

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY SUPPORTING THE BEAR YUBA LAND TRUST IN THE ACQUISITION AND PRESERVATION OF APPROXIMATELY 135 ACRES OF FORESTED OPEN SPACE FOR TRAIL CONNECTIVITY, WILDFIRE RESILIENCE, AND NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION

WHEREAS, the Bear Yuba Land Trust (BYLT) has identified an opportunity to acquire approximately 135 acres of forested property (APN's 009-630-040, 009-630-032, 009-630-024, 009-600-033, 009-600-026, 009-600-030-510, 009-600-030-520, 009-600-031-510, 009-600-031-520) located in proximity to the City of Grass Valley for the purpose of permanent preservation; and

WHEREAS, the property contains forested open space, streams, and natural habitat that would be protected for the long-term benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, properties of this size and proximity to the City represent a rare opportunity to preserve open space while expanding recreational opportunities for residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of the property would support expansion of the City's trail network and provide potential trail connectivity to Empire Mine State Park and other recreational areas; and

WHEREAS, the property also provides an opportunity to improve community wildfire resilience through the potential development of a shaded fuel break between the Cedar Ridge neighborhood and the Bennett Street area; and

WHEREAS, the Bear Yuba Land Trust will serve as the lead agency in pursuing acquisition and preservation of the property; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley recognizes the public benefit of preserving open space, enhancing recreational opportunities, and supporting wildfire mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City may be able to support the project through partnership efforts including grant writing assistance, technical assistance, and in-kind services such as vegetation management and mastication; and

WHEREAS, any future financial contribution by the City would be subject to separate City Council review and approval;

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

1. The City Council supports the Bear Yuba Land Trust’s efforts to acquire and preserve approximately 135 acres of forested property for open space protection, trail connectivity, and wildfire resilience.
2. The City Council expresses its intent to partner with the Bear Yuba Land Trust, when appropriate and beneficial, by providing support services including grant writing assistance, technical assistance, and in-kind services such as vegetation management and mastication, subject to available resources.
3. This Resolution does not commit the City to any specific financial obligation. Any future financial participation shall require separate City Council consideration and approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Grass Valley this 10th day of March, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAINING:

Hilary Hodge, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Taylor Day, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____
David Ruderman, City Attorney