


Agenda Report Reviewed by:  
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM

**Meeting Date:** October 19, 2021  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
**From:** Toni Bertolero, Engineering Consultant  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for SCTA Countywide Active Transportation Plan  
**Recommendation:** Approval of Letter of Support for SCTA Countywide Active Transportation Plan  
**Funding:** Currently Budgeted: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X  N/A

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget (if applicable) AK (verified by Administrative Services Department)

**INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:**

The item is to request Council approval of a Letter of Support for the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) Countywide Active Transportation Plan. This letter will be used to support and bolster SCTA’s grant application.

**BACKGROUND:**

SCTA staff is preparing to apply for the Caltrans Sustainable Communities Transportation Planning Grant Program for a Countywide Active Transportation Plan (Countywide Plan) as an update to the SCTA Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan adopted in 2014. The Countywide Plan would include updates to several jurisdiction-level plans, including the City of Sebastopol’s, that are due for renewal, as well as analysis of funding priorities for active transportation projects, a low Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) bicycle network and a safe and inviting pedestrian network, regional routes, and strategies to enhance continuity and wayfinding between jurisdictions. The Countywide Plan update would include refreshed countywide policies and vision, ensure consistency with applicable plans and policies, and incorporate new guidelines for best practices including Class IV bikeways and quick build projects.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CBPAC) would act as an advisory to the Countywide Plan and the SCTA would engage all jurisdictions within Sonoma County, Regional Climate Protection Authority, Department of Health Services, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, and other relevant CBOs/NGOs. The Countywide Plan would highlight regional routes and strategies to enhance continuity and wayfinding between jurisdictions. New guidelines and best practices would be incorporated for bicycle and pedestrian facilities, including Class IV bikeways, quick build projects, and accommodations for increased use due to new and shared micromobility. Recommendations would be made for supportive non-infrastructure programs as well as future data collection and studies.

In addition to developing the Countywide Plan, the grant application includes updates to the jurisdiction- level plans that are due for renewal and will provide opportunity for jurisdictions to adopt new projects through a public process. Several jurisdictions, such as the City of Sebastopol, have not updated their plans since 2014. Updates to the countywide project list and maps were last made in fall 2019 as an administrative update to Appendices A and

B of the 2014 Plan, and included new locally adopted projects, minor revisions to adopted projects, and status updates of completed projects.

**GOALS:**

This action supports the following City Council Goals and General Plan Actions:

- Goal 4 - Maintain and Enhance the City of Sebastopol as a Walkable/Bike-able Community and Enhance the City's Commitment to Promotion of our public's health by Creating and Participating in City and Community Programs, Services and Policies.
- CIR 2 – Maintain and expand a safe and sufficient pedestrian, bicycle, and transit network that connects neighborhood with key destinations to encourage travel by non-automobile modes while also improving public health.

**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:**

If SCTA were to be awarded this grant, there is no fiscal impact or funding obligation from the City. The cost for preparing the countywide plan and anticipated contingencies, will be paid with the grant funding. However, the City would be expected to provide staff time for coordination and review of the plan. If awarded, the work would begin in Fiscal Year 2022-23 and City staff/consultant review time will be added to the City's Engineering budget. It is estimated that the cost for coordination/review by an engineering consultant would be approximately \$5,000.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the Sebastopol City Council approve the Letter of Support for the SCTA Countywide Active Transportation Plan and authorize the Mayor to sign the letter on behalf of the City Council.

**Attachments:**

Letter of Support

**City Council**

Mayor Una Glass  
Vice Mayor Sarah Glade Gurney  
Diana Gardner Rich  
Neysa Hinton  
Patrick Slayter



**Agenda Item Number 5**

**City Manager**

Larry McLaughlin

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**Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC**

Mary Gourley

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**City of Sebastopol**

October 20, 2021

Suzanne Smith, Executive Director  
Sonoma County Transportation Authority/Regional Climate Protection Authority  
411 King Street  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Subject: Letter of Support for SCTA Countywide Active Transportation Plan

Dear Ms. Smith:

On behalf of the City of Sebastopol I am pleased to support the Sonoma County Transportation Authority (SCTA) in your goal of developing, with the jurisdictions of Sonoma County, a Countywide Active Transportation Plan. The proposed active transportation planning process will provide a tremendous opportunity to guide the development of a Low Level of Traffic Stress bicycle network and a safe and inviting pedestrian network, identify needs for regional routes and wayfinding, and prioritize projects for funding.

Building on recent local planning efforts, SCTA will engage all jurisdictions within Sonoma County, the Regional Climate Protection Authority, the Department of Health Services, Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, other relevant CBOs/NGOs, and community members to produce a coordinated and comprehensive plan.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed project. The City of Sebastopol enthusiastically supports the SCTA's exciting and innovative endeavor to improve the active transportation opportunities of Sonoma County residents through the creation of a Countywide Active Transportation Plan.

Sincerely,

Una Glass  
Mayor