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# MEMORANDUM

## CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT SEBASTOPOL

98.41

DATE: September 25, 1998  
TO: Laguna Preserve Implementation Committee  
FROM: Kenyon Webster, Director of Planning *KW*  
SUBJECT: Revised Donation Letter

Here's a revised version of the donation letter for your review. If OK, I'd like to get your signatures, duplicate (on recycled paper with some quality to it), and mail it next week. Let me know if you have any changes.

Meanwhile, as you probably know, we have funding approval from the Laguna Foundation and the bidding process begins today.

k/laguna91



# City of Sebastopol

Incorporated 1902

DRAFT

## Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve

Implementation Committee

714 Johnson Street  
Sebastopol, California 95472

Telephone (707) 823-6167  
Facsimile (707) 823-4721

September 29, 1998

Name  
Street Address  
City

Dear :

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."*  
-Margaret Meade

The community of Sebastopol has for many years worked for the protection and restoration of the Laguna de Santa Rosa, one of the most important remaining wetlands in Northern California. The Laguna is a complex system of wetland and upland habitats, including open water, emergent marsh, riparian forest, vernal pools, oak woodland, and grassland. The Laguna has been significantly degraded as a result of agricultural and urban development, as well as past flood control, waste disposal, and agricultural practices. Although natural areas have been substantially reduced beginning in the 1800's, the Laguna still supports a variety of plants and animals, including rare, threatened, and endangered species.

A Master Plan for this project was adopted by the City of Sebastopol in 1992 after years of effort by the community. The Master Plan calls for protection, restoration, education and low-impact public access to the wetlands. On September 15, 1998, our City Council took a landmark action, authorizing the implementation of the first elements of the Sebastopol Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve. Fall 1998 projects include:

- *Planting of native trees, shrubs and grasses*
- *Development of a walking trail with benches for quiet viewing of the Laguna*
- *Creation of a wetlands overlook, entry arbor and interpretive information*
- *Placement of oak logs for animal habitat*
- *Relocation of the Youth Park fence to provide added area restoration and the trail*
- *Removal of debris and unneeded fences*

More restoration and trail projects are in the planning stages for 1999 and beyond.

The City of Sebastopol has funded the preparation of implementation plans, however the City has very limited resources for actual development of the Preserve, and at this point, all funding for this phase of implementation is from a private \$200,000 donation from Mr. Emmett Blincoe through the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation. We'd like to stretch Mr. Blincoe's funds as far as possible, and we are asking for contributions from the Sebastopol community to assist in realization of the Preserve. **We're asking for your help in funding this project, which will be a legacy for the community of Sebastopol.**

You can help. We are requesting donations, small or large to help in the creation of the Preserve. \$4 will buy a Valley Oak seedling; \$160 will pay for 10 feet of the walking path; \$600 will purchase a bench; \$700 will purchase a wheeled weed wacker for control of non-native grasses; \$5,000 will buy a small all-terrain vehicle for Preserve maintenance. A list of projects is included at the end of this letter.

Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Future generations will thank you. Checks should be made out to the City of Sebastopol Laguna Fund. All donors will be invited to a dedication celebration ceremony planned for December. Donations sufficient to purchase a bench, the arbor, the overlook deck, or the equipment will be honored with a plaque. All donors will receive a resolution signed by the Mayor. Thank you for your support of this important project.

Sincerely,

Natalie Timm, Chair

Kim Cordell, Member

Steve French, Member

Anne Magnie, Member

Richard Nicols, Member

*P.S. The future of the children of Sebastopol will be enriched by the creation and expansion of the Wetlands Preserve. This is the beginning.*

**Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve**  
**Selected Fall 1998 Projects**

Listed below are some of the key elements of the Fall projects.

Plant purchase for November planting	\$2,400 (Avr. \$4/plant)
Materials purchase for November planting	\$1,200
Plant purchase for Spring 1999 planting	\$5,000
Walking path	\$16/lineal foot, 2,200 feet, \$35,200
<del>Four</del> * <i>three</i> recycled plastic benches	\$600 each
Transport and install habitat logs	\$6,000
Entry arbor/kiosk	\$12,000
Entry arbor sign	\$1,000
Relocate signboard	\$500
Bike rack	\$900
Wheeled string trimmer	\$700
All-terrain vehicle	\$5,000
Recycled plastic overlook deck	\$8,000
Fence removal/relocation	\$5,200
Split rail fence	\$1,400
Pads for arbor, benches	\$900
Remove concrete debris	\$1,500
Earthworks and grading	\$1,500
Top dressing-45,000 sq. ft.	\$3,000
Install erosion control blanket	\$840

*\*One bench already donated!*

We greatly appreciate any contributions towards this project. Checks should be made out to the **City of Sebastopol Laguna Fund**, and sent to the attention of:

*Laguna Implementation Committee  
 c/o Planning Department  
 714 Johnson Street  
 Sebastopol, California 95472*

If you have any questions, please call Kenyon Webster, Planning Director at (707) 823-6167.

**Thanks for your help!**