

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CITY OF GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
AND
THE FERAL LAND PROJECT

Introduction

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) describes the relationship between the **City of Grass Valley**, a municipal corporation, hereinafter referred to as “City,” and **The Feral Land Project**, a public non-profit organization, hereinafter referred to as “FLP,” in their joint efforts to enhance, restore, and steward natural landscapes, public open spaces, and ecological assets within the City’s sphere of influence.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, The Feral Land Project is a California nonprofit dedicated to ecological restoration, habitat enhancement, regenerative land management, community engagement, and the long-term stewardship of natural resources, parks, and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, the goals of FLP are accomplished through site-specific ecological planning, habitat restoration, invasive species management, native plant propagation, community volunteer engagement, and partnerships with public entities and private landowners; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that one of the essential elements of enhancing quality of life within Grass Valley is the restoration and maintenance of healthy ecosystems, parks, open spaces, and community-accessible natural landscapes; and

WHEREAS, the City has or may obtain public land where ecological restoration, invasive species removal, native revegetation, or long-term stewardship programs are proposed or planned; and

WHEREAS, the City has adopted the Grass Valley Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which envisions improvements to public open spaces, natural resource protection, and ecological connectivity among parks, neighborhoods, and community facilities; and

WHEREAS, the preservation, restoration, and stewardship of natural lands is also consistent with the Conservation and Open Space Elements of the City’s General Plan; and

WHEREAS, it is mutually beneficial for the City and FLP to collaborate on the planning, implementation, and maintenance of ecological restoration, land stewardship, and public engagement efforts on City-owned land.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above recitals, the parties agree as follows:

1. Purpose

To establish the procedure and responsibilities for accomplishing the planning, design, implementation, and maintenance of ecological restoration, enhancement, and land stewardship projects on land owned or managed by the City of Grass Valley.

2. In concept, FLP agrees to:

- A. Consult with the designated City representative to identify project locations, restoration priorities, ecological objectives, and preferred stewardship approaches.
 - B. Prepare project descriptions suitable for CEQA review when needed.
 - C. Prepare work schedules specifying when, how, and by whom restoration, maintenance, and stewardship tasks will be accomplished.
 - D. Provide regular updates to the City representative regarding progress, scheduling changes, ecological findings, or modifications to plans.
 - E. Secure grants, donations, and private funding to support ecological restoration activities, including contractor services, tools, materials, and native plant procurement.
 - F. Organize and supervise volunteers to assist in restoration, site enhancement, vegetation management, native plantings, invasive species removal, monitoring, and stewardship tasks.
 - G. Coordinate with private landowners, where applicable, to secure necessary permissions or easements for ecological projects that connect to City-owned property.
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3. In concept, the City agrees to:

- A. Ensure that projects comply with CEQA, the City's General Plan, the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, and any other applicable laws, regulations, and permitting requirements.
- B. Provide FLP with written approval for activities on City property and assist with obtaining any encroachment permits or other authorizations required for project work.

- C. Provide assistance in the implementation of ecological restoration, enhancement, or stewardship projects using available City equipment, personnel, and funds to the extent they are available and designated for such purposes through the budget process.
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4. Both Parties agree to:

- A. Carry out all responsibilities under this agreement in a timely manner and, to the extent possible, avoid any actions that could jeopardize the cooperation and goodwill of donors, grantors, volunteers, or members of the public.
 - B. Consult with the other party before preparing or distributing any public information, press releases, or outreach materials related to the project.
 - C. Provide a designated representative to carry out the terms of this MOU.
The designated representative for the **City** shall be _____, and the designated representative for **FLP** shall be The Feral Land Project Executive Director.
 - D. Understand that termination of this Agreement may be initiated by either party and will be effective upon delivery of written notice to the other party by the signer of this Agreement. Unless renewed, this Agreement will terminate five (5) years from the date of execution.
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Executed in duplicate this ____ day of _____, 2025 in Grass Valley, CA.

THE FERAL LAND PROJECT

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney