



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Sierra Nevada Conservancy Wildfire & Forest Resilience Program for the Wolf Creek Watershed

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2025-54, authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's Wildfire and Forest Resilience (WFR) Program, accept the grant if awarded, and authorize the Finance Director to process supplemental appropriations consistent with grant requirements.

Prepared by: Taylor Whittingslow, Deputy City Manager

Council Meeting Date: 12/9/2025

Date Prepared: 12/4/2025

Agenda: Consent

Background Information: The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) administers the Wildfire & Forest Resilience Program, which funds planning and implementation projects aimed at reducing hazardous fuels, improving forest and watershed health, and supporting community wildfire resilience.

The Wolf Creek Watershed - Boston Ravine Environs includes areas of City-owned and adjacent privately-owned land that have been identified as high-risk for wildfire due to dense vegetation, steep topography, and proximity to residential neighborhoods. This area is also a critical watershed and drainage corridor that supports community infrastructure and provides natural buffer zones between developed areas.

The City has prioritized proactive vegetation management and evacuation route protection as part of its ongoing wildfire mitigation strategy. The SNC program aligns with these priorities and offers a strong opportunity to support needed fuels-reduction and forest-health work.

The proposed grant application would fund vegetation thinning, ladder fuel removal, invasive species management, dead and dying tree removal, and strategic defensible-space improvements along evacuation corridors within the Boston Ravine portion of the Wolf Creek Watershed.

Primary project goals include:

- Reducing wildfire intensity and rate of spread in a high-risk zone.

- Improving emergency evacuation routes, ensuring roadway reliability during wildfire events.
- Enhancing forest and watershed health through ecologically sound vegetation management.
- Protecting residential neighborhoods and critical infrastructure.
- Leveraging regional partnerships with private landowners, CAL FIRE, Fire Safe Councils, and Nevada County agencies.

Because the City must demonstrate commitment and authority to implement the project if selected for funding, the attached Resolution provides the required authorizations:

1. Authorizing the City Manager to submit the SNC WFR grant application.
2. Authorizing the City Manager to accept the grant if awarded.
3. Authorizing the Finance Director to process supplemental appropriations, ensuring budget compliance and proper accounting.

These authorizations follow standard requirements for SNC grant funding.

Council Goals/Objectives: The contract will meet the City's Strategic Plan goal of providing high performance government and quality customer service.

Fiscal Impact: None

Funds Available: n/a

Account #:n/a

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments: R2025-54