



GRASS VALLEY Measure E Meeting

Monday, October 02, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Mayor's Conference Room, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, CA
Telephone: (530) 274-4310 - Fax: (530) 274-4399

E-Mail: info@cityofgrassvalley.com

Web Site: www.cityofgrassvalley.com

AGENDA

Any person with a disability who requires accommodations to participate in this meeting should telephone the City Clerk's office at (530)274-4390, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to make a request for a disability related modification or accommodation.

MEETING NOTICE

Measure E Committee welcomes you to attend the meetings electronically or in person at the City Hall Mayor's Conference Room, located at 125 E. Main St., Grass Valley, CA 95945. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments via voicemail at (530) 274-4390 and email to public@cityofgrassvalley.com. Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received an hour prior to the meeting. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. The committee will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

Agenda materials, staff reports, and background information related to regular agenda items are available on the City's website: www.cityofgrassvalley.com. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet will be made available on the City of Grass Valley website at www.cityofgrassvalley.com, subject to City staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting.

Please note, individuals who disrupt, disturb, impede, or render infeasible the orderly conduct of a meeting will receive one warning that, if they do not cease such behavior, they may be removed from the meeting. The chair has authority to order individuals removed if they do not cease their disruptive behavior following this warning. No warning is required before an individual is removed if that individual engages in a use of force or makes a true threat of force. (Gov. Code, § 54957.95.)

Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible and listening devices are available. Other special accommodations may be requested to the City Clerk 72 hours in advance of the meeting by calling (530) 274-4390, we are happy to accommodate.

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA APPROVAL

PUBLIC COMMENT - Members of the public are encouraged to submit public comments via voicemail at (530) 274-4390 and email to public@cityofgrassvalley.com. There is a time limitation of three minutes per person. For items not on the agenda and within the jurisdiction or interest of the City, please address the Measure E Committee at this time. For items on the agenda please address the Committee when the number and subject matter are announced. Comments will be reviewed and distributed before the meeting if received an hour prior to meeting. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. The Measure E Committee will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair for Measure E Committee
2. Discussion of a Potential Measure Sales Tax for Fire purposes
3. Reports to City Council

ADJOURN

POSTING NOTICE

This is to certify that the above notice of a Measure E Meeting, scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2023 at 3:00 PM was posted at city hall, easily accessible to the public, as of 5:00 p.m. Thursday, September 28, 2023.

Taylor Day, City Clerk

Fire Resilience and Vegetation Management





Fire Resilience

- Appropriate Staffing
- Response based on risk
- Improved Capability
- Reduced dollar and Property loss due to Fire Damage
- Organizational Flexibility
- Retention



An aerial photograph showing a large wildfire with thick, billowing white and grey smoke rising from a forested area. The smoke is partially obscuring the trees. In the foreground, a residential neighborhood with houses and streets is visible, situated at the edge of the burning area. The image is presented with a torn-paper effect on the right side.

Vegetation Management

- Incident mitigation through reduction of fuel
- Reduction of potential ignition sources
- Hardening of critical infrastructure
- Creation of temporary refuge areas in the City.

Measure N

- Passed in 2012 by Citizens of Grass Valley
 - Allocations
 - Hired Firefighters
 - Purchased Fire Engines and Staff Vehicles
 - Enhanced Training
 - Additional Measure N Funds
 - Law Enforcement
 - Limited Road Improvements



Measure E

- Passed 2018 by Citizens of Grass Valley
- Intended to provide increased levels of Life Safety Services (Paramedics)
 - Paramedic Services started August 10th, 2023
 - LALS services began prior to Paramedic Program
- Additional Measure E Funds
 - Parks
 - Street
 - Law Enforcement



Fire Resilience

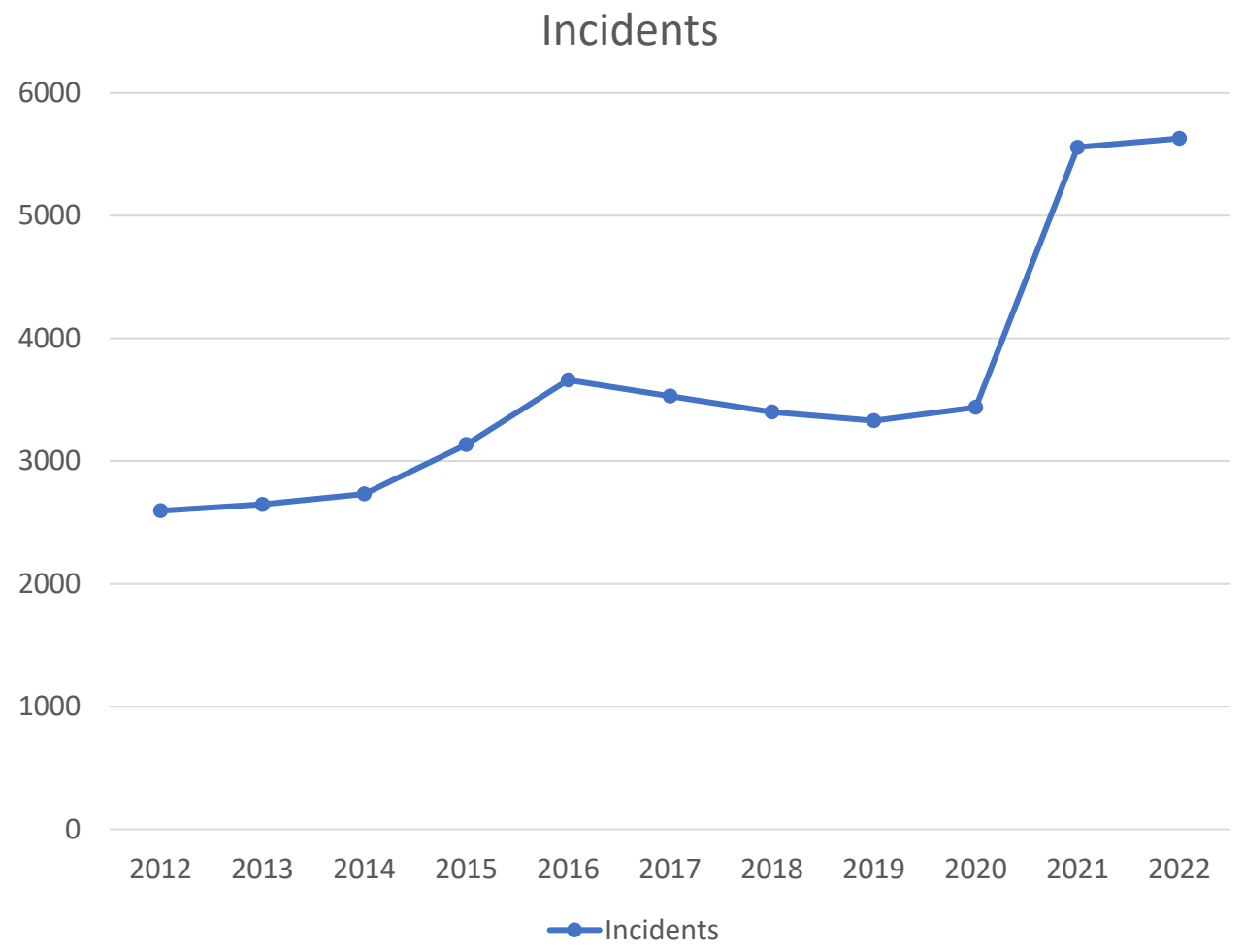


Current Staffing Levels

- 3 Engines / 2 Firefighters Minimum
 - 6 minimum per day
- Extended time to task completion
- Less efficient operations
- Increased loss of dollars due to Fire damage
- Reduction of availability of resources
- Single task orientated
- Greater Impact on Insurance Rates
- Below industry standards

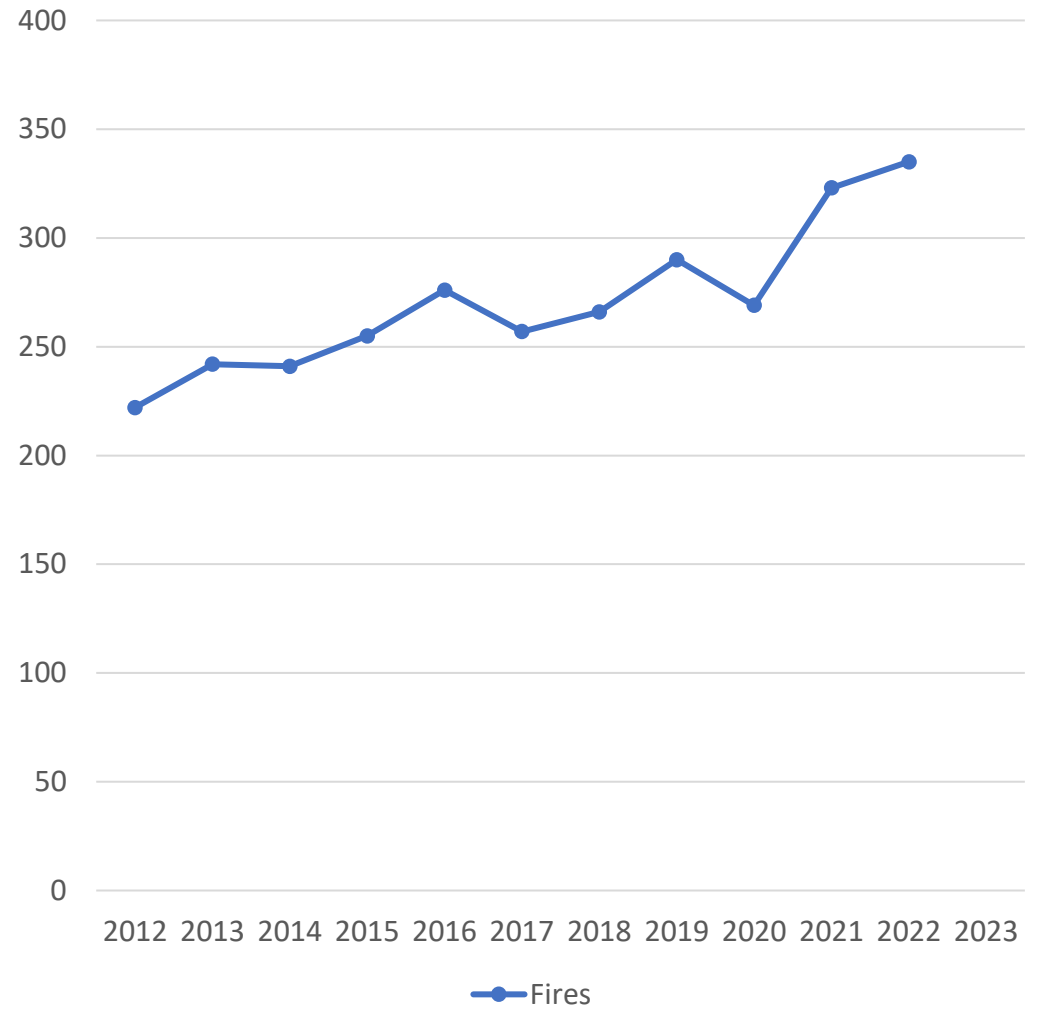
City of Grass Valley Fire Department

10-year Incident responses



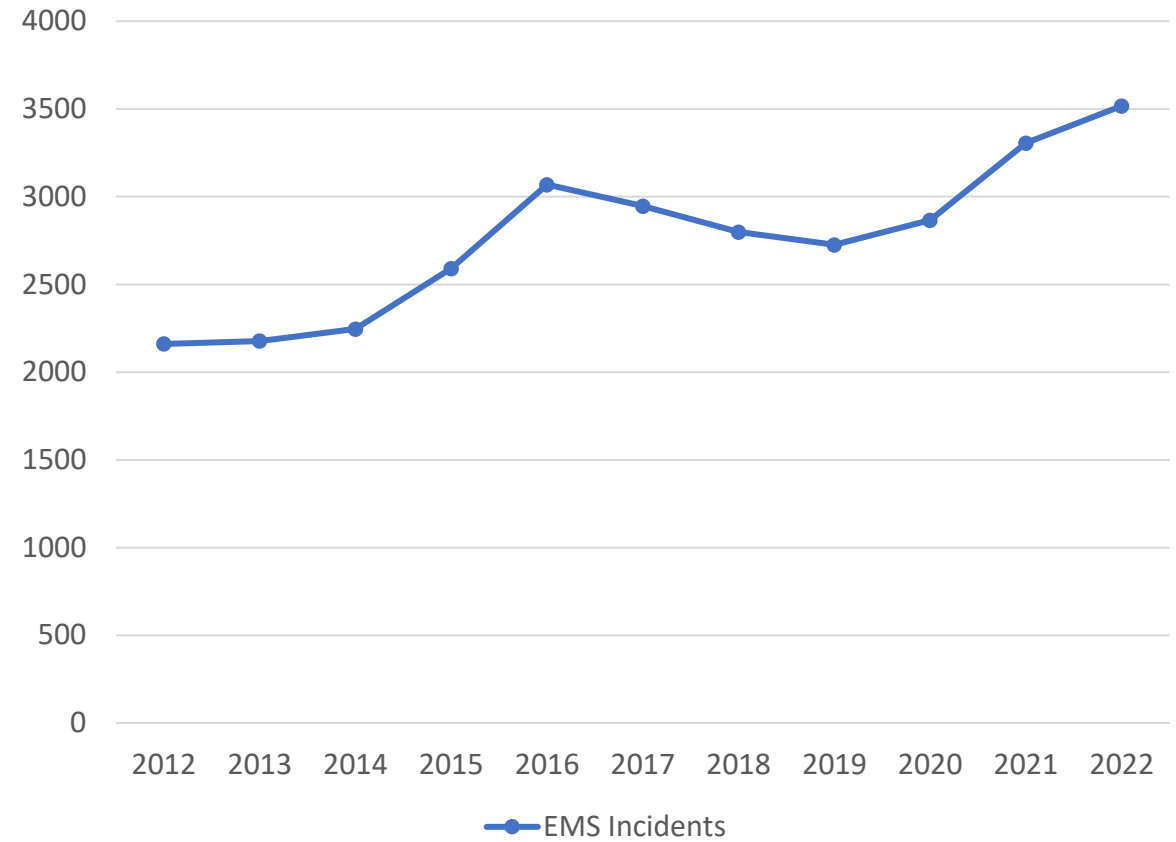


Grass Valley Fire Activity





Grass Valley EMS Incidents



Grass Valley Fire Department Figures

- Fires calls for service are up by 50% over the last 10 years
- EMS calls for service are up 63% over the last 10 years
- Total Department calls for service are up 117% over the last 10 years



Improved Staffing

- 3 Fire Engines / 3 firefighters minimum
 - 9 personnel minimum on duty daily
- Staffing benefits all incident types
 - Not just fires
- Reduces time to task
- Reduces dollar and property loss due to fire
- Multitask Orientated
- Personnel Retention
- Enhances Safety
- Possibly Improves Insurance Situation
- Greater Capabilities



Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reductions Program

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Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reductions

- Vegetation Management and Community Risk Reduction pertains to the methods, practices, and strategies to mitigate vegetation that poses a significant fire risk or hazard to human lives, property, and infrastructure.



Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

- Reduce flammable Fuels
- Reduce human caused fires in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
- Harden Critical Infrastructure
 - Schools
 - Hospital
 - Water Treatment Facilities
 - High Density Developments
 - Care facilities

06.15.2017

Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

- Current system
- **Complaint** Driven
- Not meeting the community's expectations
- Inconsistent
- Reactive not Proactive
- Lacks a Community Education Component
- Limited funding for mitigation assistance

Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

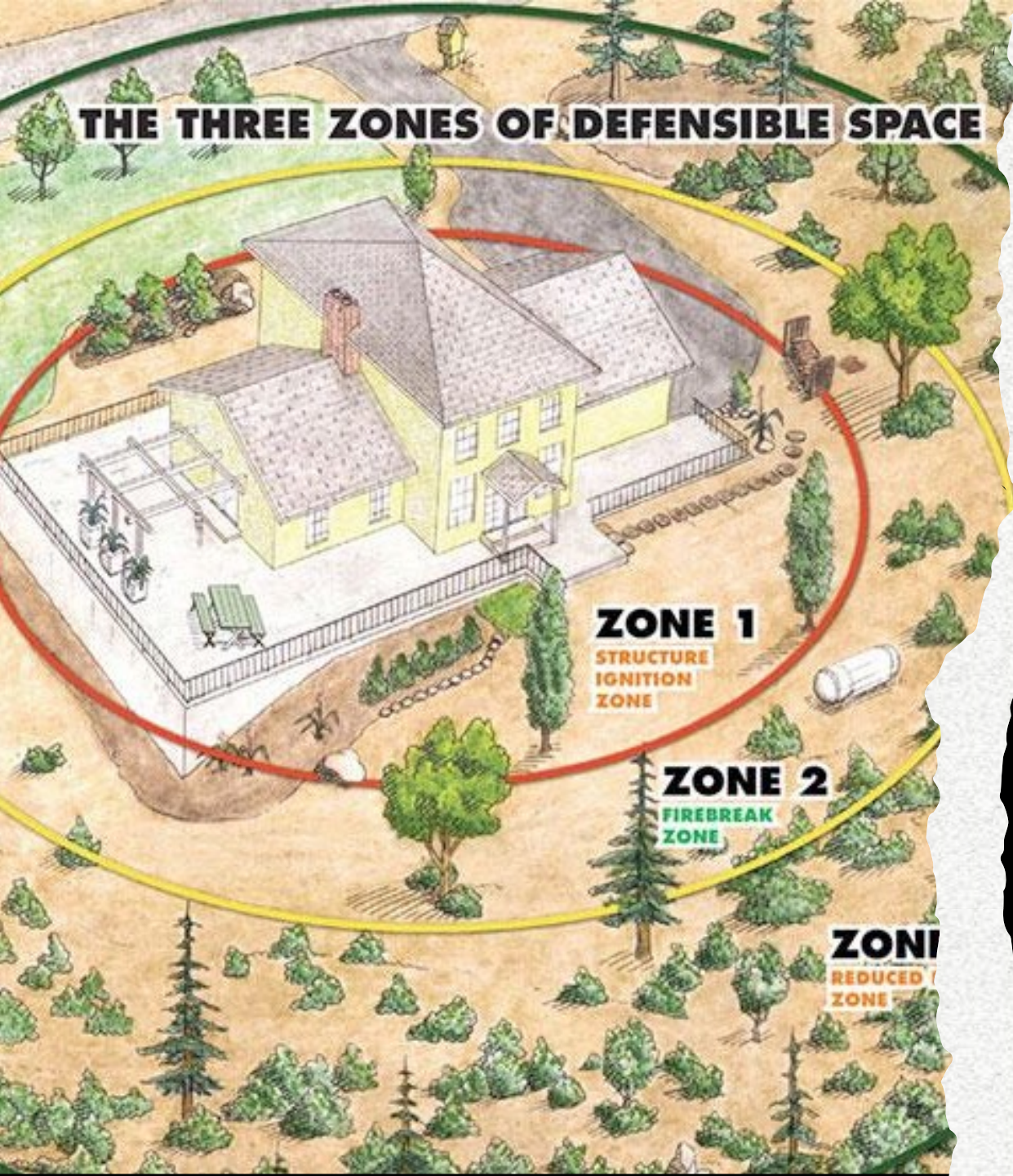
Continued.....

- Difficult to manage due to no staff
 - Staff is sometimes shifted from other responsibilities
- Prolonged Process required (up to 90 days)
 - Complaint received
 - Investigate the complaint
 - Notices sent out
 - 1st notice 30 days
 - 2nd Notice 15 days

Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

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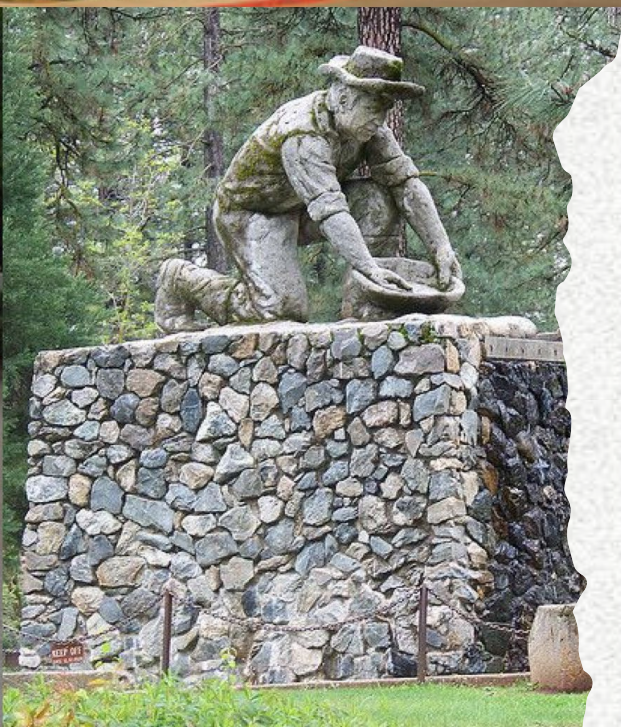
- Extensions
 - Tracking
 - Inspections
 - Compliance / Warrants
-
- Vendors may be several weeks out for compliance work to be scheduled then completed



Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

- Proposed Program
- One Manager
- Two Inspectors

- Priorities
 - City Properties
 - Harden Schools & Critical Infrastructure
 - Evacuation Routes
 - Create Temporary Refuge Areas
 - Matching Funds Grant Program
 - Community Inspection Program



Vegetation Management & Community Risk Reduction

Item # 2.

Sample Priority Areas

- Condon Park
- Berryhill Canyon Area
- Scotten & Lyman Gilmore Schools
- Critical Facilities
 - Power Substations
 - Water treatment plants
 - Hospital
- Evacuation Routes
- Temporary Refuge Areas

Temporary Refuge Area (TRA)

- Large areas with little to no flammable vegetation that can be used to shelter a large number of people for a short period of time.

- Large Parking Lots
 - Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
 - Sierra College
 - Raley's Parking Lot
- Green Mowed Fields that wont support fire.
 - Sierra College Soccer Fields
 - Nevada Union Football Field
 - Lyman Gilmore Fields



Draft Expenditure Plan ½ Percent (.005) Sales Tax increase

- Option 1 - 50%/50% between Vegetation Management & Resiliency (Est. \$3.4 million annually)
- Resiliency – 50% of \$3.4 M or \$1.7 M Annually
 - Add and additional Engine Company everyday of the year (\$800K+/-) 3 staffed engines to 4 staffed Engines
 - Move Closer to National Standards by increasing from two to three Firefighters per engine (\$900K+/-)
- Vegetation Mitigation - 50% of \$3.4 M or \$1.7 M
 - \$300k to Operate a Veg. Management, Education & Inspection Program (3 Personnel)
 - \$1 M – Fuel Reduction (100 Acres of Fuel Reduction around the City \$700K*, \$300K in Grants to residences/ businesses for assistance in Fuel Reductions)
 - \$400K Creating TRAs and Harding Critic Infrastructure (i.e. Schools, hospitals, care facilities)
- ** 20% per year could be allocated to collaborative agency fire breaks within 5 miles of the center of the City. 10% per year could address illegal camping issues within the City's sphere.*

Draft Expenditure Plan

½ Percent (.005) Sales Tax increase

Option 2 – 25%/75% Split between Resiliency and Vegetation Mitigation (\$3.4 Million+/- to be generated annually)

- Resiliency – 25% of \$3.4 M or \$900+/- M Annually
 - Move Closer to National Standards by increasing from two to three Firefighters per engine (\$900K+/-)
- Vegetation Mitigation - 75% of \$2.5 M
 - \$300k to Operate a Veg. Management, Education & Inspection Program (3 Personnel)
 - \$1.8 M – Fuel Reduction (200+/- Acres of Fuel Reduction around the City \$1.5M*, \$300K in Grants to residences/ businesses for assistance in Fuel Reductions)
 - \$400K Creating TRAs and Harding Critical Infrastructure (i.e. Schools, hospitals, care facilities)

** 20% per year could be allocated to collaborative agency fire breaks within 5 miles of the center of the City. 10% per year could address illegal camping issues within the City's sphere.*

Potential 1/2 cent Sales Tax

- If the City Council adopts the proposed Resolution, Council would be declaring a fiscal emergency and call for a special election on November 7, 2023, and to consider the following 1/2 cent transactions and use tax measure:
- Measure __

Shall the measure for such purposes as reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire and extreme weather by funding additional firefighters, vegetation management, and emergency evacuation planning, or for other general governmental uses, by adopting a general, 1/2-cent sales tax raising about \$3.4 million yearly, with annual audits and a citizens' oversight committee, effective for 10 years or until voters end it sooner, be adopted?

Yes

No

Potential ½ cent Sales Tax

If the City Council adopts the proposed Resolution, Council would be declaring a fiscal emergency and call for a special election on November 7, 2023, and to consider the following ½ cent transactions and use tax measure:

Measure __

Shall the measure for such purposes as reducing the risk **of** associated with catastrophic wildfire and extreme weather by funding additional firefighters, vegetation management, and emergency evacuation planning, or for other general governmental uses, by adopting a general, ~~1/2-cent~~ half-percent sales tax raising about \$3.4 million yearly, with annual audits and a citizens' oversight committee, effective for 10 years or until voters end it sooner, be adopted?

Yes

No