



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: 2025 Historic Legacy Award

CEQA: Not a project

Recommendation: That council accept the Historic Commission's recommendation and award the 2025 Historic Legacy Award to Teresa Poston in recognition of her more than 23 years of dedicated service to the preservation, documentation, and promotion of Grass Valley's historic and cultural heritage

Prepared by: Taylor Whittingslow, Deputy City Manager

Meeting Date: 12/9/2025

Date Prepared: 12/4/2025

Background Information: The City of Grass Valley's Historic Legacy Award is presented annually to an individual, group, or business whose exceptional contributions have preserved, promoted, or enhanced the historical and cultural legacy of the City. The Historic Commission is responsible for reviewing nominations and forwarding a recommendation to the City Council.

On November 18th, 2025, the Historic Commission reviewed the submitted nomination for Teresa Poston, which detailed more than two decades of leadership, advocacy, research, documentation, and community education in support of historical preservation in Grass Valley.

After reviewing the nomination materials, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council select Teresa Poston as the 2025 Historic Legacy Award recipient.

The nomination submitted by Commissioner Mark Reilly highlights Teresa's significant and long-standing accomplishments, including:

Historic Commission Leadership (2002-Present)

- Over 23 years of service on the Historical Commission
- Advocacy for cross-agency collaboration and preservation-focused review processes

Historic Research, Documentation & Publications

- Development of Heritage Home Awards booklets, maps, home histories, and line drawings
- Compilation of 45 award-winning homes into a formal catalog and walking tour
- Contributions to the 1872 Townsite Inventory, Historic Design Guidelines, and Preservation Ordinance

Preservation Advocacy & Project Review

- Review of Priority 1 and Priority 2 historic property development proposals
- Continued efforts to identify and recognize landmarks throughout the City

Community Engagement & Education

- Coordination of WWII centennial window displays
- Creation of historical interpretive panels for Memorial Park's Centennial Courtyard
- Participation in the Historic Downtown Walking Tour project

Landmark Designations & Plaques

- African Methodist Episcopal Church Site (2021-2022)
- Memorial Park enhancements (2023-2024)
- Ongoing efforts to designate Eagle Hose Company and the former brewery site

Civic Recognition

- Recipient of the Mayor's Award (2004 & 2017)

These contributions collectively demonstrate a sustained commitment to preserving and celebrating Grass Valley's historical identity. The Commission determined that Teresa fully embodies the purpose and intent of the Historic Legacy Award.

Council Goals/Objectives: This executes portions of work tasks to achieve/maintain the Strategic Plan—Open and Collaborative City Government.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: City Manager

Attachments: Nomination packet