, I usually end up buying it and that is just how it works.
- So, if we get circulation in that area, it's going to just float everyone's boat to the top.
- And verse if there's not enough space down there, then we don't have enough circulation or people.
- And the businesses are going to continue to struggle.
- So, I'm fully in support of all four and hopefully getting this approved tonight.
- Having been a waitress in college, there's a table turn and there's a process so when had people start to buy their food and sit down and eat it and then they walk around it's all coming back to not only the merchants and our health of our economy, but also the city at the end of the day.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I really appreciated the public comment about we are in the middle of a pandemic.
- We do not need to be in denial as some people are about the fact that we are in a pandemic and how dangerous it is.
- But that is part of why this idea of doing parklets is a good idea.
- Because it is a compromise between having people all jammed up in a restaurant and still being able to patronize the restaurant
- The idea is that people can pick up some food, and still be in an outside, outdoor environment that is really spaced out from other people.
- And still enjoy their food.
- So, aside from parklets just being a cool idea that we have done in the past this is actually a response to having some viable really distanced space to enjoy food that they are picking up at the restaurants and thereby helping the restaurants also.
- I do want to say, I really heard what that person in the public said, and I am very concerned about people wondering around downtown and without a mask on.
- I'm very concerned about people being at the plaza without a mask on.
- If you are one of the people that doesn't think it's a problem, you can at least have the good manners to put on a mask for the comfort and politeness toward other people.
- We need to keep that in mind.
- This was actually a solution to keeping the restaurants going.
- And having a place for people to eat the food they are purchasing down this.
- The other thing that I wanted to say was this
- I am hearing the issue of why don't we just do stuff really fast and ask the Mayor, and as the Mayor said, every time we try to do anything with Caltrans, it takes a cast of thousands to move stuff forward.
- We have talking to the governor's office, and you believe it takes an active governor to get a parklet in a tiny town in Sebastopol.
- I'm grateful to the team work of everyone that's working on trying to make it happen, but I also want the public to understand how difficult it is to do make stuff happen when you have your Main street happening to be a State highway.

- It seems that we are in support of that.
- We are trying to work on a program with the downtown businesses and the businesses in general about being safe and promoting to the public that we take the safety of everybody really seriously.
- That when you go to a restaurant in our downtown people are really the merchants and the restaurant owners are taking the safety of the public really seriously.
- They are doing all of that work to keep things sterilized and making sure that people wear their masks etcetera.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The staff report, the funding is the appropriate amount for three parklets.
- If we were to add a fourth, the requirement for funding would increase by an additional \$2,500?
- If we are interested in this and with that increase and to do the one application as was mentioned.
- It's one application to the State.
- if it turns out that outreach shows that the businesses are overwhelming dissension for the second one on the North main West block face, then at least we have asked and we can do it if we want if there's not support, we will not necessarily need to go forward.
- We have to get approval from the State just in case.
- That's the way I would look at it.
- Honoring the idea that we probably do need to at least do some sort of outreach to the businesses and find out what, what, what the best way to go forward is

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I can take on that responsibility and walk in and talk with all the business owners and take a poll.
- We have not asked the businesses directly.
- I say we do the outreach first before we just plop it out in main street and I have done the personal walk-through
- I have gone to every single one of those businesses
- I have taken the time out of my day to walk in to every single one of the businesses, talk to the owners personally.
- So, I think that the outreach should come first.
- What happens to the pick-up lane that's this there for the businesses that are offering pick-ups like Rosemary's Garden and is that eliminated now
- How many spaces does the pick-up area take up and so, if we are talking about two parklets that are four spaces total, so how many overall are we going to lose?

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- We have to acknowledge that we have already asked the leaders of the business associations.
- Discussed sending out one Councilmember with one point of view
- It's an experience, it's an experiment to see if it works or doesn't work or what it offers or doesn't offer.

Public Works Superintendent Dante Del Prete commented as follows:

- The two pick up locations, right now, are utilizing two parking spaces at two locations.
- So, four total.
- And, the parklets are going to be 2-1/2 parking spaces long.



Mr. Fritz commented as follows:

- I have then drawn at about, it came out to 42 feet total.
- Those blocks of Main street do not have parking spaces marked off.
- So typically a parking space, a parallel parking space is 22 feet, so that would be 44 feet would be two parking spaces
- So we are a little under that.
- If we do it angled k-rail at the leading edge, that would take up a little more.
- But again, we could probably still on do it in two parking spaces.
- 44 feet.
- Since Caltrans repaved and restriped downtown, they did not put the tick marks.
- It's more vague.
- You can get more cars in that way, which is probably their intent.
- So it approximately 2 parking spaces.

Superintendent Del Prete commented as follows:

- The original design that I sent to the original meeting group there was one of the water filled plastic k-rail devices at a 45 degree, with a secondary one at 90 degree, for dual protection on the upstream traffic side.
- With that being said, before Council moves to make a decision on the budget - I would ask that you can reach out and get the cost for the concrete.
- That would increase the cost.
- The current price is for the water filled plastic devices.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The application to Caltrans- that's something that we don't need to specify.
- Am I understanding that correctly?
- That as long as it complies, it can be made from anything.

Mr. Fritz commented as follows:

- Saratoga's application was nonspecific as to what they were blocking their parklets off with.
- I was planning on including that diagram that was in the staff report as an example of what we are proposing.
- I can add a second, leading edge k-rail at an angle the if that's the preferred direction.
- Then use it as kind of a typical installation for our application.
- Saratoga was not, very nonspecific.
- Again, we are, Caltrans had very detailed requirements, but Saratoga, did not really have to comply with them.
- So we are hoping we get the same treatment from Caltrans that Saratoga did.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Back to my original question then.
- That the specificity of the material that the k rails are made of, does not keep us from moving forward with the application to Caltrans.
- We can revisit staff's research about material costs and take a look at that, as a follow-up.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- I would suggest that we consider having somebody from the Planning Department phone, which is actually a COVID compatible that we have staff contact the people up and down Main street rather than have people who are like me, who are elected so we have a certain amount of baggage when we talk to people, we are not neutral.
- So I see my colleague was rather heated against his fellow colleague which is not something we do.
- However, wouldn't it be a good idea if we just have staff check had in with people, because that's what they get paid for and they are neutral, so they are more likely to give a neutral kind of opinion than if any of us walked in and people feel like we have certain points of view.
- So, would it be a problem to have somebody on the planning staff just made some phone calls up and down Main street just to get feedback on spacing.
- I'm interested in moving forward with this and going for parklets and but I think it would be a good idea to just get a little more feedback on the spacing, spacing of locations and the pick-up lanes.
- I am concerned that we not stick it to some of the non-restaurants.
- That we know that we are having at least outreach so that our businesses downtown, that are not restaurants feel that we are supporting them and that we are listening to their needs as well.
- Suggested that kind of outreach, several hours of work on the part of a staff person to make phone calls.
- So, I'm just saying that might be a good idea.
- Although, I definitely think the parklets are a good idea too.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- It's a fine idea and it does not necessarily need to delay the application.
- The feedback we can adjust, take one down if we need to or make it shorter.
- I'm not the designer.
- But I have experience as a downtown business person having had an office on Petaluma avenue for 11 years.
- Walking to my office and walking home for lunch, walking to my office, and shopping at the downtown businesses.
- As a downtown business person myself, and also as a 42-year resident here, I'm very familiar with the parking space wars between downtown businesses.
- There are people who's employee parked right in front of their front door and then their because that was not available for a customer.
- Even though they perceived that they owned the parking space in front of their store.
- They wanted the other business's parking place.
- The point is parking places are public spaces and the parklets were for a public benefit.
- And we are extending this benefit rate now at this time, to support all of our businesses downtown.
- And the effort that has been suggested by our business leaders is one to unify our core downtown so it's not, just an effort to focus on main street, but to do coordinated holiday marketing for the area that goes from main street to Morris street and including McKinley and Sebastopol avenue.
- We need to accept the notion that parking spaces are public space.
- That's what parking day is about.
- It's about repurposing this car storage area for community space.

- And that could benefit our businesses that are struggling and provide us with also, a holiday season
- How many holidays have we lost this this year because we can't travel, we can't go anywhere?
- We cannot have celebrations, I think it would be heartwarming nor the community.
- We have a number of suggestions on how to smooth the wrinkles and make them deeper or smooth them and make it work.
- I think had the typing needs to be tonight and we need to move forward.
- Otherwise, we are just going to continue to paralyze our decision making and not get anything done.

**MOTION:**

Mayor Slayter moved and Councilmember Hinton seconded the motion to approve Resolution and Application For and Temporary Installation of Parklets Downtown to Address Impacts of Covid-19 and Request for Funding (\$11000) and Fourth Location (North Main West Block face; that the application be submitted in the city's name and that the city approve the supporting resolution; and that the installation and construction techniques will be per Caltrans standards at a minimum and that this will come back to Council for funding once the research is done as to what the difference between the different types of can k-rails, Caltrans standards and the Council stated request that they be as safe as possible.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I would like to add to that motion that the fourth one, it's stipulated that that is not to be installed until after the public outreach is conducted with the businesses.
- So that while we will approve the funding that it is contingent upon the business survey whether they want it or they don't.
- I think that needs to be added to the motion.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- As the maker of the motion, honestly, I trust the research has been accomplished and I trust that staff is going to do the direction as directed to do a bit more neutral research.
- And I am not seeing the need to include that in the motion.
- I think it's already implied.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- The direction that you're talking about is, that's a direction to get pricing on the k-rails and the heavier k-rails, as far as I know.
- Are we giving direction to the planning director to do outreach to the business owners?
- Is that part of the motion?

Mayor Slayter stated that is not part of the motion but the direction has been given.

Councilmember Carnacchi questioned if direction has to be given as part of the motion.

Mayor Slayter not necessarily.

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- Many times staff goes on consensus.

- If the Council is in consensus around a specific direction and we perceive there's majority support for that, then we take that as direction and go forth.
- Do we have a majority of support for that then on the Council?
- I see consensus on this item for direction

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Asked for a little clarification on the staff direction
- Is the Council asking the Planning Department to do the outreach to the particular block for the fourth parklet is proposed as opposed to all of downtown which is a much large task?

Mayor Slayter commented that is the intent - the most impacted businesses would be the ones to check.

The Council also requested that staff talk to both sides of the street because you can park on the other side of the street too.

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter  
 Noes: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Approved approve Resolution and Application For and Temporary Installation of Parklets Downtown to Address Impacts of Covid-19 and Request for Funding (\$11000) and Fourth Location (North Main West Block face; that the application be submitted in the city's name and that the city approve the supporting resolution; and that the installation and construction techniques will be per Caltrans standards at a minimum and that this will come back to Council for funding once the research is done as to what the difference between the different types of can k-rails, Caltrans standards and the Council stated request that they be as safe as possible.**

**Minute Order Number: 2020-207  
 Resolution Number: 6315-2020**

Mayor Slayter called for a break at 8:46 pm and reconvened the meeting at 9:02 pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

10. Public Hearing – To conduct a Public Hearing on FY 2020-2021 Capital Improvement Plan and Discussion and Direction on Potential Council Policy on Prioritization (Responsible Department: Engineering)

Engineering Manager Mikus presented the agenda item recommending the City Council approve the CIP for FY 20-21 as presented and provide guidance regarding bond funding for paving needs. Staff also recommends Council provide direction regarding the suggested Paving Policy of allocating 30% of available paving funds to "Preservation" and 70% to "Restoration" across the 5-year CIP horizon, beginning with FY 21-22 for monies other than the Bodega Corridor work.

Mayor Slayter opened for questions.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- Discussed the citizens survey which overlaps with the ones that staff thought were the worst, surprisingly closely.
- That is 405,000, and the ADA curb ramp money, if it didn't go to bodega could go and basically cover those plus a little extra.
- Questioned if that is correct

Manager Mikus stated that is correct.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- So I have heard two things that I wanted to ask about from the public lately that I don't think were covered.
- One I think a lot of the Council got a letter about PG&E tearing up streets and not putting it back to the same condition.
- I live on Hayden and I know we had PG&E work and now it's a disaster.
- I personally have also experienced it as I drive down my street every day.
- I wanted to ask that question.
- Recently it came up sidewalk work in Ives, it feels like we have talked about it, but I don't recall the answer.
- We are talking about other work being done at Ives
- Is the sidewalk money able to come out of the park fund, or is that a different fund?
- We are not addressing that at all in this CIP either.

Superintendent Del Prete commented as follows:

- I can comment on the PG&E work.
- Final restoration has not taken place yet.
- It is their responsibility to bring it back to what it was before they tore it apart.
- The restoration contractor has not completed their work.
- They have not started it yet.
- Discussed the sidewalks in Ives
- That's the ADA path of travel
- I don't think it's a sidewalk but it is an asphalt path.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The issue with that is the requirement under the ADA law that there's continuity and if you touch one part of it, you kind of have to do all of it.
- We will not grind off bits and patch here and patch there.
- So it gets in to a full problem.
- Which is \$5 million park fix

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- This fiscal year was \$100,000.
- That was coming from Prop 68 - that grant that was late.
- We are taking it in bits and pieces to see what is manageable.
- Not in bits and pieces but sections.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows

- I'm wondering what part of Jewel is bad?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- It's the part past the park.
- It's the section from Calder to Willow.

Superintendent Del Prete commented as follows:

- There are some future proposed improvements on that section that might require some sidewalk and pavement work there, that might be one that we want to delay for a year for a pending development project that might happen in that area.
- If they have utilities, I would not like to break that up.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Compared to some places down to gravel, it does not seem as bad as some to me.
- I don't know what everyone else thinks.
- Does this get into length of problematic pavement.
- If it's smooth before and after, maybe you forget about the bad part in between.

Superintendent Del Prete commented as follows:

- I also think that it's rated higher in the street-smart program because of how many vehicles traveled that street every day.
- It's rated higher that way.
- Similar to Cleveland being basically a gravel road right now because it's a dead-end street it does not get rated.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Are there locations where it would make sense to accelerate an underground infrastructure project where maybe the pavement is not so bad.
- To double up on things so that we are not just cutting in to new asphalt to install underground utilities.
- I realize that that would require additional pavement
- There are additional costs
- I'm wondering what is the overall affect on the number at the very end
- Does it turn into a smaller number because you have doubled up on things.
- Are there places where sewer and water lines dove tail with paving projects?
- I'm not seeing a lot of that which I guess is unfortunate.
- Curious if staff has knowledge that I'm not aware of.
- The two areas that I would refer would be Palm where utilities are old and need to be upgraded and Washington is the other one rated higher and those utilities are aged and sewer could be upgraded to more modern materials.
- The asphalt condition there is just abysmal
- Are there any projects noted that really need to occur more rapidly in order to forestall a catastrophic failure.
- There's one that runs along the creek bed.
- That leads in to the other question of the liability.
- We have gotten in to trouble with wastewater and it's part of our level of service report every year about spills

- Clearly we want to do our absolute level best to protect the environment and if we need to accelerate one of these kinds of projects even two or three years out and reconsider when that might be scheduled to take place, move it forward in place of something else
- with the caveat for people who are not familiar with the CIP, there's funds that are available that can only be spent on certain things.
- Maybe we can't use CDBG funds on sewer
- Those are the kinds of questions that I think we need to consider on that.
- Next question is on page 9 of 72 in the staff report.
- This is the global summary report that lists the project category expenditures and funding sources.
- The ones that caught my eye were 002 grant other.
- We need to get more of the grant others.
- Curious if you can let us know exactly what that is?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- There's a lot of enthusiasm among your body for the Ragle Road improvements road repairs and making it part of the rest of the world
- That's a place holder so we don't forget it.
- It's the price so we know it's there.
- I don't have a magic grant to take care of that.
- I know every year we look at grants available trying to find one that will help us.
- It's an out-sized total that it calls attention to itself.
- It's more than paving,
- It's walking paths and bike paths.
- Part of it is because if you go down the road, ownership on the either side of the street changes.
- Some are in entirely county and some entirely city and some that are a mix of both.
- When we did the design a few years ago for the grant application, we tried to take advantage of what both sides had to offer as far as places for pathways and bikeways.
- These are related, and it's more of a procedural question as to how it's organized.
- We have got project funding sources and then we have fund 212, which is park in lieu, and 216 which is CDC, CDBG grants.
- Those are broken out
- We have some funds from say Laguna Foundation and Sonoma County Open Space
- There are a couple of others that are in the park in lieu.

Mayor Slayter questioned if it is possible for those funding sources to have “fences” around them as to what we can only use such as Laguna foundation funds on Laguna foundation approved projects?

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- For those two specifics, the spaces are for the AmeriCorps trail
- That is a specific project.
- The Laguna Foundation is the city's required match to that.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Maybe a hidden question is why are some of those funds listed have different numbers and same names.
- Do we need more specificity in the labels so we are not using 212 and 216 in a generic form?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- That was a change for last year for two reasons.
- Accounting requires tracking of funds for best accounting practices.
- We get a grant from somebody and it's going to be used for a park project or a park village and it's a CDBG grant, then maybe it should be included in the umbrella, and she shows it on the revenue sheet as income in.
- The other part of it is something that I had to initiate because some of the funds have annual reporting and I have got it tracked to the penny what we spend.
- When they cover multiple fiscal years, or when revenues are varied because they are tax driven, you end up with underages or overages, so you will see it is my way of keeping track of where I applied this year's money, and next year's money
- Because my reports that I give to the state to keep the funding money, it has to match your finances on your system and what shows in the CIP.

Councilmember Gurney questioned, how long do we have to spend the OBAG money for the Bodega Avenue corridor?

Manager Mikus commented FY 24-25.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- We can see by your numbers we have less than half of what we would need assuming the costs stay the same.
- For the revenues – this is continuing to be a problem with declining revenues.
- Which gets us to a later discussion perhaps of the bond issue

Mayor Slayter opened the public hearing.

Nate commented as follows:

- This is why I joined the chat tonight, first time I have been involved in a town meeting.
- I live in Park Village
- I'm a third-generation resident, my kids will be the fourth generation.
- We have been in Sebastopol since the beginning.
- These paths that you guys are proposing, no one in the park knew about, and since the city has bought the park we have been uninformed of the changes.
- You bought a community.
- We are a community.
- Everything that happens impacts us.
- Then you made us part of the town.
- So, it's not that we are against what is happening but we are against the location and we are against more places being put in before there's something for our kids.
- There used to be something for them to do.
- There's nothing for my kids to do here.
- Literally nothing.
- The one spot that you want to put these things is where everyone has had our over flow parking and where we kind of let our kids play because now there's a giant community garden where the kids used to play.



- Myself and several other people in the park are requesting an immediate hold on the project, not that it's not completely stopped but paused so that Dante and whoever can come look and survey other, possibly better locations.
- I talked to Dante and the manager and the social worker and ten people in the park and everyone seemed to be in the consensus that it's not the best location.
- will hope that Dante would back me up on this.
- One of the reasons is, it's so far away from any hook-ups - you are spending more money than you need to do put the two places in a spot that will be directly in the sun light and it's going to be ugly for the people who live here and for the new buildings going in across the way.
- On that subject, I formally am requesting that whenever something in the park comes up that there's a newsletter sent out to the people here.
- One of the reasons people asked me to speak tonight in the park is because they are not very good with technology.
- Some do not speak English.
- Some are very uneducated and some are elderly, so we feel very, we don't feel represented or involved.
- We don't feel like we are a part of the city we have been in our whole lives.
- People in the park are requesting that you involve us in these decisions.
- You give us a chance to get the meeting.
- This is a random fluke that you are talking about it on the random time I joined the meeting.
- Make us a part of it, we want to be a part of it.
- We ask to be a part of the community.
- You asked us to be and let us be.
- Help us be involved in the decisions that impact our lives and our kids' lives and the future of this place.
- It's really important.
- Several other people who live in the park are begging you to pause the project, it's going to impact our lives.
- Our daily, everyday lives.
- Please, hear what I'm saying.
- That's why I'm here.

Evert commented as follows:

- I have a question on the Palm avenue work and very grateful that it will be done.
- It's a rough road and there's no sidewalk along there
- There's a telephone post in the middle.
- There's an unfinished part and I'm wondering if the work that's going be done
- When the work is done will it include the sidewalk there.
- When you are coming to Petaluma avenue, it's a difficult place to be to see oncoming cars coming from the South.
- There may be some minor things that could be done to make the visibility a bit better.
- That's something to consider.
- Regarding the Ives park, I I'm wondering if some of the items being worked on is part of the master plan for the park.
- I know that some of the paving is going to be done.
- There's too much black asphalt on the park for my liking.

- I think a lot of people and just wondering if you may be able to paint some white lines and make a trail to follow along the park and dress it up a bit on there.

Kyle commented as follows:

- The city followed a prudent and safe path.
- I like to remind the body and the community that what was presented was the same at last year's budget with increases that were stated at the time as contractually obligated.
- Following exhaustive reasoning, it referenced the loss of revenue because of COVID and fails to remind us that the historically tax revenue base funding was deferred with the tax revenues being used to balance other general fund expenditures.
- Without seeing a updated budget and revenues for next year, I'm surprised that staff is so bold to request that the city go through the process of acquiring an extensive amount of debt for a paving program when the lack of attention to street maintenance goes back to 2017, which is presented most recently in the September 15th meeting.
- Finally, I just like to speak to the packet, both in this particular case as well as more generally as we all earlier this evening.
- There's a suggestion that there's no immediate fiscal impact.
- When the very suggestion by staff is to acquire bond funding in the range of millions of dollars.
- This seems different than the packet.
- More generally, or in particular, in the last agenda item, we saw that the packet had posted on Thursday, was already out of date with the presented packet suggesting three parklets with no update provided for four that was discussed tonight that led to a heated debate that likely could have been avoided, being consistent, transparency in how they appear in the packet and how they appear in the meeting before the public.

Diana commented as follows:

- I really appreciate the effort to look forward and try to plan ahead in terms of street issues - Core city services, they are essential to the quality of life here in Sebastopol, and the idea that we might not be planning for them in advance would be troubling to me.
- Thanks for the effort to get that done and to look in to the future.
- Secondly, I just wanted to respond to Nate's comments.
- It's great that we have community members especially in an environment as he was saying where technology may be a challenge to some of his neighbors that he is willing to come here and make himself available and speak on behalf of his community.
- I was there today and I, I understand the need of those people to actually be engaged with decision making and I applaud it.
- It's impressive that he is willing to come here and make that statement on behalf of the people who he lives near.
- I would encourage all of us to recognize that and reach out in a way that makes information accessible to them which may be different from the way it would be accessible to others.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Slayter closed the public hearing.

#### Council Deliberations:

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- The discussion had that we have had, a couple of weeks ago was -- we started to discuss particular projects and trying to prioritize Cleveland over Washington, over Jewell and Palm.

- I certainly felt frustration
- I'm not the expert in this.
- I don't understand the technicalities of why one roadway has failed and one has not.
- That's why we have experts
- That's why we have our wonderful staff to look at those things to look at the over-riding policies as to how we make decisions and where we spend our money is, that's the purview of the Council.
- That's why we were sent here is to make the larger policy decisions, not decide exactly which street or which block gets slurry sealed or an overlay.
- The difficulties in the paving go back long as I have been on the Council and long time before that
- Every community around the state is in exactly the same position and I'm not saying it's a good thing.
- We are all in the same boat where every community is falling further and further behind on pavement projects.
- We were already barely keeping up and I use that generously and we are not keeping up.
- Our previous engineering manager would warn us every single year the further and further behind that we were falling the deeper and deeper the hole it was becoming.
- The need for a broader policy and as simple as it seems is imminently logical.
- The 30/70 thing, it provides a consistent measure for comparison
- These things go in greater cycles than one fiscal year
- That's the reason we look at a five-year CIP rather than that one-year CIP, and the ability for the Council to say these are the general categories that we are looking for funding with our limited amount of resources
- We depend on our staff professionals to tell us that these projects are in the categories and meet the funding policy, which is what we are here to do determine
- There's a lot of CIP in here that falls to the general fund and we all know the difficulties with the general fund
- We have property tax and sales tax and how dependable are those going to be in the future?
- We discuss it all the time about the difficulty with COVID
- With the high wire act that is the CIP, we do it every year.
- The falling behind is problematic, it costs us more money in the end.
- Lets look at options open to us.
- Taking a loan in the form of a bond, money is very affordable these days for a loan.
- Interest rates are at historic lows.
- I think that we would be well served to consider it.
- Educate ourselves, find out if it's something that makes sense.
- Those are my preliminary thoughts.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented as follows:

- I'm looking at the staff report and it says that Council has at least three immediate avenues ahead regarding the paving expenditures in the current CIP, so, do we have to make a decision on one of those?
- I don't know that we have actually discussed it and in a couple of places in the staff report and when the engineering manager mentioned it in his verbal staff report, he mentioned that we were in consensus to set aside the ADA monies or to put the project off, and utilize the monies.
- I don't really remember us having consensus on that

- I thought that we thought that was important that we also think about pedestrian thoroughfare and the elderly and the disabilities.
- I'm a little bit confused as to what path we are actually taking here.
- On page 4 it gives Council at least 3 avenues ahead regarding paving expenditures in the current CIP
- Is staff saying that we are needing to choose one of those three
- Staff also mentioned during his report that we were in general consensus to postpone the ADA projects and utilize the monies for the paving.
- I don't remember us being in consensus or really taking even a straw poll on that at the last meeting but maybe you can give me clarity.
- Do we have to make a decision tonight about utilizing one of the three options that you gave available?
- Are we postponing the ADA upgrade?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- I talked to our leadership team and peers to make sure that I understood exactly what went down in the meeting
- If our collective take was wrong, I apologize.
- It seemed that most of you were not in favor of doing the ADA project.
- As far as your choices, those are the three choices.
- We can go ahead with the way it was or try and do something positive and use this to our advantage.
- I think the choices are either put the money towards bodega or do something with paving.
- That is staff recommendation.

Councilmember Carnacchi commented any choice we make we put traffic over pedestrian, correct?

Manager Mikus commented don't think that's a choice but any time you are repaving, and striping, you are serving both.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- One of the choices, the suggestion is postponing the curb ramp project had which then could stabilize the Bodega Avenue project – that is not the final piece of the funding puzzle for that.
- It is \$400,000 plus.
- The next gear that we might shift in to is then to turn around and then destabilize the Bodega Avenue funding and use that to reconstruct some of our most poorly degraded city streets.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- We are looking at kind of these apart from all kinds of other minor things - not minor but maybe not as big things.
- We are looking at ADA curb ramp project.
- We are looking at Bodega Avenue safety project
- We are looking at pavement projects.
- If we try and do Bodega avenue safety project to me is also about pedestrian safety.
- The Bodega avenue safety project is not just about vehicles.
- It's about making Bodega avenue safer for everybody - in particular for pedestrians.

- We have those three things but then I have a question, how do those three things fit with potential Federal money that we may see happen starting
- Maybe if we see economic stimulus money happen from the feds starting next year, what would be a more likely thing to be funded?
- If there was money coming out of the feds to do a public works project that create economic stimulus, it would be more likely seeing that money going to something ADA curb ramp to pavement or to Bodega a safety project.
- Does it make more sense to postpone until we know if there's going to be money coming down the pike about a particular kind of thing?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- When it comes to Federal Money, a couple of things.
- Generally when you see those bills, or those pieces of legislature come out, they suffer from the same dilemmas
- They have got multiple things to accomplish like you were talking about, crosswalks, paving, sidewalk gap closures
- Those are all different facets of the whole transportation system, but you are looking at what is more important.
- They have the same issues.
- The way they generally do it is out of their block of money they will allocate so much to this will say, you have to spend so much of it on paving and so much of it on pedestrian.
- That is how they cover their bases doesn't always happen that way.
- But it's the more typical one.
- The other thing that happens is, a lot of that money comes down as far as grants.
- If you remember some of the grants we have applied for in the last few years.
- If you check enough boxes of the things, they consider serious.
- ADA and pedestrians are big.
- That only enhances you getting the overall bottom line.
- I know that does not answer your question, because there's really no answer.
- A lot depends on how the stuff gets structured.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- So my point is we want to solve problems on the Fed's dime rather than our dime.
- So if it makes sense to wait for a few months and see if they have dimes for us

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- I want to talk about the total dollar amount is \$15 million.
- I don't think that the Federal Government is coming up with that kind of money.
- In the overall scheme, there will be a need for that kind of money five years, ten years from now, undoubtedly.

City Manager McLaughlin commented as follows:

- Safety and ADA are always likely top categories for that kind of funding and answering the Vice Mayor's inquiry over the years, especially in CDBG, grants we have structured those around ADA, year after year, after year.
- That's always a safe and high priority.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- I know when we received the Obama stimulus money, it went to paving Keating
- The criteria may have shifted, we are in a different historical time, and Henry will know that list of boxes that we need to check.
- The reality is if the feds came through with funding, what would we do?
- What is it?
- We would pivot, right?
- We could simply change our priorities and capture that money.
- Do this kind of revisioning of expenses that we are doing tonight.
- I wanted to mention another choice that neither the Mayor or Vice Mayor mentioned as we are looking at our decision-making tonight and that is to get to the issue of bonding.
- If we are interested in that, it's more than just looking at postponing curb ramps and stabilizing Bodega, or destabilizing Bodega and paving streets.
- We may want to borrow some money at favorable rates to do something more.
- Whether that's completing Bodega or paving or whatever it is that conversation is.
- Are there grant applications that are in our near future that we could apply for with the projects that are already worked up? And have a good chance at?
- So we have a Bodega avenue safety corridor.
- We have a joint project with the county that is Ragle Road, that is exceptional.
- It's city and county together, how often does that happen cooperatively for the benefit of our West County.
- We have potential for further work up
- There was a sustainable community grant that is coming up with Caltrans.
- I'm wondering, are you aware of some grant cycles that we may apply for and potentially be successful?
- What are the deadlines, and how does the money apply and come in.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- The Caltrans sustainable grant that came in earlier, the November date is for public comments on their program.
- They have not even finished establishing the program yet.
- They are looking at releasing grant applications sometime in December/January.
- Having grant applications due January/February.
- That seems a stretch because if they are just taking comments in November, there's a process to have to go through.
- So, that one is a bit premature, I think.
- It's not to where we are in a position to apply for a grant with them.
- They are looking for public comments like what should the grant be.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- For the application period, you said that opens in January or February.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- I think they are being optimistic

- If they get public comments in November, there's a process they have to go through with the hearing and digesting them and I just don't think, I think something like March is probably more feasible if they get their act together.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- You are implying they are delaying, February to March.
- Anything else that you can think of?

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- Every couple of years, there's OBAG , that is the money that is going to pay for Bodega.
- So, we are about year or two of that coming up again historically we have done well with that.
- That one is, we have always done that.
- The other one has been the SCTA, and I cannot be as positive about that
- We have applied twice since I have been here.
- Both times I thought they were good grant applications and frankly, politics entered in to things.
- The last time is where we submitted the Bodega/Ragle and they awarded 11 out of the several hundred applicants and only one was in the bay area.
- There were really interesting connections
- They were all large cities.
- If somebody comes to us next week and says its SCTA time again, I would be lobbying to you not to spend the money on it, until we see a track record of equity

Councilmember Gurney questioned if staff alerts the Council to the opportunities so we are involved in the decision about whether or not to apply?

Manager Mikus stated yes.

Councilmember Gurney questioned if staff would apply on their own.

Manager Mikus commented he would not make the decision on his own.

Mayor Slayter addressed the questions from the public comment.

- The question about the project at Park Village of the proposed pads.
- That is something that the Council has seen and I do not remember that there were a whole lot of options on that.
- Just curious if staff wants to fill us in as to the thought process on the decision for the locations and underground hook ups, utilities, etcetera.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- The pads were picked over on that side towards the soon to be new townhouses for three reasons.
- One, was there was a space where two pads could be sided together.
- That afforded us savings in running utility lines.
- The general public does not know that going the other way towards the general population, the trailers and buildings is the utilities underground were a rat's nest.
- It's a problem that we have gone some way to straightening out, but it's not solved.

- The third reason was that particular spot, that side of the property is the high part of the property.
- It's a good ten feet higher, even though it may not look it through the naked eye
- It's not as vulnerable to flooding.
- The last time the manager's building and community building got 3-4 feet of water.
- I don't think it got up to where the pads will go.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Had a question about Palm avenue and whatever kind of improvement plans for Palm
- is that just paving, or if it's sidewalks and other improvements.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- Had a conversation about Palm and having a sidewalk.
- Would be appropriate for us to look at it at the time.
- It's in my wheelhouse, if we talk about doing Palm for any reason at all, that, we will look and see what it would cost to do the sidewalk and do it, if we can do it all.
- It would make sense.

Mayor Slayter discussed the master plan for Ives Park and are the proposed improvements congruent with the master plan?

Director Svanstrom commented as follows:

- Yes, they are
- The sculpture garden and the pathway - we are trying to move forward as much as possible for the pathway to be ADA
- There's one additional strip that is not shown in the master plan, but that is the key connection between the Southwest corner between the main pathway and the ADA picnic tables.
- I don't think that the exact location of the ADA picnic tables was located in the Ives Park master plan.
- Obviously, we need to have an ADA access path to those ADA tables.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Discussed shovel ready projects and to have the design done for the Bodega corridor project.
- Have it in the can.
- Having it ready to go for a potential grant opportunity.
- I see on page 47 of 72 that's got the fiscal year 19-20 carry over for professional services and then 20-21, an additional \$60,000 add from the traffic impact fund.
- Is that designed for the bodega avenue corridor.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- It is, but it has not started yet.
- The reason is we have been waiting two years to get grant authorization from CDBG

Mayor Slayter commented we still don't have that approval, so that original funding is not in the bank?

Manager Mikus stated not it is not and discussed the turnover at CDC.



Mayor Slayter questioned the \$450,000, does that include this fund?

Manager Mikus stated no it does not.

Mayor Slayter questioned if we can move forward, assuming the CDC funds come through and with the \$50,000 add from the traffic impact fund and move forward with the design as soon as the funds are available.

Manager Mikus stated it is going to happen regardless.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- We could postpone that safety project for now, put that money to streets, wait for the grant money to come to us.
- We have per staff three years to do the Bodega safety project, right?
- And how many sidewalks was part of the Bodega safety project

Staff stated there are three sidewalk gap closures.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I'm not for borrowing money tonight.
- I think it's interesting, we just saw the presentation.
- But in these uncertain times and where we sit right now, I want to consider that down the road.
- I would rather just stretch our dollars as far as we can right now, and be conservative about it, and postpone some of the projects.
- I think for me, it's hard to debate three sidewalk closures verse fixing streets \$450,000 would take us
- I did like the proposal which was the 30/70 to fix some of the worst streets in Sebastopol
- It seems that those may impact more people immediately verses three sidewalk closures that maybe we can postpone and maybe get more grant money and have that other grant money come through for us.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- I think the big question that we need to answer and I mean, of course, the entire CIP is up for discussion.
- The biggie is the \$450,000 from the curb ramps to Bodega avenue, and then onto local streets.
- If that's how we want to direct staff to use their expertise and determine which streets that is the greatest bang for the buck then that is what we need to come up with.
- I'm not hearing a lot of opinion on that

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- CDC needs to approve money to us
- These are the same people that we needed to deal with the Sebastopol pool
- Here's the political question.
- What do we do to get to money out of them?
- What is the action that we need to take because there's no reason that we should be waiting this long, because I'm sorry, we have a major road that it's related to that takes all of the West county traffic, right?

- Going out to the beach.
- All of the tourist traffic.
- It's a road that our supervisor needs to be interested in its condition and I think we need to do whatever it is that is politically motivating to make a decision which is yeah, here's your check.
- I think we need to get the project designed so we can have it like the Mayor said, more shovel ready for applications.
- I don't think we can sit quietly on \$1.2 or \$1.5 million, waiting for the second half of that because we have the money and we don't want to risk losing it.
- I think we have to kind of ramp up the heat on the county to find money or find political will and find help for us.
- Discussed the three sidewalk gaps.
- We think a developer is going to could one.
- But theoretically we thought that 15 years ago
- We have been saying it now
- I think, Dante Love's application before the planning department for maybe six years or longer.
- I don't see any real certainties that it's going to come forward or that a developer may do it.
- I don't know is a reason to postpone safety concerns.
- For me, I think it's important to listen to the staff's 70/30 split because they know our roads by name and by PCI, and we may know them by walking them, driving them.
- Hearing from the neighborhoods and I think we have this fortunate synergy going that the ones that the staff recommended and the ones that came from the citizens are pretty much the same list.
- I think we have to also consider for instance, the second half Michael and Kathleen are all on one street, really.
- You can't do a street and not do the little cul de sac off of it when it's crumbling.
- That completes the connect or from covert lane to Valentine.
- When we look at east-side, where the repairs have been working, East side and South, Dante suggested that we take it off the list and because PG&E will restore it to their level.
- We can jiggle the list and come up with a way to get some paving on and put pressure on the decision makers to get our money to us to do the professional design work so we have a project that is ready to get the second million or two so they can actually be built and then also get help through that professional design work to apply for other grants and tourism money and whatever more our supervisor can do with us, for us, or through the SCTA and potential measure m and whatever else is available will.
- I think we have to just kind of keep feeding both camps and keep everything moving forward, because we have suffered greatly for not doing a lot and waiting and delaying.
- Here we are in the circumstance which our staff is pointing out -we are behind.
- I understand Councilmember Hinton's caution now about bonding.
- I don't know that we are deciding to bond.
- But we may want to figure out what might go in to a bond.
- We may as well have a discussion about priorities if we were to bond.
- Would it go to roads?
- Would it go to affordable housing?
- Would it go to funding for social services, I mean, I don't know?
- We have not had the discussion.

- I think it's worth moving the needle on that topic and exploring it as elected to see what our community thinks about that idea.
- If the community has priorities for dedication of that money, were they interested in taking it on?
- It's easy to think that in conversation, that roads may be the top priority only because that's what we are talking about.
- But there could be several other ones that are just as viable given our community values.
- I am supporting the choices by staff

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Maybe there's a fourth choice here, which is a different creative mix that we have come up with tonight.
- We have a finite bucket of money, and staff is asking for Council direction on repurposing funds for some other use or some other location.
- It's all kind of the same use.
- It's largely about roads.
- The impact that the 70/30 split for non-Bodega paving projects or stabilization projects, is that a greater service to our community than amassing funds for a route that is a major thoroughfare.
- I worry that it's going to be dangerous in a couple of years.
- It was in okay shape and then we had a really heavy winter and suddenly it was just terrible.
- I have that concern that we are going to end up with a road way that is already failed.
- It's just going to continue to deteriorate.

Councilmember Gurney stated it is a poor design.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- Where I think I'm becoming a little bit more comfortable is as long as we are assured and this is going to be up to us to contact CDC and our fifth district supervisor to make sure that we have the funds promised to us
- We just need them for the CDBG block grant
- We have work to do to contact the officials there, and I will have an excellent opportunity on Thursday, where I might already have a meeting scheduled with most of those players, and push on them and put my hand out and say, put the check in my hand.
- I think that that, we need to do that work.
- I think the greater good in this instance is to address some of the local streets that are failed that carry our local traffic.
- We have been talking about it for two hours almost
- This is the number one thing that we hear about.
- Anybody who has ever run a campaign for City Council hears roads, roads, streets, roads, and streets.
- It would be great to move the Bodega Avenue project forward, with design work, which is absolutely the necessary first step, and put the funds that are amassed to immediate good use is for me, that is, that is a reasonable decision.

Vice Mayor Glass commented as follows:

- Concurred

- The other thing that I would also agree with is Councilmember Hinton's comment about not pursuing the bonding right now and also Councilmember Gurney's observation that we need to figure out what's the priority about that bonding.
- Sometime in the pretty near future, take a look at having maybe some kind of a study session or something about our priorities to do with potential bonding.
- We want to have those things figured out in case there's stimulus number.
- Then we will have our priorities set.
- I get it, we will have to pivot, but we may want to be thinking about what our priorities are before we get to a point, there could be a bunch of different avenues to go through.
- We shouldn't jump in to the bonding thing probably until we have some kind of sense of what direction the feds are going in, and what direction the economy is going in.
- We probably need to take a look at that again - in January, when we do the mid-year budget thing and then revisit that issue.
- I was going to suggest perhaps we should consider directing the Mayor to write a letter to ensure that the CDC money issue does not fall off anybody's radar
- Mayor should send a letter to the Fifth District and to the CDC, where is that money anyway?
- We know that we are pursuing that and everyone is serious.
- When people see letters then they know it is up in the priority list.
- We need to delay on the curb ramp thing, but we need to revisit all of these things in January again but meanwhile go with staff's recommendation on the 70/30 get some stuff done.
- Because even as we keep pursuing projects to complete street projects, but if they are not going to be very complete if the feeder roads are gravel and nobody can use them.

Manager Mikus commented as follows:

- First of all, a comment on the process that may help had you understand and decide things.
- When we have done the preservation work in the past, we have done the street saver list, sorted it by condition of the pavement, and with whatever money we had, and I'm talking about myself and Joe Gaffney, we have taken, say we have had \$200,000 for a year.
- We have picked off the worst streets until we exhausted the \$200,000.
- That's how we go through and pick what gets done.
- We do consider neighborhoods and try to be efficient and do stuff together.
- But we try to hit the worst of the worst first.
- Then a year later, we do overlay, we do the same thing.
- We make a list of things qualified for overlay, and we pick the things that fit the money.
- In the long run, with the split, knowing in both categories there will be money available.
- You will attack both sides.
- The bad streets and the ones that can be preserved and it takes the decision of what particular streets away from you and it delves it down to the number.
- What is the pavement index?
- The wiggle room is about neighborhoods and trying to get streets together.
- The next thing that I would liking to offer is on the case of CDC, I was counting in my head, in the last two years, there have been four people in a leadership chain that had to deal with our grants that have left their employ.
- That is really where the gap is
- I think you are stuck on whether you should service Bodega and put money aside or do local streets and, feel like you have done something positive.

- You can split the \$450,000 put half towards Bodega and put half towards getting something done preservation wise this fiscal year.
- While you were talking, I looked at the street safer list and the hot three streets are Kathleen, Hanson and Michael.
- When you add up the money for repaving the sections, it came up to \$220,000.
- You could get something for your money and still have hedged some bets with the Bodega project.

Mayor Slayter commented as follows:

- That causes us to fall further behind on other preservation.
- We have the recommendation from staff is that we approve the CIP for fiscal year 2020 and 2021 as presented and provide guidance regarding bond funding for paving needs
- I think that there's too many things unknown about bonds right now for us to make any kind of a cogent decision.
- I'm not willing to say yes, we are going to do, we are going to go forward with the bond
- I have heard reservation and hesitation.
- I think we need to do our due diligence on it to see if it even makes sense.
- Having a study session, having an exploratory thing is not doing a bond, it's doing the work we were sent here to do.
- Then there was the recommendation that the Council provide direction regarding the 30/70, 30% of paving funds to preservation and 70% -- in the five-year horizon and the category.
- With the discussions that we have had, I'm feeling like we have got general consensus
- I have heard a couple of people say, that the priority this year will be the local streets, and that we will continue with the design work for the Bodega avenue corridor.
- Once we get the funds from the CDC and with the \$50,000 as noted in the CIP, that would be part of the acceptance of the CIP.

Councilmember Gurney commented as follows:

- As we are looking at the local streets becoming a priority can, we name what those streets are?
- Just for the record and also because we have talked about different combinations of from the citizen survey and the top five or so.
- Are we doing Pleasant Hill or Palm and Washington or the ones that the citizens chose?
- That is what I'm asking for clarification on.

Mayor Slayter commented it is his understanding that we were talking about staff's recommendation, due to the scientific nature of the recommendation.

Councilmember Hinton commented as follows:

- I recall from the last presentation, there was a limited number of respondents on the survey, so I was leaning toward staff recommendation as well.
- However, staff just said that the hot streets were Kathleen, Hansen and Michael.
- I don't have the numbers to know which is the better swap.
- The whole place is between Valentine and Covert lane, where we are getting ready for Pacific Market downtown.
- Is it a matter of the squeaky wheel or is it a matter of what needs to be done first?

Manager Mikus stated it is a matter of what needs to be done first. He questioned is the Council leaning towards taking the \$450000 and doing some nice paving for the city?

Mayor Slayter commented that's the summary.

The Council discussed the streets and allocations:

- Jewell Avenue for that one long block section is \$146000.
- So, if that gets delayed and that was a suggestion from the Superintendent was delay that part, the perception is that it may not be quite as bad as Hansen, Michael and Kathleen.
- I think that what we need to do is provide the direction to staff with the suggestion that Michael, Kathleen and Hansen in lieu of Jewell and maybe Pleasant Hill and honestly let them go figure it out.
- Like Michael, Kathleen, Hansen and not Jewell and Pleasant Hill

Superintendent Del Prete commented that staff can come back fairly quickly with the list by the next meeting for sure.

**MOTION:**

Mayor Slayter moved and Councilmember Gurney seconded the motion to:

- Approve the CIP as presented
- Approve the policy of 70/30 over five years, make the local streets a priority and push on the design work for the bodega avenue corridor.
- Those streets would be Michael, Kathleen, Hansen and not Jewell and Pleasant Hill but staff will return with the recommendations based on the number as we use the money, and then press on the CDC money to do the design work for bodega corridor.
- Authorize Mayor to send letter to Fifth District supervisor and CDC

Mayor Slayter called for a roll call vote. City staff conducted a roll call vote.

**VOTE:**

Ayes: Councilmember Carnacchi, Gurney, Hinton, Vice Mayor Glass and Mayor Slayter  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**City Council Action: Approved • Approve the CIP as presented**

- Approve the policy of 70/30 over five years, make the local streets a priority and push on the design work for the bodega avenue corridor.
- Those streets would be Michael, Kathleen, not jewel and pleasant hill, but staff will return with the recommendations based on the number as we use the money, and then press on the CDC money to do the design work for bodega corridor.
- Authorize Mayor to send letter to fifth district supervisor and CDC

Minute Order Number: 2020-208

Resolution Number: 6316-2020

**CITY COUNCIL REPORTS:**

11. City Manager-Attorney/City Clerk Reports (Continued):
- Update on COVID 19 Response.

City Manager McLaughlin reported as follows:

- Parks Openings
- Masks and Enforcements
- Parklets
- Holiday Lights
- Interviews for Climate Action Subcommittee Meeting

12. City Council Reports/Committee/Sub-Committee Meeting Reports: (Reports by Mayor/City Councilmembers Regarding Various Agency Meetings/Committee Meetings/Sub-Committee Meeting /Conferences Attended and Possible Direction to its Representatives (If Needed) on Pending issues before such Boards)

Councilmember Hinton reported as follows:

- RRWA Meeting
- Rohnert Park pulled out of RRWA

13. Council Communications Received: There were none.

14. Future City Meeting Dates/Events (Informational Only): (See Agenda and City Web site for Up to Date Meeting Dates/Times)

**ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING:**

Mayor Slayter adjourned the meeting at 10:53 pm.

Meeting will be adjourned to the Special City Council Meeting of October 7, 2020 at 9:30 am (Interviews/Appointments for City Climate Action Advisory Committee) (VIRTUAL ZOOM PLATFORM)

Meeting was adjourned to the Next Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting, which is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 6:00 pm. (VIRTUAL ZOOM PLATFORM)

Respectfully Submitted:



Mary C. Gourley  
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC