

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: _____

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: February 19, 2019
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director
Subject: Approval of City Sponsored Occupy Bench Ceremony on April 7, 2019
Recommendation: Approve Date of Dedication Ceremony
Funding: Currently Budgeted: X Yes (bench, via Park Funds)
Net General Fund Cost: n/a
Amount:

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

This item is to approve a proposed ceremony to dedicate the recently installed Occupy Bench in the Downtown Plaza. The ceremony is proposed for April 7, 2019 in the afternoon (after the Farmer’s Market)

In 2013, City Council directed staff to work with representatives of the Occupy Sebastopol movement to coordinate the creation of a designated area in the Plaza and with permanent items such as a circle of benches. Staff worked with said representatives and the Planning Commission, and in February 2014, the Council approved the “Occupy Bench” concept.

These benches, a circular bench installation of three separate, curved benches. were recently completed and installed in the Plaza. City staff, along with Jim Wheaton, the Occupy Sebastopol project manager and lead creator of the benches, feel a dedication ceremony is appropriate to recognize this long-standing effort. The date of April 7 is proposed for the ceremony as April 7, 2013 was declared by the City to be “Occupy Sebastopol Day” (City Proclamation 5924). This date also will likely provide for better weather for the event.

If approved, staff would work with Occupy Sebastopol volunteers to organize a dedication ceremony on April 7, 2019, which would include a ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication of a plaque.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve the April 7, 2019 date for a dedication ceremony.