

## **Sonoma County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission**

Submitted by: Kari Svanstrom,  
Planning Director, City of Sebastopol  
and Bert Whitaker, Director, Sonoma  
County Regional Parks

- Informational  
 Action

<b>Commission Meeting Date: 10/2/23</b>	<b>Deadline: n/a</b>
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**Agenda Title:** Joe Rodota Trail – Sebastopol South Entrance Public Art Project

**Executive Summary:** The City of Sebastopol Public Art Committee has identified a potential location adjacent to the Joe Rodota Trail and Petaluma Ave. for an art installation. This location demarks not only the start of the Joe Rodota Trail, but also the southern entrance to downtown and is highly visible to vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

The location is a small triangular parcel (approx. .02 acres) just south of the trail corridor. A bench is located on the parcel, and it is presently used as an informal shortcut to reach the paved trail. Regional Parks and the City of Sebastopol (City) have assessed the feasibility of the site and have not identified any conflicts with existing easements, drainage pipes or other covenants.

The Sebastopol City Council received a report from its Public Art Committee on February 7, 2023 (ATTACHMENT 1) and has shared the steps they intend to proceed with if the Regional Parks Advisory Commission is supportive. The City has since approved the Committee to pursue the site and call for artists with a \$25,000 budget from the City’s Art Fund allocated to the call.

1. Confirm the site is acceptable by the Parks Advisory Commission
2. Publish a “Call for Artists” and proposals (ATTACHMENT 2).
3. City and Regional Parks staff review initial proposals to evaluate any potential concerns with maintenance, public safety, scale, etc.
4. City Public Art Committee reviews (with staff input) to select 3-4 finalists.
5. Finalists are awarded an honorarium to create small scale models.
6. City will present small scale models/presentation and a public survey in a public meeting with invitations to Parks Commissioners and the public.
7. City Public Art Committee will recommend the preferred proposal to City Council for consideration.
8. Once approved, the City will prepare contracts with the artist and the County for the installation, insurance, licensing, term, and maintenance obligations. The City will own the art installation and provide for the maintenance and upkeep.

9. The County Board of Supervisors will need to approve the agreement with the City of Sebastopol to install, maintain and satisfy the County's insurance and liability requirements.
10. Upon completion of the art installation, the Sebastopol Public Art Committee will organize and host the ribbon cutting in partnership with the Parks Advisory Commission.

The City has requested Parks Advisory Commission to consider the identified parcel adjacent to the Joe Rodota Trail and provide any comments on the steps or other types of involvement by the Parks Advisory Commission.

**Alternatives/Consequences:** Do not develop a public art installation at this location.

**Staff Recommendation:** Support this request from the City of Sebastopol to utilize County owned parcel (APN 004-072-010) for an art installation to be owned and maintained by the City in partnership with Regional Parks.

**Requested Commission Action:** Approve this Action Item in support of this request from the City of Sebastopol to utilize County owned parcel (APN 004-072-010) for an art installation to be owned and maintained by the City.

**Attachments:**

1. ATTACHMENT 1: 2.7.23-Sebastopol Public Art Committee report and approval of new location.
2. ATTACHMENT 2: Draft "Call for Artists South Entry sculpture" advertisement