



## City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

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**Title:** Second Reading of Ordinance 837 amending subsection (F) of section 17.38.080 and adding section 17.30.100 of Chapter 17.30 of Title 17 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code to establish standards for art installations in the City

**CEQA:** Exempt under CEQA Guideline §15301, Categorical Exemption Class 1 (“Existing Facilities”) and under CEQA Guideline §15061(b)(3) (General Rule)

**Recommendation:** Hold a second reading, waive full reading, by title only, and adopt Ordinance 837, to regulate art on publicly and privately-owned properties in non-residential districts throughout the city

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**Prepared by:** Amy Wolfson, City Planner

**Council Meeting Date:** September 23, 2025

**Date Prepared:** September 17, 2025

**Agenda:** Public Hearing

**Background Information:** Council heard an introductory reading of Ordinance 837 at a public hearing held at their regular meeting on September 9, 2025. Ordinance 837 is proposed to provide a process for applicants to install visual art pieces, such as mosaic or sculpture, both on privately and publicly-owned property. Visual art proposed on private property will be required to be approved by the planning commission with a recommendation from the Development Review Committee (DRC), and the historic commission if proposed within the historic district. Visual art proposed on publicly-owned property will be required to be approved by the city council with a recommendation from the planning commission, as well as from the historic commission if proposed within the historic district. The finding required to approve visual art within the city is the same as that which currently exists for mural installments, “that the colors, placement, and size of the artwork are visually compatible with the surrounding character of the area, and that the artwork will serve to enhance the aesthetics of the city.”

At the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, council directed staff to clarify what was meant by the term “private property” and “public property.” These terms have been revised to read “privately-owned property” and “publicly-owned property” throughout the text of the ordinance in order to provide clarification.

**Council Goals/Objectives:** This ordinance supports the 2022 Strategic Plan Update, Goal #1: The City of Grass Valley is dedicated to promoting programs and projects that improve livability and enhance the character and charm of Grass Valley.

**Fiscal Impact:** Drafting of the ordinance required staff time.

**Funds Available:** None

**Account #:** TBD

**Reviewed by:** City Manager

**Attachments:**

1. Ordinance 2025-837 for the regulation of installation of public art throughout the City
2. Sample Visual Art Application Form