



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Purchase of Bobcat E-55 Excavator

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That Council authorize the City Manager to sign/execute the purchase agreement.

Prepared by: Duane Strawser,
OES/Community Risk Reduction Manager

Council Meeting Date: 09/08/26

Date Prepared: 08/31/26

Agenda: Consent

The City of Grass Valley contains many vacant, hazardous parcels posing imminent wildfire ignition threat. We also face exorbitant costs and staff safety concerns when removing hazardous trees, woody and organic biomass with the limited, non-dedicated equipment currently in our possession.

To this end, OES/CRRM identified a specific Excavator (Bobcat E-55) to support city wildfire fuels reduction crews in future mitigation work. Its compact size allows versatility and precision in performing critical fire prevention tasks in challenging environments due to its small footprint, ability to operate on steep slopes, narrow trails, and dense timber areas common to the City of Grass Valley. Equally critical is its ability to feed trees/biomass into chippers and other equipment.

This is essential for creating and maintaining fuel breaks and defensible spaces in rugged or mixed-use landscapes, clear brush, small trees, stumps, and ladder fuels with minimal ground disturbance, protecting sensitive soils and root systems that reduces collateral damage to non-target vegetation and infrastructure. This unit can also serve critical work duties for additional City departments.

City OES/CRR crews utilize appropriate heavy equipment units ensuring all current and future projects are completed safely, efficiently and meet the long-term objectives, expectations and wildfire risk reduction to benefit of the community.

Council Goals/Objectives: This action attempts to achieve the following strategic goals:

GOAL #1 - Public Safety via Wildfire Fuels-reduction Land Management/Rehabilitation

GOAL #2 - Community, Sense of Place and Quality of Life via Nature/Beautification/Forest Health

Fiscal Impact: \$111,770.54 / Measure B

Funds Available: Yes - FY26/27 Budget

Account #: 207-102-52050

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments: N/A