

City of Rohnert Park PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Rohnert Park City Council to Review Plans for Downtown as City Solicits Interest from Developers

Rohnert Park, CA (Oct. 20, 2023) – The City of Rohnert Park is approaching a milestone toward the development of its Downtown. During the upcoming Council meeting on Tuesday Oct. 24 at 5 p.m., it is anticipated the City Council will review an update and highlights of a Request for Qualifications, or RFQ. The RFQ will ask developers how they plan to execute the community's vision for Downtown.

"Downtown Rohnert Park has been a community vision for many years, and we are thrilled to bring it to life," said Mayor Samantha Rodriguez. "Our investment in early planning and building infrastructure nearby has prepared the site for development. With community input and the right developer, we hope to build a downtown that becomes the heart of Rohnert Park."

The vision for Downtown Rohnert Park reflects what residents have requested for years: a walkable place with restaurants and plentiful amenities. There will be pocket parks and a central community square for residents to enjoy. There will also be 300-500 residential units for downtown living, with at least 25% that will be affordable. More information about the Downtown vision is available on an updated **webpage**.

The most challenging part of the project will be finding local retailers that are essential to satisfying the Downtown vision. The city has begun informing local and regional businesses of the Downtown plan in order to generate interest.

A definitive date of construction launch has not yet been determined. While the City owns the site, a development partner is necessary to support construction and costs. The RFQ will help the city find a suitable partner, but the city must take time to negotiate and devise a feasible plan. The city appreciates the community's patience during this process.

Some of the trees on the site are in poor health. Thirty three trees will be removed for the public's safety. Trees are only removed as necessary. The city's Arborist has determined that 20 Coast Redwoods need to be removed. Plenty of new trees will be planted as the downtown is built. Residents can view downtown tree health status using an **interactive map**.

The City of Rohnert Park will make the final design and layout of Downtown Rohnert Park after a developer has been selected. For more information or to ask a question about Downtown Rohnert Park, please visit the city's website at **rpcity.org**.



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