

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY AFFIRMING THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO CONTINUE A PARTNERSHIP TO DEVELOP, DEPLOY, AND IMPLEMENT THE UC DAVIS / FIREFLY WILDFIRE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM ON A CITY-WIDE BASIS

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley is located in a high wildfire-risk region where early detection and rapid response are critical to protecting life, property, and critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley, including its Measure-B program and the Grass Valley Fire Department, is committed to advancing innovative, science-based solutions that improve community safety and emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the University of California, Davis, through its FireFly Wildfire Early Warning System, has developed a low-cost, verifiable wildfire detection platform that transforms wildfire detection from passive observation into real-time, actionable intelligence; and

WHEREAS, with support from the CITRIS and Banatao Institute: University of California Innovations Program Research Center, the FireFly system is proposed to become the first city-wide deployment of its kind in Grass Valley, providing rapid ignition detection to support emergency response and wildfire mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the FireFly project brings together a multidisciplinary team of university researchers, public safety professionals, and operational partners, including the Grass Valley Fire Department and CAL FIRE, to ensure effective system integration, sensor placement planning, and operational oversight; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley recognizes the value of continued collaboration with academic institutions, fire protection agencies, and industry partners to enhance wildfire resilience and preparedness for the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Grass Valley that:

1. The City of Grass Valley affirms its commitment to continue a partnership to develop, deploy, and implement the UC Davis / FireFly Wildfire Early Warning System on a city-wide basis.
2. The City supports program development efforts funded by the CITRIS and Banatao Institute: University of California Innovations Program Research Center, recognizing the potential of this system to improve wildfire detection, response coordination, and community safety.
3. The City authorizes continued collaboration between City departments, including the Grass Valley Fire Department, and project partners to support planning, testing, and deployment activities consistent with available funding and applicable regulations.
4. Nothing in this resolution obligates the City to future financial commitments beyond those separately approved by the City Council.

ADOPTED as a resolution of the City Council of the City of Grass Valley at a regular meeting held on the 13th day of January 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

Hilary Hodge, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

David Ruderman, City Attorney

Taylor Day Whittingslow, City Clerk