

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-09
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
RECOGNIZING AND ADOPTING CULTURE FORWARD 2026-2032: NEVADA COUNTY'S ARTS &
CULTURE ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS The arts, culture, and creative industries contribute significantly to the social, economic, and civic vitality of Nevada County, strengthening community identity, supporting local businesses, and enhancing quality of life for residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County has long been recognized as a center of artistic excellence and cultural heritage, supported by a vibrant network of artists, nonprofit organizations, cultural venues, historic districts, and creative enterprises; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada County Arts Council, the County's designated State-Local Partner to the California Arts Council, serves as the countywide arts service organization and administers two State-designated California Cultural Districts: the Grass Valley-Nevada City Cultural District and the Truckee Cultural District; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County Arts Council has led the development of Culture Forward: Nevada County's Arts & Culture Action Plan, a five-to-ten-year strategic framework intended to guide the continued growth and sustainability of arts and culture across Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, The development of Culture Forward included extensive community engagement through listening sessions, surveys, and stakeholder consultations with artists, educators, cultural organizations, local government, businesses, and community members across the County; and

WHEREAS, A key component of the planning process included a comprehensive review of existing regional and local plans to ensure alignment with ongoing public policy and economic development efforts, including:

- Nevada County Office of Education's *Strategic Plan for Arts Education in Schools*
- The County of Nevada's *Economic Development Action Plan*
- The County of Nevada's *Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan*
- Area Plans for Greater Higgins, Loma Rica Industrial, North San Juan, Penn Valley, and Soda Springs
- Visit California's *High Sierra and Gold Country Regional Strategic Tourism Plans*
- Visit Truckee-Tahoe's *Two-Year Strategic Plan* and Tourism Economic Impact Report
- Sierra Business Council's *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2023-2027*; and

WHEREAS, Culture Forward provides a coordinated arts and cultural framework that complements and strengthens these existing regional, county, and community planning efforts; and

WHEREAS, The City Council recognizes the value of community-initiated planning processes led by trusted regional partners, particularly where such processes leverage state partnerships and community collaboration to advance shared public goals; and

WHEREAS, The Council acknowledges that arts and culture play a vital role in supporting economic development, tourism vitality, educational opportunity, and community resilience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Grass Valley hereby recognizes and adopts Culture Forward 2026-2032: Nevada County’s Arts & Culture Action Plan as a guiding framework supporting the continued vitality of arts and culture throughout Nevada County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That adoption of this Resolution signifies the Council’s support for the vision and strategic direction outlined in Culture Forward and its interest in continued collaboration with Nevada County Arts Council and community partners to advance arts and culture initiatives where feasible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council encourages City departments, community partners, and regional stakeholders to consider Culture Forward as a resource for planning, coordination, and alignment in areas related to arts, culture, economic development, tourism, and community vitality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That nothing in this Resolution shall be interpreted as committing City resources beyond those approved through the City’s regular budgeting and decision-making processes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Council expresses its appreciation to Nevada County Arts Council and the many community members and regional partners whose contributions helped shape Culture Forward.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the City Council of the City of Grass Valley, State of California, on this 28th day of April, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Hilary Hodge, Mayor

David Rudderman, City Attorney

ATTEST:

Taylor Whittingslow, City Clerk