

City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

<u>Title:</u> Upcoming Public Hearing on Fire and Vegetation Management

CEQA: Not a Project.

<u>Recommendation</u>: This is an informational notice to inform the citizens of Grass Valley that a public hearing will take place during the City Council Meeting on July 25, 2023. The purpose of this hearing is to gather public feedback and guidance from the City Council regarding Fire and Vegetation Management, as well as a possible sales tax.

Prepared by: Timothy M. Kiser, City Manager

Council Meeting Date: July 11, 2023 Date Prepared: July 3, 2023

Agenda: Presentation

<u>Background Information</u>: The City would like to notify everyone about an important public hearing scheduled for the City Council Meeting on July 25, 2023. The purpose of this hearing is to gather valuable feedback and guidance from both the residents of the City and the City Council regarding Fire and Vegetation Management, as well as the potential implementation of a sales tax to support those areas and the public safety risks posed to Grass Valley by extreme weather events and wildfire.

The focus of the discussion during this hearing will primarily revolve around two crucial topics: Fire Resiliency and Vegetation Management. Fire Resiliency entails initiatives aimed at enhancing the city's ability to handle fire incidents effectively. Proposed measures include increasing firefighter staffing and potentially adding another fully staffed fire engine company. These efforts are essential to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community in the face of fire-related challenges.

Additionally, the discussion will center on **Vegetation Management**, a critical aspect of protecting our City from the impact of wildland fires. This aspect encompasses various strategies, including hardening the areas surrounding critical infrastructure such as hospital, schools, and water treatment plants, among many other critical pieces of public infrastructure. Furthermore, it aims to safeguard the City and its residents by reducing fuel and vegetation loads throughout the City and its geographical sphere of influence. Developing and creating temporary refuge areas, along with other vegetation mitigations, will also be explored during the hearing.

We encourage all residents and concerned individuals to attend this public hearing to voice their opinions, share insights, and contribute to the decision-making process. Your participation is invaluable in shaping the future of our city and ensuring the safety of our community.

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

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Funds Available: N/A Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: Tim Kiser, City Manager

Attachments: N/A