



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Title: Fire Prevention Vegetation Inspection Program and Fee (Draft Proposal)

Recommendation: That Council provide staff direction on a potential Fire Prevention Vegetation Inspection Program.

Prepared by: Timothy M. Kiser, City Manager

Council Meeting Date: 7/12/2022

Date Prepared: 7/7/2022

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information: Over the last few years, the City's Fire Department has put together and implemented a vegetation management program. This program has been very successful in bringing properties into compliance with our current ordinance. The next step would be to put together a program to inspect every parcel (approximately 5700) in the city annually. The purpose of these inspections would be to identify and mitigate hazards that could contribute to the spread, growth, and intensity of fires. The property owners would be required to actively maintain their parcels in a fire safe condition throughout fire season. To make this program successful, staff would need to modify our current ordinance to increase the fire safe conditions requirements for parcels and develop a nominal fee for inspections (around \$20 per parcel). Staff would also create a self-reporting process that would avoid the initial inspection fee. We would also address increased fees for second inspections due to non-compliance. Additionally, the City may leverage resources and strengthen our cooperative and coordinated Fire Service Agreement with the City of Nevada City to include a vegetation inspection program.

As this will take some time to develop, staff is looking for input and direction on this proposed next step to ensure our ability to have it ready for next fire season.

Council Goals/Objectives: This item executes portions of work tasks towards achieving/maintaining Strategic Plan - - Public Safety. The City of Grass Valley is devoted to providing a safe Place to Live, Work and Play.

Fiscal Impact: The Fiscal Impact due to a potential Fire Prevention Vegetation Inspection program should be minor with an offsetting fee.

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by: __ City Manager