

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: September 1, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and Honorable City Councilmembers
From: Henry Mikus, Engineering Manager
Subject: Approval of Letter of Support for the Sebastopol Cultural Community Center (SCCC) Application to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) for a Reuse Grant. The purpose of the grant is to further the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act (Assembly Bill (AB) 32) and lower overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by expanding and improving landfill diversion and recycling in California through source reduction (i.e., reuse)
Recommendation: City Council Approval to release a for “letter of support” for the pending SCCC Grant application
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No N/A
Original Net General Fund Cost: \$ N/A
Project Estimate unknown
Funding: No current cost to the City

Costs authorized in City Approved Budget AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION:

This item is to request the City Council discuss and approve to release a for “letter of support” for the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center Grant application

BACKGROUND:

In Mid-February 2019 the City suffered from a flood event causing damage to businesses, residences, and property near the City’s eastern boundary along the Laguna de Santa Rosa waterway. Due to this flood, the Sebastopol Cultural Community Center was severely damaged by flood waters that reached a depth of approximately 7 feet above ground floor height. For many months, the City worked with FEMA, Cal OES and the City’s insurance agents in an effort to rebuild the Community Center in kind, as to do any other substantial changes to the building from its pre-flood condition would trigger flood mitigation measures which would delay the repair and/or use of the Community Center.

The SCCC building and land are City property, although the SCCC is directed by a Board independent of the City. Thus, getting the SCCC repaired and back to full functioning is a shared endeavor. The City has worked to collect funds for repairs from numerous sources, including insurance reimbursement, state and federal flood mitigation money, and the City’s own funds. Both the City and the SCCC have entertained hopes that during flood repairs some opportunities to enhance abilities and services offered by SCCC might present themselves. However, a complication is that many of these fund sources are restricted to in-kind repairs only. Much of the anticipated work involves demolition and removal of damaged portions of the building, followed by repairs/replacement. Thus the SCCC Board is pursuing a grant opportunity to obtain funding for some facility enhancements.

DISCUSSION:

Since March 2019, staff has been working with the City's insurance provider for this building, Hartford Insurance, Redwood Empire Municipal Insurance Fund (REMIF) as well as seeking funds from FEMA and Cal OES in an effort to reduce to the cost to the City's General Fund. Based on the initial Architect's cost estimate of \$300,000, the Council authorized funding for this project from the insurance reimbursement, the City Building and Infrastructure Fund, and funding from the \$1.5 million flood recovery received from the State.

The grant opportunity is via CalRecycle that aims to reduce garbage and move events to reusables such as cutlery and dishware. The grant funds dishwashers, dishes, glassware, etc. The minimum grant is \$300K. The SCCC will be asking for money for one commercial dishwasher for the Main Hall kitchen, and another for the Youth Annex.

The SCCC Board determined that repairing the men's bathroom, and repairing the kitchen which would include upgrade to a commercial kitchen, were the best next steps to get the SCCC operating at its best efficiency and level of service to the community. To do so, the SCCC Board had plans for the bathroom prepared by Persinger Architects, and employed Northbay Kitchen Architects to prepare kitchen plans. The bathroom work is complete, and Earthtone has been retained to do the kitchen. However, there is no provision for a dishwasher.

Commercial dishwashers for both the Annex and main SCCC building would allow the SCCC to change from use of single-use tableware and cutlery thus also further enhancing the City Zero Waste goals. The original plan for the Youth Annex included a commercial kitchen but funding fell short and a small prep area was built instead. This grant would allow the SCCC to build out the framework for a commercial kitchen including the dishwasher and then use this as a platform for a fund-raising drive to complete the kitchen. The grant allows 25% of the total to be used for outreach and community education which would be a big opportunity to advance the City's Zero Waste goals. SCCC has partnered with Farm Trails and Peacetown representatives for this grant to expand the scope of the reuse and education effort. SCCC discussed this grant with Dante Del Prete and we determined that the grant does not cover any of the reuse needs of the City.

Staff recommends Council give approval to drafting and releasing the requested letter.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipates receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report. Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of the agenda item.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no estimated cost to the City at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council discuss and approve to release a "Letter of Support" for a CalRecycle Grant for dishwashers for the SCCC main hall and the Youth Annex.

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter to Cal Recycle

City Council

Mayor Patrick Slayter
Vice Mayor Una Glass
Michael Carnacchi
Sarah Glade Gurney
Neysa Hinton



City Manager
Larry McLaughlin
lmclaughlin@cityofsebastopol.org
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC
Mary Gourley
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City of Sebastopol

September 1, 2020

Cal Recycle
Department of Resources Recycle and Recovery
P.O. Box 4025
Sacramento CA 95812-4025

SUBJECT: Letter of support for the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center’s grant application for CalRecycle’s Reuse Grant Program.

CalRecycle Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery:

The City of Sebastopol City Council passed a resolution committing the City to achieving a Zero Waste goal by 2030.

The Sebastopol Community Cultural Center (SCCC) manages three city owned buildings on behalf of the City. It is a beloved institution for families and community members throughout West Sonoma County. Families who cannot afford expensive venues such as wineries, have enjoyed generations of wedding and quinceanera celebrations at the main hall, and SCCC’s facilities have become a mainstay for musical events in the community. In addition, the hall hosts recreational and arts classes, city governance and business and community meetings. About 50,000 people a year use the buildings.

Unfortunately, these events generate a considerable amount of recycling and garbage. Adding commercial dishwashers and buying reusable dishware for the two buildings that host large events along with implementing policies to require the use of reusables will enable the SCCC to move toward meeting the City’s zero waste goal. The funding for community education will be a welcome addition to the City’s efforts toward meeting this goal.

The City of Sebastopol City Council recommends the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center’s application for CalRecycle’s Reuse Grant Program. The City’s Engineering Department will manage the construction portions of this project in cooperation with SCCC. For further information or questions please contact Henry Mikus 707-328-8105.

Sincerely,

Patrick Slayter
Mayor

Attachment: Resolution 6214 Zero Waste by 2030

RESOLUTION NO. 6214

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
APPROVING AND ADOPTING A GOAL TO ACHIEVE 'ZERO WASTE" BY 2030

WHEREAS, THE Sonoma County Local Task Force on Integrated Solid Waste Management has recommended that the Cities of Sonoma County adopt a Resolution establishing a goal of Zero Waste by 2030, and;

WHEREAS, this recommendation builds on all previous efforts including but not limited to the County Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP), the Solid Waste Advisory Group (SWAG), and the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency, as well as state initiatives and requirements; and;

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol has met and exceeded the 50% diversion goal set by the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) by substantially reducing, reusing, recycling, and composting before landfilling, and is now working toward the statewide 75% recycling, composting, or source reduction of solid waste by 2020; and;

WHEREAS, the US EPA has estimated 50% of all GHG emissions are caused by the extraction, production, transportation, and use of goods, including food, products and packaging, and that Zero Waste minimizes GHG production and therefore supports Sonoma County's Climate Initiative; and;

WHEREAS, in 2016, Sonoma County residents and businesses sent 420,865 tons to the landfill, generating approximately 103,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (Center for Climate Protection Greenhouse Gas Report for 2016) from decomposing organic matter; and;

WHEREAS, the Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Reduction Act of 2016 (SB 1383) requires a 20% reduction of edible food waste by 2025 and a 40% reduction in methane levels by 2030; and;

WHEREAS, the substantial recycling progress to date has been slower than expected and, since 2012, waste disposal per person per day has increased by 35%; and;

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Central Landfill, a very valuable resource worth preserving, has a remaining capacity of 27 years as recently reported by the Landfill Contract Operator, Republic Services; and;

WHEREAS, Zero Waste principles, in accordance with CalRecycle's (California Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recovery) Zero Waste Hierarchy, promote the highest and best use of materials, emphasize a closed loop system of production and consumption, and move in logical increments toward the goal of reducing waste generation and landfill disposal by more than 90% through:

- Improving "downstream" reuse and recycling of end-of-life products and materials to ensure their highest and best use

- Pursuing “upstream” re-design strategies to reduce the volume and toxicity of discarded products and materials and promote less wasteful lifestyles
- Fostering and supporting the use of discarded products and materials to stimulate and drive local economic workforce development
- Preserving land for sustainable development and green industry infrastructure; and;

WHEREAS, a resource recovery-based economy will create and sustain more productive and meaningful jobs than a disposal-based economy; and;

WHEREAS, the City of Sebastopol will assume a leadership role setting Zero Waste as a goal.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Sebastopol hereby encourages the pursuit of Zero Waste as a long-term goal in order to eliminate waste and pollution in the manufacture, use, storage, and recycling of materials. This goal can be achieved through action plans and measures that significantly reduce waste and pollution. These measures will include encouragement of residents, businesses, and agencies to judiciously use, reuse, and recycle materials, and motivation of businesses to manufacture and market less toxic and more durable, repairable, reusable, recycled, and recyclable products; and;

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Sebastopol hereby adopts the concept of Zero Waste as defined by Zero Waste International Alliance as a guiding principle for all municipal operations, outreach, and programs and actions within the community; and

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Sebastopol sets the goal of Zero Waste by 2030 and commits to:

- Empowering these actions and the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency;
- Reducing the total pounds per person per day, currently 4.6, by at least 10% each year;
- Institute and/or expand high diversion and Zero Waste goals and programs for all government facilities, events, and projects;
- Educate the public regarding the environmental and community benefits of reducing wasteful consumption and increasing diversion through reuse, repair, composting, and recycling;
- Strongly encourage all residents, businesses, and agencies to participate in composting and recycling programs while also encouraging them to reduce and reuse;
- Update the Green Purchasing, Environmentally Preferable Procurement (EPP), and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policies;
- Support adoption and implementation of the countywide Construction and Demolition Reuse and Recycling Ordinance;
- Adopt land use policy to facilitate the siting and permitting of processing and end market infrastructure that will be needed to manage the volume of material from higher levels of diversion;
- Support equitable pay and safe working conditions for material management workers;

- Develop a sound financial model that can sustain high diversion and Zero Waste programs and enable long term delivery of quality services to the community.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION is approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Sebastopol on this 16th day of October, 2018.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City of Sebastopol City Council by the following vote:

VOTE:

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

APPROVED:  _____
Mayor Patrick Slayter

ATTEST:  _____
Mary Gourley, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 _____
Larry McLaughlin, City Attorney