

CITY COUNCIL GOALS AND INITIATIVES FOR 2007-2008

Strategic Goal #1: Exceptional Public Safety

Maintain and insure the health, safety and welfare of our community by providing well trained and equipped Police, Fire and Building Inspection personnel.

Strategic Goal #2: Modern Public Infrastructure

Maintain and enhance essential public works, utilities, and other infrastructure of the City which includes a well maintained system of roads, sidewalks, storm drains, water treatment and waste water treatment facilities and public parks, grounds and buildings.

Strategic Goal #3: Prudent Financial Management

Operate City Government in a fiscally prudent and managerially responsible manner. Assuring the most efficient expenditure of public funds.

Strategic Goal #4: Balanced Economic Growth and Development

To ensure a strong economic base which provides for a well planned and diverse local economy meeting the needs of Grass Valley residents.

Strategic Goal #5: Planned Community Development

Ensure that the City retains a sense of community characterized by the "Grass Valley Design" through traditional neighborhoods which achieve well maintained attractive single and multi-family neighborhoods suitable for all ages and social economic groups.

Strategic Goal #6: Inclusive Community Involvement and Leadership

Provide Municipal Government in a way which is responsive to the needs of our residential and business communities and is characterized by an open and public process and a partnership with our residents, schools, businesses and other governmental agencies.

Strategic Goal #7: Use of Technology, Training and Productive Work Force

Establish and maintain a strong and efficient organization through the use of technology. Maintain a committed, productive and well trained work force which utilize a team based management approval and other important skills to deliver exceptional customer service.

City Council Initiatives for 2007-2008:

- Develop a 5 year Capital improvement Program
- Develop plans to improve the City's traffic circulation patterns

- Work with community leaders to support a ballot measure for a one half cent (0.50%) sales tax for infrastructure/transportation improvements including the Dorsey Drive Interchange
- Work closely with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to address the city wastewater discharge permit
- Review the City's long term growth strategies including Special Development Areas
- Review the City's current housing program, looking specifically at addressing affordable housing and loan programs
- Review and approve an update to the Sewer System Master Plan
- Recruit for a new City Administrator and assist the new City Administrator with an orderly transition into the organization.
- Evaluate and approve the reorganization of the Public Works Department
- Look for opportunities to increase the City's revenue stream through grants and economic development
- Explore the possibility of developing design guidelines for residential subdivisions.
- Review the City's fee structures to ensure they are keeping pace with the City's growth plans
- Explore the possibility of incorporating a Public Information Officer into the City staff.
- Develop a long term Strategic Plan for the City of Grass Valley
- Review current priorities and policies and development strategies for the Redevelopment Agency.
- Through economic development efforts improve employment opportunities for citizens and residents
- Incorporate into the 2007-08 budget, Internal Service Funds, to set aside funds for future vehicle needs
- Explore the feasibility of creating a Youth and Senior Commission

Police Initiatives for 2007-2008:

- Evaluate the law enforcement organization and make enhancements to better serve our citizens and provide upward mobility for our Non-sworn employees.
- Continue to explore programs to attract and retain new Police Officers
- Review the current animal control operations, looking for efficiencies and staffing needs.
- Continue to be proactive in community policing and staying abreast of changing crime conditions
- Through grant funding, continue to modernize and upgrade the police department communication system
- Continue to increase the presence of traffic enforcement within the community

- Continue to address illegal drug activity working with citizens and public safety providers

Fire Initiatives for 2007-2008:

- Continue to work with surrounding fire agencies to assure coordination and standardization in training for local emergency responses
- Work to develop funding sources to renovate Fire Station Number 1 based on approved plans
- Continue to emphasize fire prevention and other perils through effective code enforcement
- Explore opportunities with surrounding fire agencies on the feasibility of a fire consolidation
- Continue working with Sierra College on development of the Public Safety Training Center and firefighter internship program
- Work to develop office space needs in City Hall to accommodate the Fire Battalion Chief
- Replace aerial ladder truck

Finance Initiatives for 2007-08

- Evaluate current personnel needs in the department
- Provide support to City's Departments in order to ensure their success in managing their fiscal affairs
- Continue to maintain accuracy in responding and documenting city Financial transactions
- Participate with other departments in exploring options in enhancing the City's revenue stream
- Assist in developing Financial plans for upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plan and major infrastructure needs
- Issue bonds or seek other financial ways to support R.D.A. projects and wastewater and other capital projects
- Evaluate the next generation in budgeting and accounting software
- Implement the inclusion of a five year capital project and internal service funds in the F.Y. 2007-08 budget

HR Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Continue to provide support to all departments to meet their staffing needs through consultation and administrative support
- Conduct a City wide safety audit and provide information from other jurisdictions and agencies
- Continue to stay abreast of current updates in Risk Management, Health Care and Workers Comp Issues
- Evaluate the development of a City wide training program and committee
- Support the Council in the recruitment of a new City Administrator

- Evaluate the City's "Family Medical Leave Act", the "California Family Rights Act", Equal Opportunity Employment Affirmative Action Plan and Fair Labors Standards Act.
- Provide Harassment Training, Employee Assistance Training and Ethics Training per state law in addition to other legal and regulatory standards impacting the HR programs at Grass Valley
- Develop New Employee Orientation Programs
- Coordinate City Enrichment Programs through and employee recognition dinner, City picnic and other programs designed to create a conducive work environment.
- Evaluate the need for succession planning within the organization
- Review the City's sick leave and vacation accrual policies for possible changes

Public Works Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Continue to provide overlays, crack seals, repair neighborhood streets in accordance with the City's improvement Management Plan
- Develop a storm water ordinance in accordance with state law.
- Continue to train the work force to provide efficient and effective service
- Evaluate the City's current underground infrastructure for future capital improvement projects
- Provide upgrades to the water and waste water system to meet City growth needs
- Support the implementation of the City's wastewater permit requirements
- Continue to maintain street signs, painting, street sweeping and storm drain maintenance
- Evaluate the installation of Micro Turbines at the Wastewater Plant to reduce power costs and photovoltaic panels at City Hall, Water and Wastewater Plants and Potable Water Treatment site
- Develop a program to train future plant operators
- Support the efforts of implementing an internal service fund for vehicle replacement
- Explore developing a Master Plan for bicycle paths in conjunction with Nevada County
- In support of community recreation, develop partnerships with school districts and other community organizations to meet the needs of our residents
- Explore the feasibility of creating a Senior and Youth Commission
- Explore the feasibility of creating a Parks and Recreation Foundation to advocate for parks and recreation and identify projects to fund
- Identify state and federal grants for current and planned park projects
- Provide opportunity for public input to expand current recreation programs

- Evaluate the renovation of the Memorial Park Club House
- Update the Condon Park Master Plan
- Evaluate and possibly implement Benefit Assistance Districts

Engineering Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Develop plans and construct road projects in support of the City's Capital Improvement Program
- Coordinate with Caltrans and complete plans for the East Main/Idaho Maryland Improvement project
- Work in support of constructing the Dorsey Drive Interchange
- Provide factual support for a ½ cent (0.50%) sales tax (ballot measure) for infrastructure/transportation
- Provide input in to the reorganization of the Public Works and Engineering Departments
- Develop a 5 year Capital Improvement budget for F.Y 2007-08
- Complete the Main Street Corridor Study
- Complete plans to upgrade and rehabilitate the Primary Clarifier at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Evaluate and participate in the adoption of the waste water master plan
- Construct two one million gallon water tanks at Alta Hill
- Complete Park improvements at Minnie Park and Mautino Park
- Develop new City wide Engineering Standards
- Update City Traffic Modeling and regional and local fee structures
- Evaluate the need for new software technology to improve efficiencies

City Clerk Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Provide support to the City Council and City Departments in preparing the City Agendas
- Develop an effective Records Management System and Retention Schedule and email policy
- Stay current on laws effecting City government relating to Fair Political Practices, Records Management, Elections...etc. by attending meetings and seminars
- Develop a orientation packet for newly elected Council Members
- Continue to develop a City wide newsletter, exploring the possibility of a quarterly newsletter and the possibility of outsourcing the set up
- Provide assistance in acquiring a new copy machine (biz-hub) for City Hall
- Explore and present a new system for recording minutes for City Council and Planning Commission Meetings to save time and money
- Evaluate the possible outsourcing of production for the City Council and Planning Commission packets to save time and money

Community Development Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Evaluate current City growth management program and explore new approaches for pacing development at a level with existing services.
- Review Special Development Areas (SDA's) against City's Application Criteria and gain policy direction from the City Council
- Develop historical preservation measures for the 1872 Townsite
- Complete Downtown Parking Study and implement its recommendations
- Identify priority programs and strategies for the City Redevelopment Agency to ensure maximum use of existing increment and bonding capacity to address:
 1. Potential Agency expansion into Glenbrook Basin
 2. S. Auburn Master Plan
 3. Main Street corridor Plan (shared with Engineering)
 4. Colfax Avenue Infill Study
- Evaluate the current programs for work place housing and housing assistance
- Implement the new Development Code and its form based provisions
- Evaluate and possibly implement Benefit Assessment Districts
- Evaluate the City's current impact fee structure (shared with others)
- Develop strategic plans to maintain Grass Valley as the economic hub
- Support small business and economic development efforts
- Provide responsive customer service to citizens who utilize the service of the community development department
- Implement new Code Enforcement measures such as Administrative Penalty
- Continue to work with developers and interested parties to ensure new development is of the quality that enhances the City image and provides a jobs housing balance
- Evaluate the Creek side set back requirement for incorporation into the new zoning code

City Administrator Initiatives for 2007-08:

- Support the development of a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan
- Work with the Finance Department and Public Works Department in implementing internal service fund for the 2007-08 budget
- Monitor the City's waste water permit and Newmont Mine lawsuit
- Develop improved team building and customer service throughout the organization
- Continue to promote the economic viability of Grass Valley including transportation needs
- Monitor R.D. A. projects Downtown Plan and parking needs
- Evaluate the long term infrastructure and financing need of the City

- Provide municipal government in a way that is responsive to the needs of all Grass Valley residents and businesses characterized by an open process and partnership with our residents
- Monitor the City's growth plans in support of the Council and Community
- Develop plans for a new City Hall phone system
- Evaluate current City technology needs for future updates
- Develop a Gateway Entrance Sign to Grass Valley
- Evaluate City wide technology needs