



## City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

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**Title:** Approving the Application for California Forest Improvement Program and Designating an authorized Representative

**CEQA:** Not a project

**Recommendation:** That the City Council authorize staff to apply for funding through the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) to support forest health improvements on City-owned properties of 20 acres or more. Additionally, designate the City Manager as the authorized agent to conduct all necessary negotiations and to execute and submit all required documents—including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, amendments, payment requests, and compliance certifications with all applicable state and federal laws—for the successful completion of the CFIP project.

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

**Council Meeting Date:** 07/22/2025

**Date Prepared:** 07/15/2025

**Agenda:** Consent

**Background Information:** The City of Grass Valley is exploring opportunities to improve forest health on City-owned properties through proactive vegetation management practices such as selective tree thinning, pruning, and brush clearing. These efforts are aimed at enhancing ecological resilience, and promoting long-term forest sustainability.

To support this work, the City intends to apply for funding through the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP), a state-funded initiative administered by CAL FIRE. The purpose of CFIP is to encourage both private and public investment in the improved management of California's forestlands. The program promotes forest productivity, environmental stewardship, and economic benefits—while ensuring that forests remain healthy and resilient for future generations.

CFIP provides cost-share assistance to eligible landowners—including public agencies—for properties ranging from 20 to 5,000 acres.

Participation in the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) would enable the City to leverage state funding to implement high-priority forest health projects on City-owned lands. These efforts will enhance community safety, protect vital natural resources, and strengthen overall forest resiliency. The City is currently preparing to apply for funding to improve forest conditions on more than 240 acres of City-owned property, including open space near Loma Rica Ranch, Condon Park, the Wolf Creek

Trail corridor, and areas surrounding the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant and Corporation Yards.

As part of the CFIP, the City needs to designate a representative to act as authorized agent to conduct all necessary negotiations and to execute and submit all required documents—including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, amendments, payment requests, and compliance certifications with all applicable state and federal laws—for the successful completion of the CFIP project. Staff is recommend the City Manager be designated as the authorized agent for the CFIP for the City.

**Council Goals/Objectives:** The execution of this action attempts to achieve the following Strategic Goals - Community and Sense of Place.

**Fiscal Impact:** The areas identified for treatment were originally planned to be cleared using Measure B funds. However, if the City is awarded CFIP funding, a significant portion of those costs would be reimbursed by the State through the program. This would allow the City to preserve a substantial amount of Measure B funds for other potential projects and priorities.

**Funds Available:** Yes

**Account #:** TBD

**Reviewed by:** City Manager

**Attachments:** None