



## City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

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**Title:** A meeting to continue the discussion of Fire Resiliency and Vegetation Management and an acceptable level of risk relating to wildfires and extreme weather conditions.

**CEQA:** Not a Project.

**Recommendation:** That Council 1) receive additional information from staff relating to Fire Resiliency and Vegetation Management including responses to some of the questions raised to date; 2) present and receive Council input on the conceptual expenditure plans for a potential sales tax; 3) gain additional input from the Council and community on Fire and Vegetation Management and a potential tax; and 4) review a schedule of next steps with City Council.

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**Prepared by:** Timothy M. Kiser, City Manager

**Council Meeting Date:** October 10, 2023

**Date Prepared:** October 3, 2023

**Agenda:** Administrative

**Background Information:** This gathering aims to discuss mitigating the risks of wildfires and extreme weather events in Grass Valley through fire and vegetation management. This meeting is part of a series of discussions that the City Council and staff have had over the last couple of months.

At the Council meeting of September 26<sup>th</sup>, staff discussed fire resiliency based upon comments previously received, and two papers written by Eric Saylor, a firefighter with a Master's Degree in Security Studies from the Naval Post Graduate School. Studies and research have shown that properly staffed fire engine companies have a positive impact. Additionally, staff has developed two preliminary expenditure plans to continue the conversation about a potential sales tax and placing a tax on the ballot for March 2024. The next step is to determine what is an acceptable level of risk for the community regarding fires and extreme weather conditions. The goal of these draft tax expenditure plans is to facilitate a productive conversation and reach a decision on these issues. The staff will review the draft plans again at the Council meeting.

After receiving additional input and comments, the staff will be open to discussing the next steps to meet the deadline for putting something on the ballot in March 2024, if the Council so desires.

**Council Goals/Objectives:** The execution of this action attempts to achieve Strategic Goal #5 - High Performance Government and Quality Service.

**Fiscal Impact:** At this point, there is very little fiscal impact. The Fiscal Impact will come about if the Council decides to move forward with a Special Election in March

2024, which could easily exceed \$100,000, but there are sufficient funds in City reserves if the City Council deems this issue to be a fiscal emergency.

**Funds Available:** Yes

**Account #:** General Fund Reserves

**Reviewed by:** Tim Kiser, City Manager

**Attachments:**

- Two sample/draft tax expenditure plans
- PowerPoint Presentation from October 3<sup>rd</sup> Town Hall Meeting