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City of Sebastopol Planning Commission Agenda Report

Meeting Date: September 8, 2020
Agenda Item: 5A
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Presentation on Park Foundations and Discussion on a Potential Sebastopol Park Foundation
Recommendation:

Background:

The Sebastopol adopted General Plan's Community Services and Facilities section Policy CSF 2-19 encourages "community and volunteer efforts to assist in the maintenance and beautification of parks, trails, and recreation facilities in Sebastopol. Such efforts may include the creation of a local non-profit, community fundraising efforts, and City staff support in a coordination role."

The Planning Commission's adopted Workplan includes reviewing the potential for establishing a Parks Foundation/Friends of Sebastopol Parks in future years. City staff is working on the current workplan items (including a development impact fee study, Local Hazard Mitigation Plan update, and vacation rental policy updates), and does not have capacity to lead such an effort at this time. However, at its last meeting, members of the Planning Commission expressed an interest in working on an initiative to start a Parks Foundation for Sebastopol.

This item will include a presentation/discussion by Melissa Kelley, Executive Director of Sonoma County's Park Foundation, and an opportunity for the Commission to discuss interest in this initiative, including the potential to create a Subcommittee to work on the project.