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PUBLIC HEARING  
by  
SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL  
on  
LAGUNA ADVISORY REPORT

Sonoma County is at a crossroads. As we continue to urbanize, opportunities to preserve important natural features will continue to present themselves. With a committed effort, we can preserve our natural treasures. The Coast, ridges, creeks, wetlands, the River and valuable farmland all are threatened by rampant and irresponsible development.

One of these features is the Laguna de Santa Rosa, a 7,000 acre wetlands draining the Santa Rosa plain. It has been largely ignored by political entities, but environmentalists have acknowledged its value for years. The most recent move towards preservation and enhancement of the Laguna has been made by the City of Sebastopol.

The City Council asked a citizens advisory committee to make recommendations on ways to save the Laguna from further damage. The report has been issued and the city is now in the evaluation process. While the city is not in a position to protect all of the Laguna, it can help the cause by preserving the part within the city limits. The city can lead by example and encourage County, State and Federal agencies in a comprehensive preservation effort.

1. There should be a "no-net" fill policy for undeveloped lands adjoining urbanized lands in the downtown core.
2. The Laguna de Santa Rosa needs restoration of the riparian corridor, wetlands and grasslands to return the watershed to its unique biotic environment.
3. Sebastopol should endeavor to implement plans for a Laguna Linear Park.
4. There must be an end to development below 76 feet along the Laguna in the present natural, undeveloped state.
5. The uniqueness of the Laguna should be preserved and public awareness encouraged.

SPEAK: April 25, 1988  
7:00 p.m.  
Sebastopol Community Center  
Morris Street  
off Hwy. 12

WRITE by: April 25, 1988  
Sebastopol City Council  
7120 Bodega Ave.  
Sebastopol, CA 95472