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Anacortes Rotary meets viewpoint funding goal, City grants permit for project

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Artist rendering of the proposed Anacortes Rotary Viewpoint at Cap Sante.

Submitted



Anacortes Rotary met two key milestones for its Cap Sante Viewpoint improvement in early August as the club reached its fundraising goal and the City of Anacortes Planning Department granted a land use permit for the project.

"We are gratified to announce the successful completion of our club's capital campaign for our Anacortes Rotary Viewpoint at Cap Sante," Marta McClintock, club president, said.

"Thanks to the generous support of club and community members, businesses and foundations, we have met our funding goal of \$550,000 to transform the park summit with ADA access, so all can enjoy the breathtaking destination."

In an Aug. 6 notice, the City of Anacortes announced final approval of the critical areas permit the Cap Sante viewpoint. The project is expected to go out for bids later this month.

"What great news to announce these two final goals as we near completion of our club's Centennial project," Tom Decker, Rotary Centennial project chair, said.

"The new park outlook will provide significant access for Anacortes citizens and all visitors to Rotary and Cap Sante Parks. For those with wheelchairs and walkers, specific features will allow easier navigation."

Completion of the Anacortes Rotary Viewpoint at Cap Sante — the crowning achievement of our Centennial project — will enhance accessibility and safety at the summit and highlight stunning views of Mt. Baker in a welcoming setting, Decker said.



The Cap Sante view platform and the improved summit trail, completed in 2022, create better connections between the two parks and downtown Anacortes for all to enjoy.

"Providing user-friendly experiences for park visitors, young and old, will make a meaningful difference in our community for years to come," Decker said.

"Special appreciation goes to the City of Anacortes for a \$75,000 grant, to Marathon Petroleum for a \$25,000 grant and to the Anacortes Parks Foundation/Kiwanis Club for a \$25,000 grant," he added. "Two anonymous donors helped the club immensely early in the funding campaign with \$100,000 matching challenge gifts."

"Our city council and mayor deserve particular thanks for their support," McClintock said.

In the past three years, Rotary and community volunteers have put in nearly 1,000 hours in the parks, building the trail, clearing invasive species and cleaning up various sites.

"Close collaboration with all our community partners is the cornerstone of our success, Decker said. "This exceptional new view area is possible through donations from more than 150 community supporters, businesses and foundations."

Submitted by Tom Decker, Anacortes Rotary

