



## City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

[www.CityofSebastopol.org](http://www.CityofSebastopol.org)

### April 10 - April 16 Special Weekly Edition of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

Please visit the City of Sebastopol website at [www.CityOfSebastopol.org](http://www.CityOfSebastopol.org) for the most up-to-date local information on the coronavirus crisis. There is a page dedicated entirely to the crisis, the [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resource Page](#), where you will find specific resources and answers to many questions that you may have. The City of Sebastopol is also on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [NextDoor](#).

**KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER?  
FORWARD THIS EMAIL AND CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE.**

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*Slow the spread of COVID-19*

# STAY HOME

## REGULAR CITY BUSINESS CONTINUES

### Administrative Services:

- Administrative Service staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email [info@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:info@cityofsebastopol.org); or call **707-823-7863** and leave a message and someone will respond to you.
- To start water service or close your water account, click [here](#) and fill out the appropriate service form and email it to [customerservice@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:customerservice@cityofsebastopol.org). You can pay your water bill online from the home page by selecting Payments.

### City Manager's Office:

- City Hall staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email [info@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:info@cityofsebastopol.org); or call **707-823-1153** and leave a message and someone will respond to you.

- City staff encourage the public to attend and participate in the virtual City Council Meetings. Public Comments can be emailed to [mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org).

#### **Engineering Department:**

- The Engineering Department is using this time to continue work on State and Federal Stormwater permit requirements, particularly compliance efforts such as reports/submittals where there are upcoming due dates.
- They are also preparing State and local documentation for grants, and sales/gas tax performance reports with upcoming due dates. Examples are Park Village grants, and SB1 and Measure M funding annual reports for streets/vehicle, bicycle & pedestrian safety.

#### **Fire Department:**

- The Fire Department is open and continuing to provide first response and emergency services as usual.
- Please note that the Fire Department lobby and business office are closed.

#### **Planning Department:**

- The Planning Department is (virtually) open and continues to accept applications, but has moved to electronic submittals. Click [here](#) for details.

#### **Police Department:**

- Lobby is open to the public. For non-life-or-safety-threatening situations, we encourage the public to call the 24/7 police non-emergency line at **707-829-4400**. As always, in the event of emergency, call **911**.
- [Sebastopol Police Log - April 6 - April 13](#)

#### **Public Works Department:**

- Water and sewer utility systems continue to be monitored and maintained.
- The Public Works Department has begun the dismantling of the Libby Playground in anticipation of being able to install the new structure in mid to late May. This will be an important project for the community to be able to access once public isolation is lifted.

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## **FIRE SAFETY**

It's a great time to start mowing, weeding, brush removal, pruning, and general yard cleanup. The April rains will bring a new growth of weeds and can/will dry out very quickly this month. Let's all use this time to get a jump on cleaning up our property!



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## **WATER CONSERVATION**

Please continue to practice water conservation as much as possible. Things are green now, but California is still technically in a drought, with Sonoma County showing "Moderate Drought" conditions. Click [here](#) for more information.

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## **CITY MEETINGS**

**During the Shelter in Place Order, all meetings are virtual only.**

#### **City Council Meetings:**

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before the meeting, send an email to [mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org)
  
- **Next Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of April 21, 2020 @ 6:00 PM](#) (NOTE: The April 21st City Council Meeting will be available for live viewing and participation via Zoom. See the [agenda](#) for instructions on how to join the meeting)

### Planning Commission Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 7pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
  
- **Next Meeting:** [Joint Meeting of Planning Commission and Special Design Review Board of 04/28/2020 @ 7:00 PM](#) (NOTE: All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link. Information for meeting attendance can be found here: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Meeting-Event.aspx>)

### Design Review Board Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 4pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [amontes@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:amontes@cityofsebastopol.org)
  
- **Next Meeting:** [Joint Meeting of Planning Commission and Special Design Review Board of 04/28/2020 @ 7:00 PM](#) (NOTE: All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link. Information for meeting attendance can be found here: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Meeting-Event.aspx>)

### Public Arts Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 10:30am
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [business@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:business@cityofsebastopol.org)
  
- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of May 6, 2020 @ 10:30 AM](#)



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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### MEETING REVIEWS:

The DRB/Tree Board met April 15th for their first public meeting via virtual meeting procedures. They took the following actions:

- **Approved** the design of the outdoor patio for Vineshift/Region wine tasting room at 180 Morris Street within the Barlow. The Use Permit was approved by the Planning Commission at its January 14, 2020 meeting.
  
- **Approved** the revised option 3 for Bare Radiance Studio on Weeks Way for modifications to the façade of an existing building. The project proposes to add decorative bamboo elements to the existing building and modify awnings.
  
- **Continued** the Design Review for 6950 Burnett St to the May 6 DRB

meeting (continuation was requested by the applicant). This application is for a complete remodel of the building (formerly Round Table Pizza restaurant and Sonoma West Times office), including facade improvements, a rooftop deck, and an elevator.

- **Nominated Vice Chair Lars Langberg and Member Christine Level** to be the two representatives for the City's Design Guideline Subcommittee, who will join Mayor Slayter and Planning Commissioner Paul Fritz. The Subcommittee is now complete.

## MEETING PREVIEWS:

**April 28, 2020 – Planning Commission/ Design Review Board Joint Meeting** – This meeting will include a presentation on current California Housing Law and election of Chair/Vice Chair for 2020.

*All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link. Information for meeting attendance can be found here: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Meeting-Event.aspx>*

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## NEW RESOURCES FOR BUSINESSES

### Industry-Specific Health Order Webinars

In partnership with County Counsel and the Sonoma County Department of Health, the Economic Development Board will be hosting a series of webinars in the coming weeks, with a focus on providing clarity and guidance to specific sections of the Public Health Order. Dr. Sundari Mase and County Counsel have both agreed to participate and answer questions. The primary goal is to deliver a platform for providing local businesses the answers to recurring questions in hopes that this will arm them with the vital information on how to interpret the Order and on how to proceed with their business operations.

- Restaurant & Hospitality Industry, **April 20th from 1:30-2:30pm**
- Agriculture, Wine & Cannabis Industries, **April 22nd from 11am-12pm**
- Construction/Trades Industry, **April 24th from 11am-12pm**

Please RSVP to [edbevents@sonoma-county.org](mailto:edbevents@sonoma-county.org) with your interest to attend and the EDB will send you the Zoom Meeting Details.

### Small Business Financial Hotlines

The Northern California Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has launched a new telephone and email hotline for businesses to contact for quick answers to their financial questions. SBDC Financial Counselors are on hand to answer questions about business loan options, filling out forms, etc.

Telephone: **833-ASK-SBDC**

Email: [loans@asksbdc.com](mailto:loans@asksbdc.com) and [espanol@asksbdc.com](mailto:espanol@asksbdc.com)

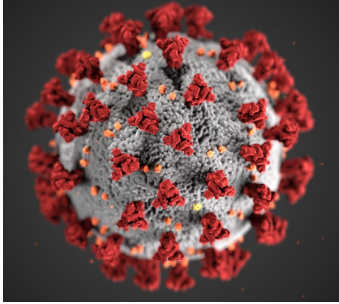
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## CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

[California Department of Public Health](#)

[County of Sonoma Department of Health Services](#)

[SoCo Emergency Page](#)



[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

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## WEEKLY COVID-19 VIDEO UPDATES

See the City's [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resource Page](#) for recent City, County, and State video updates.

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## SEBASTOPOL RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE 2020 CENSUS

Thank you Sebastopol residents for participating in the 2020 Census and congratulations for having the highest response rate in Sonoma County! If you haven't filled yours out yet, be sure to get counted.

Responding to the 2020 Census is our civic duty and affects the allocation of funding for our community's public resources, how we plan for the future, and our voice in government.

For the first time, you can respond to the census online, and responding by mail is still an option. Get more information at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov).



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## ESSENTIAL SERVICES WILL CONTINUE:

- **The City of Sebastopol will not turn off water due to nonpayment.** The City recognizes the hardship that the pandemic and resulting Shelter in Place Orders, have created in our community, and will temporarily suspend non-emergency turnoffs and late fees.
- **PG&E will not cut off power due to nonpayment.** PG&E voluntarily implemented a moratorium on service disconnections for non-payment, effective immediately. This suspension will apply to both residential and commercial customers and will remain in effect until further notice.
- **Recology will not suspend trash service due to nonpayment.** Recology understands that customers are starting to request delay of payments or payment plans due to the circumstances, and they are sensitive to what the community is going through. Recology will not stop service due to non-payment at this time.

Click [here](#) for more information on Essential Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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## NEW HAND WASHING STATIONS INSTALLED IN DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL

Sebastopol Public Works has installed three new hand washing stations in the downtown area: at the Sebastopol Police Department, on Petaluma Ave conveniently located next to Screamin' Mimi's, and at 328 N. Main Street - on sidewalk entrance Community Bank parking lot.

These three new stations are in addition to the three already in place in Downtown Sebastopol: at the City parking lot at Main St. and Burnett, on Sebastopol Ave. (Route 12) at the alley between Ramen Gaijen and WestAmerica Bank, and adjacent to the southwest corner of Town Plaza parking lot against the rear wall of Silk Moon.



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## ONLINE EDUCATION RESOURCES



See the [Sonoma County Office of Education](#) website for news and information about Sonoma County schools.

The [PBS LearningMedia](#) website has several free online resources including standards-aligned videos, interactives, lesson plans, and more. The website also includes [PreK-12 Resources for Emergency Closings](#) that include activities, lesson plans, and videos organized by grade and subject area.

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## SENIOR CENTER RESPONDS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

While the Sebastopol Area Senior Center is closed to visitors during the COVID-19 crisis, they are responding to the challenge and continuing to provide critical services to seniors in our community.



Staff of the Senior Center are:

- Making calls to and checking in on Senior Center members
- Assisting eligible seniors with resources and essential needs
- Offering online Zoom classes
- Providing regular E-News updates

For more information on the online Zoom classes, see the [Sebastopol Area Senior Center's website](#).

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## NEED HELP WITH ESSENTIAL RESOURCES?

Visit the [2-1-1 Free Referral Service](#) website if you have questions or needs.

For additional assistance, resources, and help with essential needs, see the [SoCo Emergency](#) resources webpage.

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## HEALTH OFFICER NOW REQUIRES FACE COVERINGS FOR GENERAL PUBLIC IN ALL AGE GROUPS



Following updated information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Sonoma County Health Officer now requires that everyone who leaves home for an essential activity in our community wear a face covering – such as a scarf, bandana, neck gaiter, or similar garment.

The [Order](#) is effective at **12:01 a.m. on Friday April 17, 2020**, and will continue to be in effect until it is rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer or the State Health Officer.

“These measures recently put in place are having an effect in limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Sonoma County. The use of facial coverings is another strategy to stop the virus from spreading from infected people who do not present symptoms. As we approach an expected surge in cases, we are increasing protective measures,” said Dr. Sundari Mase, Sonoma County Health Officer.

[Order of the Health Officer of the County of Sonoma C19-07 \(English\)](#)  
[Orden de la Oficial de Salud del Condado de Sonoma Núm. C19-07 \(En Español\)](#)

[Press Release \(English\)](#)  
[Press Release \(En Español\)](#)

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## OPEN BUSINESSES

Be sure to contact them first as this information may change from day to day.

[Sonoma West Times & News](#) list of open businesses

[Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce](#) list of open businesses

[Press Democrat](#) list of open businesses

Designated as an essential business, the Sunday Farmer’s Market on the Plaza is currently open and taking safety precautions and practicing social distancing. Check their [website](#) for more information.

The City of Sebastopol is compiling a list of open essential businesses. If your business supplies essential services, please email [business@CityOfSebastopol.org](mailto:business@CityOfSebastopol.org) with details such as offerings, days/hours and any special services like online ordering, takeout, delivery, curbside pickup, and special hours for seniors, at-risk, or first responders.

When visiting local businesses for essential needs, please wear a face covering or mask and maintain social distance.



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## DON'T FLUSH WIPES!

Flushing wipes, paper towels and similar products down toilets will



clog sewers and cause backups and overflows at wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Please do not flush disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

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## GOING GROCERY SHOPPING?

Remember to practice social distancing--the CDC guideline is 6-feet. An average grocery cart is 3-feet long so keep a distance of two grocery carts between you and others.

[Here](#) are more safe shopping tips.



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## TIPS: FUN THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR KIDS

**Get everyone together for some game time:**

- Break out the Legos and Playdoh.
- Have a board game day.
- Do family puzzles.
- Play games like cards, charades, Tic-Tac-Toe, etc.
- Make tents and forts including flashlights, snacks, and books.
- Have an indoor scavenger or treasure hunt with clues and a "treasure" at the end.
- Have a shadow or puppet show.



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## TIPS: WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED



Enjoy virtual museum tours. Several museums offer virtual tours so you can enjoy all they have to offer from the comfort of your home.

This Travel + Leisure article has a list of some of the museums offering virtual tours.

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

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## TIPS: WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU'RE FEELING LONELY

Don't hesitate to ask for help. Reach out to a friend, family member, or professional. It can help to talk about how you're feeling.



These tips are based on recommendations from our insurer Aetna.

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Contact  
Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

[www.CityofSebastopol.org](http://www.CityofSebastopol.org)