



GRASS VALLEY

Special City Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 05, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California

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MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hodge led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Councilmember Jan Arbuckle

Councilmember Joe Bonomolo

Councilmember Tom Ivy

Vice Mayor Haven Caravelli

Mayor Hilary Hodge

AGENDA APPROVAL -

Motion made by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Vice Mayor Caravelli.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Vice Mayor Caravelli, Mayor Hodge

CONSENT ITEMS -

None.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Downtown Grass Valley Roundabout Project - Approve Engineering Concept

CEQA: N/A - CEQA review will be completed as part of the project work

Recommendation: That Council approve a selected project alternative for the Downtown Grass Valley Roundabout Project

City Engineer Bejorn Jones presented an overview of the Grass Valley Downtown Roundabout Project and introduced representatives from GHD (consultant engineers) and NCTC. He summarized the project history, background, and current stage within the Project Approval and Environmental Documentation (PAED) phase.

Staff recommended proceeding with either Option 2 or Option 5, noting both options meet funding and grant criteria while improving safety and functionality. The consultant team discussed accessibility features, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and compliance with ADA standards.

Public Comment: Jay Straus, Shaun Johnson, Tim McCall, Bob Branstrom, Scott Meadows, Brenda English, Kathy, Ted, Matthew Coulter

Council members discussed; project funding, timeline, and grant deadlines (environmental clearance required by September 2026); Traffic modeling and potential impacts to surrounding streets; Pedestrian and bicycle safety, including design features for visually impaired users; Construction phasing, with preference for nighttime work to minimize downtown disruption; Coordination with Caltrans and other local construction projects on Highway 49; Long-term pedestrian connectivity to the Wolf Creek Trail and downtown.

Council members expressed differing preferences for Option 2 and Option 5. Concerns included right-turn-only restrictions, potential traffic circulation through private lots, and maintaining safe pedestrian crossings.

Staff brought up the idea with the use of Option 5 to make South Auburn a one way street and eliminate the right out, and utilize the extra space for parking.

Motion by Councilmember Ivy, seconded by Councilmember Bonomolo, to approve Alternative 5.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Bonomolo, Councilmember Ivy, Mayor Hodge

Voting Nay: Councilmember Arbuckle, Vice Mayor Caravelli

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Hilary Hodge, Mayor

Taylor Whittingslow, City Clerk

Adopted on: _____