

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
CLOSED SESSION
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor

Ben Aguilar, Vice Mayor

Jan Arbuckle

Howard Levine

Hilary Hodge

NOTICE OF CLOSED SESSION MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF GRASS VALLEY WILL HOLD A CLOSED SESSION MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020 AT 6:00 PM IN THE MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM OF GRASS VALLEY CITY HALL, 125 EAST MAIN STREET, GRASS VALLEY, CA 94945

Public Comments for Closed Session Items Only

Call to Order:

Roll Call:

1.

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GOV. CODE § 54957.6)

Name of City/Agency Negotiator(s) to Attend Closed Session:

Tim Kiser, Andy Heath, and Patrick Clark

Employee Organization(s):

Unit 8 – The Grass Valley Firefighters, IAFF Local 3800

Unit 6 – The Grass Valley Police Officers' Association

Unit 2 – The International Union of Operating Engineers, Stationary Engineers, Local 39

Adjourn:

Posted:

Date

Time

Andy Heath, Acting City Clerk

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor
Jan Arbuckle

Howard Levine

Ben Aguilar, Vice Mayor
Hilary Hodge

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL,
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORITY AND REDEVELOPMENT “SUCCESSOR
AGENCY”**

7:00 P. M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
GRASS VALLEY CITY HALL (LOWER LEVEL)
125 EAST MAIN STREET, GRASS VALLEY, CALIFORNIA
Telephone: (530) 274-4310 – Fax: (530) 274-4399

E-Mail: info@cityofgrassvalley.com Web Site: www.cityofgrassvalley.com

In response to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 and Resolution 2020-09 Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic, public participation in the City of Grass Valley City Council and other public meetings shall be electronic only, and without a physical location for public participation, until further notice in compliance with California state guidelines on social distancing. City Council welcomes you to attend the meetings electronically, which are scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. This meeting is being broadcast “live” on Comcast Channel 17 by Nevada County Media, on the internet at www.cityofgrassvalley.com, or on the City of Grass Valley YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdAaL-uwdN8iTz8bI7SCuPQ>. Indexed archives of meetings are available via this link as well. 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 by 5pm. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. Council 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 of Grass Valley website: www.cityofgrassvalley.com. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Council 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. If you do not have the means to participate in meetings electronically, contact the City at (530) 274-4390 and staff will be happy to identify alternative means for you to participate.

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

B. AGENDA APPROVAL

The City Council reserves the right to hear items in a different order to accomplish business in the most efficient manner.

C. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

D. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CalVIP Grant Presentation
- PG&E – Community Wildfire Safety Program – Brandon Sanders

E. PUBLIC COMMENT – 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 by 5pm. Comments received after that will be addressed during the item and/or at the end of the meeting. Council will have the option to modify their action on items based on comments received. Action may be taken on any agenda item.

F. CONSENT ITEMS – All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are to be considered routine by the City Council and/or Grass Valley Redevelopment Agency and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless, before the City Council and/or Grass Valley Redevelopment Agency votes on the motion to adopt, members of the Council and/or Agency, staff or the public request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action (roll call vote).

1. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2020

RECOMMENDATION: Council approve minutes as submitted.

2. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2020

RECOMMENDATION: Council approve minutes as submitted

3. Local Emergency Proclamation (COVID-19)

RECOMMENDATION: Continuance of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency.

4. Local Emergency Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION: Continuance of sinkhole proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency due to extreme weather.

G. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

H. PUBLIC HEARING

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

5. Adopt Resolution 2020-53 approving Grass Valley Downtown Association to sell alcohol within the footprint of the COVID-19 related downtown street closure

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution 2020-53.

J. BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

K. ADJOURN

Posted:

Date

Time

Andy Heath, Acting City Clerk



**City of Grass Valley
City Council
Agenda Action Sheet**

Council Meeting Date: October 13, 2020

Date Prepared: October 7, 2020

Prepared by: Alexander K. Gammelgard, Chief of Police

Title: Presentation on CalVIP Grant award related to police/outreach service delivery

Recommended Motion: None.

Agenda: Introductions and Presentations

Background Information:

On March 24, 2020 the City Council adopted Resolution 2020-10 allowing the Police Department to submit a grant proposal to the State Board of Community Corrections for a California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) grant. Three million dollars of available funds were set aside for designated cities with populations of 40,000 or less. The City of Grass Valley was one of the specified cities. The grant's primary focus is to support, expand, and replicate evidence-based violence reduction initiatives, and specifically addresses "evidence-based street outreach programs."

On September 3, 2020 the Board of State and Community Corrections met and approved a grant award to the Grass Valley Police Department in the amount of \$574,695. The press release from the State is available here: <http://www.bscc.ca.gov/news/bscc-awards-37m-in-anti-violence-grants/> In the release it references the Grass Valley program by stating:

"The City of Grass Valley will use its \$574,695 award in partnership with the nonprofit Foothill House of Hospitality to target services for people who are unsheltered, mentally ill and addicted. A homeless services case manager will work with a dedicated police officer to respond to calls using de-escalation strategies to build trust."

In the changing landscape of municipalities across California and the nation, police interaction with homeless individuals is increasing. Absent substantial federal or state policy changes, no decrease of this trend is in sight. However, local communities are best suited to make meaningful impacts based on local needs, existing programs, and tailored approaches for their specific homeless populations. Based on current staffing patterns and partnerships, street level engagement of individuals is currently less than consistent. Although great efforts have been made on that front and should be recognized, there is tremendous value in bolstering that type of work, specifically in a direct and dedicated capacity with police officers.



**City of Grass Valley
City Council
Agenda Action Sheet**

In the event of any action items being necessary, such actions will come before the Council as consent items absent a need to discuss this grant further. Through this presentation by the police chief and Nancy Baglietto (Executive Director of Hospitality House), we hope to provide the Council with an understanding of the structure of our proposed service delivery and benefit to the community. The start date for these services are dependent upon hiring of the outreach worker, allocation of police staff, and coordination with the grand administrators.

Council Goals/Objectives:

This action is consistent with City Strategic Goals related to goal #6, Public Safety.


Fiscal Impact:

Expenses offset by grant revenue

Funds Available: N/A

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by:

 City Manager

_____ Finance

Attachments: N/A

MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF September 22nd, 2020

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor
Jan Arbuckle

Howard Levine

Ben Aguilar, Vice Mayor
Hilary Hodge

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL,
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORITY AND REDEVELOPMENT “SUCCESSOR
AGENCY”**
7:00 P. M., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2020

AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** 7:00 pm by Mayor Swarthout
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Swarthout
ROLL CALL: Council Member Arbuckle, Council Member Levine, Council Member Hodge, Vice Mayor Aguilar, and Mayor Swarthout were present
- B. AGENDA APPROVAL**
No changes to the agenda.
- C. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**
Nothing to report out of closed session
- D. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**
- COVID19 update presentation from the Nevada County Public Health.
 - Awarded the Prostate Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation
- E. PUBLIC COMMENT** – A public comments were received from Tom Last in regards to a grant for \$65,000 from the Local Early Planning Actions grant, and Audrey Schwartz regarding Black Lives Matter feeling comfortable to come downtown.
- F. CONSENT ITEMS** – Council Member Arbuckle moved to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Council Member Levine seconded, and the motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.
1. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2020
RECOMMENDATION: Council approve minutes as submitted.
 2. Local Emergency Proclamation (COVID-19)
RECOMMENDATION: Continuance of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency.
 3. Local Emergency Proclamation
RECOMMENDATION: Continuance of sinkhole proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency due to extreme weather.
 4. Acceptance of Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Program Grant.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council 1) Approve Resolution 2020-52 accepting the VFA grant; 2) approve budget adjustment as determined by the Finance Director and 3) authorize the Fire Chief to execute the agreement.

5. Condon Park Accessibility & Connectivity Project – Final Acceptance

RECOMMENDATION: That Council 1) accept the Condon Park Accessibility & Connectivity Project as complete, and 2) authorize the Assistant City Engineer to file a Notice of Completion with the County Recorder.

6. Mautino Park Turf Replacement Project – Authorization to Bid, Authorization to Award Construction Contract

RECOMMENDATION: That Council 1) approve the findings that the project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 2) authorize the advertisement for bids, 3) authorize the award of a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, 4) authorize the Mayor to execute a construction contract, subject to legal review and

G. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

H. PUBLIC HEARING

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

7. Nevada County Transit Services Rebranding Project

RECOMMENDATION: That Council receive an informational update from the Nevada County Transit Services on their rebranding project.

- Robin VanValkenburgh, Transit Services Manager for Nevada County, gave a presentation for the new Re-Branding image for the County Transit services and the imaging for their busses.
- No action taken on this item.

8. Mill Street Closure for the Holiday Seasons

RECOMMENDATION: That Council provide staff direction on continuing to keep Mill Street between Neal Street and West Main Street closed to traffic to mitigate Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions on businesses and restaurants.

- Tim Kiser, City Manager, gave presentation on this item and discussed the Mill St. Closure and whether the City keeps the portion of Mill closed through the remainder of the year or to reopen the street to vehicle traffic. He also discussed the options that were discussed and the struggles that restaurants and merchants are going to face in the upcoming season due to the COVID19 restrictions.
- Public comments were received on this item. In total 70 comments were received, of those comments 47 comments were in favors of keeping Mill Street Closed for the upcoming month, 13 comments opposed having Mill Street closed and would like to see it open back up 100% due to concerns such as parking and ADA paths and parking, and 10 comments had other types of suggestions.
- Council had discussion of what they believed was the best route for the community and the options that were available. Mayor Swarhout had concerns that this closure is going to hurt the retail businesses more if the street remained closed during the holiday month. All agreed

that if moving forward a budget should be proposed for a marketing plan, decorations for the seasons, and outdoor coverage and heaters during the cold months.

- Council Member Levine moved to have Mill Street remain closed through the seasons and have the closure brought back to Council on January 15th, 2021 for re-evaluation, and to have a budget brought to Council at the next meeting for marketing, decoration, materials to help through the weather, etc. Council Member Hodge seconded, and the motion carried by a 4-1 roll call vote, Mayor Swarthout voted No.

J. BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council Member Hodge wants to remind anyone who didn't go to a local gala that they non-profits are still accepting donations. Council Member Levine wanted to thank staff again for all the hard work that they have been putting in over the past few weeks. Also remind people to get tested and wear face masks. He also spoke about how the proclamation this month always reminds him no matter because of what type of cancer is to make sure to do an Advance Directive and to please take care of yourself. Council Member Arbuckle attended the Center of the Arts gala and had fun social distancing and supporting a local non-profit. She has been working on the Master Plan on Aging and it was and has submitted it to the Governors Cabinet and had a good feedback response. Vice Mayor Aguilar had a meeting with BIPOC, and they listened to the concerns that the group has, and it will be an ongoing meeting that will continue to evolve. He has also been doing a lot of yard work. Mayor Swarthout participated in the Center of the Arts gala as well and urges everyone to support the non-profits in any way that you can.

K. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Swarthout at 9:27 pm.

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor

Andy Heath, Administrative Services Director

Taylor Day

From: audrey schwartz
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Black Lives Matter Always

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

To City Council;

Will you please add Racial Justice to the agenda today and from now on until there ceases to be racial injustice?

Are you aware of Black, and Indigenous, and People of Color being photographed by white people locally? What are you doing to make this community safe for everyone of every race? How can you call this "a great community," (quoted from last GV city council meeting), when there are people in this community who do not feel safe because of their skin color? How is this a "great community" when there are people who live here yelling racial epithets at Black People as well as calling other People Of Color in this community racial slurs? How is this a "great community " when you Members of city council went along with racist requests to take down signs in support of Black People's Lives and refuse to put them back up?

How is this a "great community" ?

Will you please make racial justice a priority because it is?

Have you all had racial equity training recently? Has the GVPD? Will you get that done ASAP please?

What are you doing to make grass valley a safe place for Black and Indigenous and People Of Color?

Public Comment Submittal

Alina Edwards
 Alyssa Orellana
 Angela Montre
 Anne Segradal
 Anney Siegel-Wamsat
 Bob Thompson
 Brian Marlow
 Carol Daly
 Catalina Kuratsa
 Charles Deatherage
 Chris Cano
 Chris Hart
 Chris Shurte
 Coleman Cassel
 Corey Hayden
 Craig & Lore Hamilton
 Dan Wray
 Don Scoble
 Ean Price Murphy
 Elizabeth Poston
 Evan Catlapp
 Galen Ellis
 Heather Vodicka

Ian Moll
 Jacob
 James Arbaugh
 Jan Taché
 Jeff Marshall
 Jeff Olson
 Jenn Crumrine
 Jennie Sparks
 Jennifer McGuire
 Jocelyn Brown
 Jocelyn Sertich
 Jon Asbell
 Kathey Mcarthy
 Kathryn Payne
 Kathy Lovemore
 Katie Deatherage
 Kimberly Acuna
 Leslie Partner
 Lisa
 Marika Hart
 Mark Gierok
 Mark Reilly
 Marvin Wray

Marvin Wray
 Matt Osbourn
 Michelle Cowie
 Mike Bradley
 Native Wren
 Patty Moore
 Paula Newman
 Penny Short
 Rebecca O'Neal
 Robin Galvan-Davies
 Sandra Boyd
 Sandy Terronez
 Sharyn Bradley
 Shih Fu Eileen Hancock
 Stan
 Stephanie Nix
 Summer
 Susan Micano
 Teri Reuter
 Tim Solyan
 Tom Heart
 Vito Mitchell

In Favor of Mill St staying closed	47
Opposed Mill St Staying closed and want 100% open	13
Other Suggestions	10

Taylor Day

From: Jennie M. Sparks
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:29 PM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Jan Arbuckle
Subject: Support for Mill Street Closure and Pedestrian Zone
Attachments: badge-5514.png

Good afternoon,

I'm writing to offer my support for the Mill Street closure and pedestrian zone. I personally find the street closure to be lovely and very enjoyable, downtown feels more welcoming and the outdoor dining has been pleasant.

I appreciate your time reviewing my comment of support.

Thank you,
Jennie Sparks, SHRM-CP, Operations Manager



<http://bcert.me/slnuqkpu>

Absolute Communication Solutions
175 Joerschke Dr., Ste. S Grass Valley, CA 95945

Taylor Day

From: Ean Price Murphy
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 4:02 PM
To: Public Comments; jans@cityofgrassvalley.com
Subject: keep downtown car free!

I am a member of the Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce and strongly support the beautiful car-free downtown we have been enjoying. I would love to see this continue with awnings and heaters as the weather changes to keep our downtown walkable and pleasant.

I would be happy to sponsor a heater or planter as part of the efforts!



Ean Price Murphy (she/her)
Founder, Moxie Bookkeeping Inc.
Mastery level Profit First Professional

www.moxiebookkeeping.com



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Taylor Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (23 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hello Brian Marlow. Comments frequenters cityofgrassvalley area living. It's a very much support the idea of keeping the street available for the business is to have four services. But we both to make that a thing. Thank you very much.

You received a voice mail from [BRIAN MARLOW](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: divinelove333
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Closure of Mill Street

Categories: Red category

I support Mill Street staying closed down if improvements are made.

I am also disappointed with City Council not supporting small businesses during the covid crisis. Using words like "essential" and "non-essential" is dehumanizing. It is essential for businesses to be fully open, for business owners to take personal responsibility and make decisions for their private business like they always have and for them to do what is best for their business. It is essential because it equals money which buys food to feed their families, pays rent or a mortgage, puts gas in their cars and help them to provide JOBS in our community. People are suffering from covid in more ways than one. Some are suffering from the response which is unsustainable and only prolonging the process and distorting Nature. Who knows if what we are doing is making it worse. Top down government control is never the answer. Arbitrary designations of what and who is essential are not the answer. Of course we may have an uptick in cases as we fully reopen but what matters is r/o and mortality rate. The PCR test is not a tool to diagnose infectious disease and that is what some are finally saying. It's a tool used to study viruses in the lab. That's why there are false positives because they are picking up retroactive viruses and fragments. This NOT a quantitative test, it's qualitative. The inventor of the PCR test Kary Mullis has repeatedly tried to explain this. He calls Fauci a virus hunter. Unfortunately he passed last September. If he were alive, I know he would be vocal in sounding the alarm.

Placer County BOS ended their State of Emergency 5-0 across party lines.

<https://www.placer.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/47283/04A>

I highly recommend watching videos from Dr. Zach Bush, Triple Board Certified Doctor
www.zachbushmd.com

His videos on covid and climate change really help bring the 2 things together.

Thank you,
Rebecca O'Neal

Sent from ProtonMail Mobile

Taylor Day

From: .
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (45 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

hi this is MARVIN WRAY live at one five seven seven six carry drives and grass valley i want to encourage you to leave the mill street open area leave it just like it is this outside dining is awesome, so keep the street clothes. Let's have a community settings. Or we can gather together and just have a a great time. I think it's been a very positive thing and I want to encourage you to to leave it. just the way it is closed the street thank you

You received a voice mail from [WRAY MARVIN](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: MARVIN WRAY
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Street Closure on Mill St.

I want to strongly encourage you to leave Mills Street closed just the way it is. It is a lovely area to be a community and share time with each other. I think it was a wonderful idea and it should continue!

Marvin Wray,
15776 Carrie Dr.
Grass Valley, CA 95949

Taylor Day

From: kathy4141
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 10:48 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill street

Things are going in the right direction Please keep Mill Street open for all business, kathy mcCarthy

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® S2

Taylor Day

From: Dan Wray <danwray2005@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 8:54 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Closure

Please keep downtown Grass Valley available for outside dining.

Dan Wray

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (43 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Categories: Orange category

Hi I would like to address the closure of Mill Street. I would like to have Mill Street open to one way traffic and parking that way we can help restaurant as long as we can as well as helping the retail spaces as well, and I believe that public comment on this. It is really not about them. It's more about what the business owners need and we should only consider those comments as well as. They are the ones paying the rent for their small business is trying to survive during Covid people. Can still going outside if we do the one way St? And public parking on the other. And it's a win win for both sides. Thanks, bye.

You received a voice mail from [PAULA NEWMAN](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 12:01 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (5 minutes)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Yeah, one year recording is way too long. Carol daily 19700 Big Spring Dr Grass Valley. Uh we loved downtown Mill Street, the way it is. About one. Oh yeah. Free. Yeah. Yeah. Is there anything else? I can do it for you? I'm good. So I sent you.

You received a voice mail from [JUDITH DALY](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 12:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (33 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi my name is Chris Shirt SHURTEI live at 11639 last ranch way. Nevada city 95959. I think we should leave. Grass Valley downtown open to outside dining. I just feel it's a great situation and it's enabling are small businesses to stay afloat. Thank you have a nice day.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 1:32 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voting

Categories: Yellow category

Hello,

I work at Briar Patch, and as you know, we're very committed to safety. I want to see that continue everywhere as much as can be possible, obviously...the outdoor seating has been amazing in these times, has helped friends and family get back to work and provided some much needed social activity.

Please do whatever we can to keep it in place. Please and thank you for listening!

~Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 5:00 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (15 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

and i think we should keep downtown uh grass valley Outdoor dining open. I think it looks nice. and it helps the business is

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 5:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (13 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

My name is Vito Mitchell. I live on 10435, Kerry Drive Grass Valley and I was hoping to open that straight up here downtown. It's really pleasure to have it closed thank you.

You received a voice mail from [CLAUDENE CHAMBE](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Coleman Cassel II, Ph.D
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 9:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street

Categories: Yellow category

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident and patron of downtown Grass Valley I would like to express our thankfulness of you keeping the Mill Street businesses open. Your eagerness to tackle a global pandemic in these crazy times is much appreciated. Please keep up the good work!

Taylor Day

From: Jeffrey Olson
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 4:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Please keep outdoor dining on mill street!

Please keep that street closed from del oro to the end! Do it for good. Add center street kiosks for rental and advertisement. Lets make it a feature of the city. We lose like 40 parking spaces but ive only been able to park on that street twice in two years. Negotiate with bank of america for their building and parking lot. Add benches, trees, better road end barricades. It will absolutely beautify the street and more people will utilize it. At least put some effort into considering it!!!!!!

Jeff Olson

Jolson1580@yahoo.com

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (14 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

This is an segard all PO Box 1168 Penn Valley CA. I would like to keep the outside dot dining in Grass Valley. Thank you bye.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 10:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (39 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Kathy McCarthy 12992, Somerset Dr Grass Valley CA 95945. I'm calling to please request. The City Council to keep Mill Street closed and have it open for restaurants shops. Wine bars and bars. We need our town to survive. And we want to do everything possible to make that happen. So, please keep Mill Street closed thank you.

You received a voice mail from [MCCARTHY D.](#)

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Native Wren
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Street closure

Categories: Orange category

Hello,
My name is Wrynna and I own Native wren on Mill st. I truly believe that allowing a one way through Mill or half of Mill st would be better than a full open or a full closed road. We are in a time of compromise and working with so many unknowns. This season we all need to be flexible and do all we can to support all businesses.
Opening the street again could jeprodize The success of the restaurants if we creep back into a red tier and keeping the street closed makes it hard for delivery and customers purchasing large/ heavy items.
People enjoy being able to walk freely and have space but on the other hand some are finding it hard to park. I think it is too soon to make permanent decisions. We just opened up more parking in the back lot and we just got to have some indoor dining. Let's see how this pans out.
What if we opened one side of Mill only to bank on the west main side? Yes, I understand it would be the 'wrong side of the road" but this could be the compromise to make the business on that side happy and have crossing that isn't too far.
Honestly, I don't know what the right thing to do is and I really didn't want to have the road closed in the first place... with all that:
Flexibility is truly key here. Esthetics will be worked out later, and is something I could help with if needed.

Thank you,
Wrynna
--
Native Wren
124 Mill St.
Grass Valley, Ca. 95945

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (32 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi my husband and I live in Nevada City, an OR address is 14825 Echo Ridge Rd, who just bought a house here. We absolutely love. The downtown being open. I don't think we would go downtown and dine and drink as much as we do. If it wasn't open like it is, it just makes it so much more peaceful and enjoyable, and I sure hope they keep it the way it is. And that's all I have. Thank you. Bye bye.

You received a voice mail from [KAVA CHOCOLATE](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 2:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (20 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi my name is Patty more. I live at 46 Candied Lane in Grass Valley CA and I vote for Mill Street to stay close so that all businesses can enjoy the downtown traffic downtown foot traffic that is OK great thanks.

You received a voice mail from [Unavailable](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Jennifer Iams-McGuire
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 2:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: No cars on Mill St.

Putting in my two cents about the current no cars on Mill St.:

LOVE it. Absolutely let's keep it as is, no cars. So much nicer just pedestrians. It's good exercise for people to walk a bit from parking a block away. Can have a few closer spots reserved special parking for people with limited mobility.

Jennifer McGuire

Taylor Day

From: Evan Catlapp
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 2:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: On Downtown Outdoor Businesses 9/22

Categories: Red category

Nevada County Resident here, Evan Catlapp of 20240 Bear Ridge Rd, GV 95949:

Please defend, support, and reduce restrictions on our restaurants/businesses. Reduce overreaching health restrictions and prop up business. The cards are falling for CA. People are moving because regulations are harsh and gov't generally does not consider balancing the ramifications of pandemic people pleasing & putting people/small businesses, out of business. If we don't change the business climate locally and look different than California's harsh tactics of taxation and control, you will go down with CA's imminent economic meltdown.

Uhauls are 4x's more to rent leaving the state than coming into it, because the DEMAND IS SO HIGH. At a near breaking point, California is beginning to feel the stress of a stifled economy only to someday open back up for businesses, THAT WILL NO LONGER BE THERE. It is a bleak future indeed.

Unless...

Would you turn the tide for Nevada County?

Would you be a part of the change that helps businesses and people thrive?

Overreaching health regulations, without respect of regard for the constitution, and without considering for logically helping business... will run NEV CO shops into the ground.

Give people the freedom to wear masks & DEFEND THE FREEDOM TO NOT WEAR THEM. ESPECIALLY OUTSIDE.

In summary: do everything you can to radically support small businesses, shops, encourage local events, and commerce. Let the people decide their risk.

We are in America. Americans culturally welcome more risks, because here we value you freedom over fear. We are a historically gold boom town. Our founders settled here welcoming many risks, people visit Nev Co to rediscover a sense of the attitude that settled the West. Freedom, respect, and opportunity. Let's bring that back in a time we need it most.

Thank you for you ear,
Evan Catlapp

Taylor Day

From: Chris Hart
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 3:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Downtown

Please make the current setup in downtown permanent. It makes our quaint town even more so. I'm a 6th generation Grass Valley citizen and highly support the town permanently keeping the outdoor setup. Please call me with any questions.

Chris Hart

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 3:25 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (23 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi my name is marika heart. I live at 325 Marshall Street in Grass Valley and I would like to see the downtown. Street Mill Street to stay the same we really like it and it looks really pretty. So that's my comment thank you. Bye.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Alyssa Orellana
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill st closure

To whom it may concern,

I want to make known my observations about the closure of Mill St I'm downtown Grass Valley. I own Champagne Jane Salon @ 131 Mill St in the old back building. Our business moved downtown just over 2 years ago. Since the move, my clients single biggest complaint has been how challenging it can be to find a parking spot. I see ~50 guests a week.

Since the closure of Mill St I have heard "sorry I'm late, I didn't realize the street was closed!" fairly regularly. What I have not heard (aside from once last Saturday during the sidewalk sale) is a complaint about parking. My clientele is between the ages of 2 and 93, and they are not hesitant to tell me what they think. I have never (even when I wasn't downtown) in my 15 years as a hairdresser had fewer parking complaints. It may be because of the overwhelming support of the street closure that I've been hearing, or it may be that even on busy days we're less impacted than we were pre- covid.

I don't let my opinion of the closure be known before I ask guests who are seeing it for the first time what they think, and the responses have been unanimous. They are spending more time and \$ downtown across the board. They're staying for dinner and asking about where to find a gift. They're walking their kids down to Lazy Dog, and talking about staying for the music at Lucchesi.

My business is unaffected by the street closure aside from losing parking spots. We are appointment only and find our new guests primarily online. My staff and I are all in favor of keeping Mill St closed. I fear that without making these decisive moves to support our businesses that we'll begin to lose more area businesses.

The downtown area is appealing because of how much we offer, and I am seeing the street closure as the only option for our community going into winter. In fact, this change to the landscape is a huge step towards feeling connected to our neighbors again, which is something that we've been sorely missing.

I hope that as a community we choose to lean into supporting business. It is worth the risk to have something great, instead of clinging to "getting by." The city has already done an excellent job of making it easy for businesses to succeed. Let's not waste that effort by giving up, rather continue forward and invest in ourselves.

Thank you,

Alyssa Orellana
Champagne Jane
131 Mill St

Taylor Day

From: Sandra Boyd
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 5:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: RE: Keep downtown GV available for outside dining
Attachments: Oliver & Mill.jpg

Dear Council members:

I absolutely love what you have done with Mill Street! Excellent job! I get coffee every morning at Carolines Coffee & walk my dog down Mill - SO enjoyable...plus I find I am definitely shopping more as it is easier to access with no cars.

The business owners I speak to - most say they really like it. I hear some want the parking back - perhaps something additional could be done: the pay to park lot on S. Auburn how about doing validation if people shop downtown; maybe one of the busses can take less mobile folks and drop them off at the entrance?

Anyway, please leave it as is and continue the lovely additions.

Sandra Boyd (& Oliver!)
Grass Valley

Taylor Day

From: Sharyn Bradley
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 7:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Dining - Downtown Grass Valley

It has been wonderful being able to go downtown and walk the street and shop at our local stores, stop for a drink or nice glass of wine, shop some more and then stay and have lunch or dinner outside. The music was a really nice touch that makes it so enjoyable. Thank you so much! I really have to say that my husband and friends have been going downtown more often now since you have created a local area for dining out in are Beautiful Downtown! I sincerely hope that you will continue providing this wonderful experience for our town.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

Taylor Day

From: Mike Bradley
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2020 8:24 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Downtown Grass Valley Dining Outside

Keeping Downtown Grass Valley available for Outside Dining was a great idea. Closing off Mill Street, I thought would not be a good idea at first, but I haven't had a problem parking. It is about the same as it was before the street was closed. I enjoy going downtown a lot more now. Dining out is fun and hope it will continue! I believe people are happier and have a nice place to shop, walk around and have something to eat. My wife and friends have definitely been going downtown more often.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Taylor Day

From: Stan Childs
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 4:13 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Keep downtown Grass Valley available for outside dining.

Categories: Orange category

It's nice to sit outside and have breakfast on Sunday morning and meet new friends.
Please try and work this out so people can enjoy it. Maybe one way traffic for fire and police.
Thanks, Stan

Even without these creative services, I don't believe walking an extra block will deter most people who want The Experience. It certainly doesn't when they want to come to Cornish Christmas or the like. They will walk many blocks to attend.

Let's promote our Mill Around Downtown fervently, both locally and in surrounding communities. Lets stay open late on Fridays and Saturdays. Let's have mini events like the Downtown Holiday Market, tree lightings, mini vendors out front to fill street voids, choir concerts, etc.

If the city is willing to put its money where its mouth is and continue to create a world class environment for our community, I think this winter will be one in which our restaurants and retail stores can survive, and possibly even thrive and our community will feel inspired and well served.

I support the decision to keep the street closed with enhanced attention paid to creative parking solutions and beautifying the outdoor space we have already begun to create.

Let's keep the momentum going and make Downtown Grass Valley an example of how to do things right during the craziness!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lillie Piland
Yuba Blue

Taylor Day

From: Lillie Piland
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 9:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc: Lisa Swarthout; Lore ReyHamilton
Subject: Fw: Downtown Street Closure Meeting Follow-Up

Please enter my comments below into record for the city council meeting tomorrow, 9/22/2020.

The city has done an amazing job thus far in creating a vibrant and viable place to help our businesses and community members have a place to feel safe and welcome to shop, dine and be entertained during the past few months. I commend Tim Kiser and Marni Marshall for their management of implementing the project and their handling of the communications with downtown businesses during the process.

I have attended the meetings for the downtown businesses and have been open to exploring all the options that were (and were not) on the table. After listening to all the perspectives I want to make it clear that I am in support of keeping the street closed as long as the city is willing to continue to stand behind this project as it is currently doing.

I think Grass Valley has an enormous opportunity right now- there are people moving here from the Bay Area and other places who have considerable income and resources. They are on the younger side of our current median age and have money to spend in the community. In addition, we have our current population who won't be going to the Galleria Mall or similar, to shop. Yes, some will turn to online shopping but many still want a "shopping experience". If the city is willing to invest in this, I think we can easily compete with online shopping by offering something that online retailers cannot- The Experience.

Picture our sweet downtown lined with trees, foliage, and flowers of the season. Lights on trees, over the streets and in the spaces the restaurants occupy with awnings and heaters. Some live outdoor music, Santa wandering up and down the streets. A popcorn vendor or chestnuts roasting. People will want to come downtown. Yes to shop, yes to dine outdoors, yes to wander in the open street where their kids can roam freely. Yes, it will rain. On those days, our outdoor spaces may not be utilized as much as possible but will still be visibly pleasing.

Parking becomes the biggest issue. (Hasn't it always been?)

Monitor the parking lots and fine those in violation of parking time limits.

Let's create a valet service. And validate- spend over \$50-100, parking is free. If not, pay \$10 (People pay a lot more at the Galleria for this service and don't blink an eye). Don't want to pay? No problem. Find a spot within a block or two and walk. People walk much further than this to the Galleria entrances.

Let's look again as a golf cart or mini shuttle to get people closer to their cars. If it can't go down the center of our closed street because it isn't road certified, let's put it on the sidewalks? Let's have a delivery/package pick up service- wrapped packages can be delivered 2x a day by participating stores to a designated pick up location that is staffed by a city employee. People can drive through to pick up their packages. Perhaps, this would work well for curbside pick up options too? All of these are just ideas that were expressed at the meetings downtown so let's explore them!

Elizabeth B. Poston
232 E. Main St. / PO Box 1921
Grass Valley, CA 95945
(530)205-9607
Eposton01@gmail.com

September 21, 2020

City Council Members ~ City of Grass Valley
125 E. Main St.
Grass Valley, CA 95945

RE: Mill St Closure for the Holiday Seasons

Members of the City Council,

I wanted to express the enthusiasm of the entire Poston Family for the recent closure of Mill St to vehicular traffic and the creation of the new pedestrian-friendly and safe social-distance space. We have been long-time supporters of creating a downtown 'scene' and we applaud the city leadership for taking the chance on this experiment during such unprecedented times. I have talked with many people about Mill St, from shoppers, tourists and merchants themselves, and overwhelmingly the feeling is one of excitement and appreciation for this new concept. There will be issues to address, problems to solve, but the support of this as a whole can not be overlooked for a few small action items.

I have learned in my experience as a Landscape Designer that when you add trees and plant material to a commercial space it makes people want to linger longer, spend more money and take more pride in their community. Landscaping and street trees also improves the air quality, increases property values, reduces crime rates, and cuts down on traffic noise.

It is my hope that we can turn Mill St into a permanently closed 'community plaza' for people to gather, events to be held, and merchants to thrive. This is an exciting thing for Grass Valley and we are in full support.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Elizabeth B. Poston (and the rest of the Poston Family)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (36 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Categories: Blue category

I want Grass Valley the way it was, not the way you people want it. We have survived. I cannot get up town by any means, either uphill or downhill. I'm 82 years old. I think your idea sucks and it's hurting us. You want to destroy us. You are not nice and I hate your decorations. You are cheap. We need our city back thank you.

You received a voice mail from [HOEK BOB](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (49 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Categories: Blue category

OK, friends I've lived here, most of my life, I'm calling to complain. I can't get downtown. I can't walk up the Hill. I can't go up down a Hill. I AM 82 years old. An Grass Valley is not the same. I don't like change. I don't like your ideas I can stand change, but your decorations and your ideas are very, very out of line. Grass Valley is noted for his historical, meaning than its old buildings give us our life back. We only have 3 restaurants. What is the big deal. Thank you so much so sorry to take up your time because your mind is already made up thank you.

You received a voice mail from [HOEK BOB](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Tache
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Outdoor seating downtown

Hi,
My family and I LOVE the outdoor restaurant seating in Grass Valley!! Please keep it!! We are now going out to eat there often.
Thank you.
Jan Taché
Penn Valley

Taylor Day

From: Jon Asbell
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:23 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Status

Dear City Council,

As a citizen of Grass Valley, and an employee of multiple downtown businesses, I appreciate the opening of Mill Street to outdoor dining and foot traffic. I not only believe that this is a safer move during the current pandemic, I believe it should be looked into as a permanent option. I believe an open air walking mall would add an attractive esthetic to help draw more people to the downtown commercial businesses. To keep this brief, I believe we should extend the outdoor options of downtown businesses beyond the current planned duration. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jon Asbell

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From: Bob Thompson
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:38 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill St remaining a promenade

It is critical to the survival of our beautiful downtown to keep Mill St. the beautiful Promenade area the you have created. Every person I have talked to thinks you have done a fantastic job and loves the ambiance of Mill St.

Keep the promenade Permanent!!

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From: Shih Fu Hancock
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Closure

To whom it may concern:

My name is Shih Fu Eileen Hancock. I am the founder of Body Balance Academy & Tao Te Cafe, as well as local non-profit Lifelong Health, INC.

In 2018, I got the opportunity to purchase the Old Union Building in Downtown Grass Valley at 151 Mill St. I took the year to update / restore the lower level and created a Tea House / Restaurant & Event Center to offer a place for the town to gather in addition to becoming a hub for local non-profits. After just 5 months of operating in this expanded capacity, the Covid-19 shutdown occurred. The Mill St. Closure brings hope not only to the Union Building operations, but to the hundreds of students, families and patrons we serve.

Myself and my team are in full support of the Mill Street closure and would like to see the closure of Mill St. become permanent. For the past 13 years, we have had many parents, youth and elderly students express continued concern for safety in crossing Mill St. due to drivers on cell phones haphazardly running through cross walks.

The Mill St. closure offers local businesses a chance to mitigate financial impact associated with the Coronavirus and gives patrons a place to gather and shop safely. The closure is absolutely necessary to support safety, community and economic security.

With Lifelong Health & Prosperity

Shih Fu Eileen Hancock

www.BodyBalanceAcademy.com

Taylor Day

From: Katherine Thompson
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Promenade

I am LOVING the Mill Street Promenade! Please keep the street closed off to traffic! The opportunity for social distancing and safety from traffic is perfect for our community. I have noticed an extreme increase in people shopping, eating and drinking at the local establishments. To open it back up to traffic would seriously damage the sense of community it has created.

Katie Deatherage

--

Katie Deatherage

Taylor Day

From: Jocelyn Brown
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:05 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Closure of Mill Street for the Holidays

Hello!

My name is Jocelyn Brown, and I live in Los Angeles and frequently visit Grass Valley. It has come to my attention that there is debate about whether Mill Street should remain closed through the holidays. I would like to give the feedback that not only does the closure make sense from a public health perspective, but that I have found it delightful and relaxing to shop Grass Valley's main drag without traffic present. I found parking outside the closed area to be relatively easy and well worth the extra footwork to shop in an area free of traffic and exhaust. From what I can tell, the closure has built community and has made me look forward to spending more time downtown. I also appreciated that all shop owners (and most customers) adhered to masking and social distancing guidelines.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jocelyn

--
Jocelyn Brown, CPM, LM

jocelynbrownlm.com

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Taylor Day

From: Charles ·
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill St. Promenade

The current setting of Mill St. has been a great change for downtown Grass Valley!
Keeping the street open to the public in the free roaming form has created a laidback and relaxing atmosphere which is much needed in the current state of the world.

I enjoy coming into town and perusing the shops at my leisure while having a great setting which abides by local and state social distancing regulations.

Thank you for making such an atmosphere available to the public!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Deatherage

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:34 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (1 minute and 3 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi my name is Tom Heart. My wife is Nina Heart. We live at 834. Slade circle here in Grass Valley just wanted to call about the closure of Mill Street. We absolutely love. The street is closed off and would love to see that permanent. I have stopped that for long time, I grew up here in Grass Valley. And I think it's great for the merchants and I just think it would be a fantastic draw for all of the merchants in town or on Mill Street and I want to thank the city for helping but to begin with for blocking it off and helping the merchants in the restaurants in such. Through this very difficult time, so thank you to the city for their foresight and they're helping that and if you have any questions again. My name is Tom Heart Thank you and have a great day.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Jocelyn Sertich
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 11:51 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street

Categories: Blue category

I am writing in opposition of Mill Street remaining closed. I have mobility issues and have not been down there since it was closed off because it is too hard to walk a couple blocks from parking on crutches. It's also on a hill from whichever parking lot you park in to get to Mill Street. When it gets wet and the streets and sidewalk are slick it's going to be even harder for those of us with mobility issues to get to the businesses on the street. Please open the street back up so that we are able to shop too.

Thank you,
Jocelyn Sertich

Taylor Day

From: Stephanie Nix
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 12:34 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: GV Outdoor Dining - Winter Alternatives

Dear Honorable Grass Valley City Council Members,

As a citizen of Nevada County and regular Grass Valley customer, I am writing you today to celebrate and support the outdoor dining provided for our local restaurants. The outdoor environment is positively enchanting, and should become a permanent part of the downtown experience.

I also understand that concessions need to be made for those with mobility issues and for the realities of outdoor dining in the winter months. Please consider the solution put forward in Truckee, where they are using clear-span tents with half walls to allow for outdoor dining during the winter months. Their tents are sized for covid compliance and include flooring and half walls to help shelter diners from the elements.

Truckee and Sonoma have both implemented dining tents to help their restaurants thrive in the winter months. Both cities have received grants from the State and County to supplement the costs. Covid is not going away any time soon and this is a forward-thinking, solution-oriented way to keep our businesses going during this crisis.

Below are photos of the Truckee dining tents. If you would like more information and contact with this vendor, I am happy to connect you for further discussions.

Thank you for your public service and for continuing to put the health and well-being of our community first.

Best regards,

Stephanie Nix
Nevada County Resident



Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 1:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (47 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Categories: Blue category

Hi this is Kathy loves more and I'm calling regarding the decision on opening Mill Street for parking. I feel that there are restaurants and it's been nice for them to have that when they couldn't have people inside but things are changing. I feel there's a lot of businesses that I would visit more if there was parking on the street. I think that the street should be open. It should go back to how it was. If you wanted to do this during the summer season. I don't see a problem with that. But all through winter. They are not going to use it when it's raining, so I vote for having the street opened thank you.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (19 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi there, I would like to comment that I would love for downtown Grass Valley. To stay blocked off for pedestrians and shopping, it's amazing down there the way it is. Thank you.

You received a voice mail from [MARSHALL JEFF](#).

Thank you for using Transcription! If you don't see a transcript above, it's because the audio quality was not clear enough to transcribe.

[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: tim soya
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill St closure and parklets

To the members of GV City Council,

I would like to share my support of the Mill St closure and that i feel it is a great thing for our community. It has especially been helpful to all with the current pandemic situation. The small K Rail parklets are also great and its good to be able to frequent those restaurants that need them to be open.

I hope we can keep this set up as long as possible.

The sidewalk sale on Saturday was a bustling day of great vibes! More more more!

Thank you!

Tim Solyan

Co Owner/Brewbakers Coffee and Tea House

--

Tim 'soya' Solyan

Taylor Day

From: Jenn Crumrine
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:31 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Street closer

Categories: Blue category

I am a Grass Valley resident born and raised.

I like the idea of closing the street for special occasions and events. However it is very difficult as a disabled person to be able to go into the stores that I need to.

The parking is already limited even with the street open for disabled people. If the street was to stay closed, how would we accommodate parking for all of the people who like to shop downtown? Disabled or not there is already issues with finding parking.

I am a person who does most of my shopping locally I want to support the local businesses. Unfortunately with the recent street closure I have found myself going online and getting what I need instead. I cannot walk long distance especially if I have product in my hand.

I understand why the street had to be closed for dining outdoors from our local restaurants. However dining indoors is now available.

We now need to take any consideration all of the other businesses on Mill Street and Main Street that have been affected severely by this action.

I unfortunately will not be able to continue shopping downtown unless there was parking accommodations for people with disabilities. This really breaks my heart, because there are stores downtown that I love. I have had multiple conversations with business owners whom have been severely impacted by the street closures and there are a few that are close to closing their business down because of the situation. Please take into consideration if you choose to keep the streets closed how many businesses will be able to stay open? I can guarantee that there are a lot of people in my situation. Downtown Grass Valley will suffer for this action.

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From: Summer Lujan
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 4:26 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Keep Closure on Mill

On behalf of my family and our friends, who often shop and eat in in downtown Gassvalley, keep the closure on Mill st.!!!

It's beautiful and will only continue to attract more people to keep shopping which will strongly increase benefit for businesses!

Thank you for all the hard work! We are enjoying the beauty of downtown!

Summer

Taylor Day

From: Kathy Payne
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Closure of Mill

I'm really excited to think we can keep this Downtown Mill St closed for Hoildays ! I have nothing negative to say ! It's wonderful to have no cars ! I say keep it closed !!!

Kathryn Payne
The HairShaft Salon
147 1/2 Mill St

Sent from my iPhone



September 21, 2020

Ms. Jan Arbuckle, Council Member
Liaison to the Grass Valley Downtown Association
City of Grass Valley
125 East Main Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

RE: Mill Street Pedestrian Zone

Dear Ms. Arbuckle,

The Greater Grass Valley Chamber thanks the City of Grass Valley for allowing the downtown merchants and restaurateurs to be an integral part of the pedestrian zone discussion with the goal of continuity of business during the state-mandated COVID rollbacks.

As a community organization, we have attended the meetings and listened to the ongoing dialogue between the City and the Mill Street and West Main Street merchants and restaurateurs as the pedestrian zone and park-lets transitioned from partial closure to the full closure of Mill Street.

At last Tuesday's meeting, a request was made of the merchants and restaurateurs to vote for their preferred configuration of Mill Street.

The Chamber does not take a position on this issue; however, for Council's consideration, we wanted to share that Chamber staff and members of our board have received countless positive comments about the merits of the pedestrian zone and support of the full pedestrian zone.

Community consensus is that the pedestrian zone has created a new downtown experience that, in and of itself, has created a sense of "community" that did not previously exist.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this issue.

Sincerely,

Robin Galvan-Davies

Robin Galvan-Davies
CEO, Greater Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce
rdavies@grassvalleychamber.com

Greater Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce • 128 East Main Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945
(530) 273-4667
grassvalleychamber.com

Taylor Day

From: Angie Montre
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 5:30 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Downtown Grass Valley

I am writing to voice my approval to leave downtown Grass Valley open for outside dining. My husband and I have lived here over thirty-nine years as a married couple and raised our children here. My husband is third generation Grass Valley Native. We used the downtown area recently on several occasions along with our grown children and grandchildren. We all enjoyed each visit we made. The atmosphere is fun and the openness was great, each time we have been in town for lunch or dinner we have seen people we know. I love how the restaurants have decorated and made the adjustments to serving outside, even though they are all struggling still. Thank Goodness they have been able to do this, I believe this now leaves the community the opportunity to do many different things in that area.

I picture bands/music, art exhibits, wine tastings, etc., etc.

Please know that we love the way it is set up and hope it will stay open for outside dining and strolling!

P.S. we have also shopped and purchased items from downtown shops when we were there.

Angela Montre
Clinical Executive Assistant
Hospice of the Foothills
Phone:



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<https://hospiceofthefoothills.thankyou4caring.org/donation>

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Taylor Day

From: Mark Gierok
Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 10:02 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Promenade

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Grass Valley, I am writing to you in support of keeping Mill Street closed to vehicular traffic.

The recent addition of tables, umbrellas and outdoor seating on Mill is such a wonderful addition to our magic town, and I feel it would be in the city's best interest to keep it this way.

Sincerely

Mark Gierok

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From: Matt Osbourn
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 4:49 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill St

I am writing this letter to show my support for the closure of Mill St. to cars and continuing the open street dining. I am a downtown resident and love and use Mill St. often since it has been closed to cars. I feel this open dining has relieved some of the burden on downtown businesses from the forced closure... Please take this in consideration... Please keep open street dining on Mill St

Thank you!
Matt Osbourn
388 Clark St.
Grass Valley Ca. 95945

Taylor Day

From: Alina Edwards
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 5:38 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: REOPEN MILL ST!!

I support our small businesses downtown, and if they claim that the street closure is resulting in lost revenue, then I say open that street back up!!

It was a cool idea, but now we know its not helping our local economy.

Thank you.
GV Resident

Taylor Day

From: Stan Childs
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 5:54 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Outside dining

Please get more input from the people who have businesses there. And rescind all the fines imposed on the restaurants.
Thanks, Jacob

Sent from my iPhone

Taylor Day

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 7:16 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (1 minute and 3 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hello my name is Catalina Kuratsa My address is 14316. Allison Ranch Rd Grass Valley CA 95949 my phone number is 530-559-1762 and. I I start shopping in downtown Grass Valley because of the parking and poor Accessibility to the stores and I would like to see Grass Valley back to its original state where we can park in the street. I would like to see Mill Street open so that when we go shopping. We can park close to our stores and. Did more shopping instead of parking far away. I have a disabled mother. Ann is very hard for her to go shopping with us because there is the no parking close enough to the stores. So I would like to see Mill Street back open and everything back to its normal state thanks.

You received a voice mail from [LACORAZZA CATAR](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: Heather Vodicka
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 9:04 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mills street closure for the Holidays

RE:
Mill street closure in Downtown Grass Valley.

I absolutely agree that this should continue to be in place for the Holiday season. This will allow for safe shopping and dining for all.

A few recommendations:

- 1) Make additional temporary Handicapped parking available in the lot behind the Watershed restaurant. This will allow for better accessibility for our citizens who need to utilize those spaces.
- 2) Set up a fire / warming areas. Not during red flag warnings but after. There are propane options as well a wood fire. They could be maintained by the restaurants. For example in the open space by the Union building.
- 3) Maybe a few vendors could set up at the Ends of the street. Rotating Regularly?
- 4) Friday and Saturday outdoor mulled wine, cocoa, and cider garden.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

Heather Vodicka

Taylor Day

From: Liz McGuire
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 9:05 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Sept 22, 2020 meeting

Categories: Orange category

My name is Liz Anderson. I'd like to address the opening of downtown. I'm so afraid if stores etc are not allowed to open so many of them will go under, that "cannot" happen to Grass Valley. I was in Save Mart recently and saw several customers without face coverings even though it was/is mandated (Per signs on the doors). I asked a cashier if they say anything to those customers and was told, "they're not allowed to say anything". Why can't the owner/manager of a store tell a customer they must have a face covering or they cannot enter? Isn't it the right of a store to not allow certain people? If someone says they won't come back because they weren't allowed in without a face covering then, Oh well! The amount of people going to a specific store "with a face covering" far exceeds those without and say they won't be back. PLEASE consider opening Grass Valley. If signs read, "Face coverings or masks are mandatory in the store, you will be asked to leave if you're not wearing one"

Taylor Day

From: Lore Reynolds-Hamilton
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 9:12 AM
To: Public Comments
Cc:
Subject: Downtown Street Closure

To whom it may concern....

Please enter our comments below into record for the city council meeting tomorrow, 9/22/2020.

First of all we would like to commend the City and the Downtown Association on their amazing job thus far....in such short notice you have created such a fun viable place that has helped the downtown businesses and created a space where our community wants to gather.

We think Grass Valley has the perfect opportunity right now- as a real estate agent in the area I can tell you the buzz of movement is crazy... so many people moving here from the Bay Area and other places with monetary resources. They want to spend and work and live in this community. How fortunate are we that we can offer such a beautiful place for them to come. We have always thought that if our city is willing to invest in a gathering sort of environment...an experience... the people will come. Money will be spent...and businesses will thrive. This is what people want and need. Especially now.

As far as parking...I believe if there is a gathering place... people will walk to get there. Monitor the time limits and offer validations? Tinloy Steet is not far... maybe work something out with Cal Trans?

Again we think this is a perfect opportunity for the City to make a change for the better... people are loving this space. Keep up with the seasons and make changes as needed... for example...covered areas...fall/winter decorations... lighting and live music or even speakers with music playing. The experience... the gathering space... it is where people want to come and hang out and shop and eat all while having the space to be free.

We 100% support the decision to keep the street closed...it has already started... lets move forward and keep paving the way of this great space...making it better. What a great example for other communities to follow.

Thank you for your time.

Craig & Lore Hamilton
Creektown Cottages

The city asked for input originally and got it. The city then closed Mill Street with the agreement that everyone would be open and help keep the street looking busy and lively all day, every day, and into the evening. However, many of the food venues and a few of the retailers who said they would be fully participating have not, (because it was too hot, or too smoky, or they don't have the staff). We all have to come together for this to work. It cannot just be the full-time retailers compromising for the part-time food venues and part-time retailers who love the idea of the street being closed but are never open. If these stores continue to stay closed, then we should not be catering to them and should open the street for more convenient parking for the stores that are open full time. If it is not possible to open up Mill Street completely then please consider opening up the corridor from Neal Street to Bank Street (with parklets allowed for cafes and bars if needed).

Please, let me reiterate I am not opposed to a long-term vision of a permanent and well-thought out street closure. I am just concerned with the temporary aspect of this plan and the confusion it is bringing to our customers and town.

I am always available to answer any questions regarding my opinion on this topic.

Sincerely,



James Arbaugh
Stucki Jewelers Inc. - President
148 Mill Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-272-1266



RE: Mill Street Closure

Attention City Council Members & Mayor of Grass Valley,

I wanted to share a few of my thoughts...as a downtown business owner of 15 years (employee for 23), a downtown property owner of 10 years, a co-chairperson of the Economic Vitality Committee for the Grass Valley Downtown Association and Vice-Chair of the Grass Valley Planning Commission, believe me when I say I have a passion for Downtown Grass Valley.

To start with, I want to extend a huge thank you for the speed in which the city has acted with time, finances and man power; your efforts do not go unrecognized. Needless to say, we are in unprecedented times and having to make weighted decisions I know you do not take lightly.

As a business that has been in Downtown Grass Valley for over 116 years, we have seen many trials and have weathered many storms. This, however, is not just about us, but about all of the businesses downtown, some of which may not survive the current climate. I believe we should re-open the street through winter, it looks empty now and will look barren once the weather changes. I have an extreme concern that we are becoming a "fair weather" town, which will be our demise. While the street closure during the summer months seemed to be a success on weekend evenings, everything will change with the colder, wetter weather.

It is so important that shoppers and diners know they can come downtown anytime of the year, regardless of conditions and the businesses and restaurants downtown will be open. It is not acceptable for stores to be closed because it is inconvenient; i.e. too smoky, too hot, too rainy or cold, this is a detriment to ALL of us. We continue to hear from our customers regarding downtown, with questions reflecting confusion and concern about if and when stores are open. The lack of consistency is not professional and reflects badly on every business and is only amplified when the street is closed and there is a greater perception of inactivity and failure. This is a bad precedent to be starting when this is our livelihood and not a hobby. With winter weather coming, I am concerned the cold and rain will affect food establishments that have outdoor seating and retailers with merchandise outside. We will continue to see daytime closures and part-time hours with no public on the street. For example; Mondays, Tuesdays and many afternoons, food venues and part-time retailers are closed making downtown look concerningly vacant and supporting the "fair weather" mentality.

Taylor Day

From: ---
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (1 minute and 15 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Good morning, my name is Kimberly ACUNA. I live at 12607 Pine Cone Circle Grass Valley CA 95945. I'm calling regarding a Mill Street. I'm having a hard time myself with that the way it is because I'm permanently disabled. I require handicap parking or front door parking, which is what I've always had for Sergio's or lazy dog chocolate area, or any of the other businesses on that street. I'm outside and usually I can park in front and pull my walk her out and I can get there. I can't stand longer than 10 minutes because of a stroke that I've had. And I have other disorders because of a stroke. I I I wouldn't mind it to stay the way it was if there was parking. But there's no parking when you did, that to Mill Street at the parks and was taken away. So I don't know what the answer is but I'm just calling to express my opinion and I don't like it. The way it is now OK. Thank you have a good day.

You received a voice mail from [KIMBERLY ACUNA](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: DON SCOBLE
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: MILL STREET CLOSURE

As a resident of Nevada County and regular visitor to Grass Valley for shopping and dining I want to strongly endorse the continued closure. During the summer months it has been a delight to use this new "pedestrian zone" as a way visit our favorite stops, as well as have a snack on the street. Actually we found it as a delightful amenity making Grass Valley an even more wonderful place to visit and shop. We hope the closure continues.
Don Scoble

“Music should be your escape.”

Missy Elliott

Support InConcert Sierra

InConcert Sierra presents exceptional classical music and choral performances that inspire and enhance the cultural life in Nevada County -- offering a warm inclusive community and providing educational opportunities for both young people and adults.

Don Scoble

Taylor Day

From: Anney Wamsat
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: in Favor of keeping Mill street Closed

To whom it may concern,

One upside to this horrible pandemic is the opportunity to step back and revisit our town. I thoroughly enjoy the ambiance and the many economic advantages to having Mill Street closed.

Downtown Grass Valley is beautiful and unique. Mill Street closure offers the opportunity to dine outdoors, stroll and shop in a safe and beautiful environment. I fully support keeping Mill Street closed.

Although I am not currently living in Grass Valley proper, I am a student at Body Balance Academy and spend much of my time there. Mill Street closure is another draw to the idea of uprooting my family and moving into an inviting safe and welcoming city.

Sincerely,
Anney Siegel-Wamsat

Taylor Day

From: Michelle Cowie
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 1:14 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street Closure

Dear City Council Members,

I am emailing to express my support for continuing and making permanent the closure of Mill Street to vehicle traffic. I love the mall feel with sidewalk cafes and kiosks. I think that it could continue to evolve into a beautiful and welcoming center for shopping, for dining and for community.

Very Sincerely,

Michelle Cowie MFT
131 S Auburn St.

endless. As a business, we have invested a lot of time and money into the improvements on Mill Street. We would invest more if we knew there was some semblance of longevity to the street remaining closed.

In closing, I strongly urge you to vote to keep Mill Street closed to traffic. The world has changed, and it will never be what it was. We need to change with it, and meet the needs of the moment, and a likely future. The public needs a safe place to be to socialize and shop. The businesses need to give the public a reason to come out. Despite what some say this is not a retailer vs restaurant issue. We can come together and make this benefit everyone. All it takes is some imagination. And courage.

Best,

Ian Moll
Watershed at the Owl

Taylor Day

From: info watershed
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 2:35 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill St closure for the holiday season

Councilpersons,

I write to strongly urge you to vote to maintain closure of Mill St. during the holiday season.

These are unparalleled times. Our community, like communities across the country and the world are facing challenges not seen in 100 years or more.

My restaurant, like most others in the industry, has taken a beating. Even with financial support the limitations on how, with whom and where we can do business has crippled our ability to thrive. During the shutdown our monthly revenue was less than 10% of average from 2019. For every dollar in sales in 2019 we generated less than ten cents during the shutdown. It cost us five times our revenue every day simply to open our doors. We continued on in the hopes that by staying open and remaining present in the community that over time, with hard work, sacrifice and some good fortune we would find a way to survive.

When we were finally allowed to do indoor dining, even with limitations, we ramped up, hired staff, invested in our inventory and infrastructure. Unfortunately, the day we were to open the State shut down all indoor dining, and a new stage of the pandemic began.

Then the unexpected happened. Almost immediately a near perfect solution for the times presented itself, and our lovely Mill Street Plaza was born.

We absolutely would not be open for business today without outside seating, and an appealing atmosphere for the public to be. Everyday people tell me how great it is, how they can't imagine it any other way, how much nicer it is than Commercial St in Nevada City. People come. They by and large come with masks. Families stroll in the evening, dining and shopping. Music playing.

Our community had the courage and vision to imagine a new way to be in these times. We invested to beautify our street. We have created a safe place to be in a time where there is nowhere to go to be social, to feel normal, to have a human experience. We have invested so much, why retreat now? Why not see where we can take this? Why stop before realizing it's potential?

Another thing to consider: what happens when our pandemic fortunes turn for the worse? What happens if people can no longer be inside in public? What happens if the pandemic lasts through next year, or longer? All these possibilities not only exist, but are likely. If Mill Street has reopened, what will it take to close it again? Is it even possible? Who will have the energy and courage?

I see no obstacle that is insurmountable by keeping the street closed. Limited parking? That's the sign of success, not failure. We can have shuttles. We can have a central pickup for goods from retailers. Heck, if one of my guests orders take out and they had to park a ways away, I walk it to their car. Competition with online retailers? Create an experience for shopping, not convenience. None of us can compete on price or convenience. It has to be the experience. Mill St right now is a great experience. And it can be so much more. No Cornish Christmas? Guess what, with a closed street we can still have music, holiday carolers, booths, lights. We could have an ice rink. A public tree. The possibilities are really

Taylor Day

From: Corey Hayden
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 2:56 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill street reopening

Hi there my name is Corey Hayden, I am a current employee with Tess Kitchen Store & believe all the businesses would be impacted during holiday season with lack of accessibility, especially to the young & especially the elderly. I believe it to be a good & safe idea to reopen downtown perhaps with a limit of customers? While we are currently unable to see smiling faces it's a nice thing to see folks out, about & enjoying local businesses. Thank you very much for your consideration and time

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 3:20 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (1 minute and 8 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi this is Leslie partner, I live in downtown Grass Valley and I have been enjoying Mill Street being closed the way it is, and being able to go to the restaurant. Until I realized that the shops are closing down an antique store told me they have to close 'cause they can't get things in and out, and it's hard for people to get in and out. And tests is that's been there for 60 years I heard her, talking about, she's going to have to close. Because people can't get to her shop and that seems really sad. So. I'm just really torn I. I hope that a decision could be made. That could somehow help the shop owners and the restaurant owners. I know that's not very clear, but it's quite concerning. And I don't think there's enough parking down there at all. There is not enough parking. To have it close like that, if people are going to have to park elsewhere to get to the store's there's really not enough parking. Thank you.

You received a voice mail from [PAUL PLATNER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 3:44 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (26 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi this is Susan Miscano I own vintage on Mill Street, 117 Mill Street. I'm placing my vote to reopen the street as of October 1st. The closure has it. Have decreased our business with no access ability. No parking, I appreciate your time. Thank you.

You received a voice mail from [VINTAGE ON MAIN](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From:
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 3:47 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Voice Mail (26 seconds)
Attachments: audio.mp3

Hi, this is Chris Cano Co owner of vintage on Mill Street, 117 mill St. My boat is to open the streets. If you even took the time to go downtown today, you would see exactly why the streets need to be open. My boat is open the streets. Thank you.

You received a voice mail from [WIRELESS CALLER](#).

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[Set Up Voice Mail](#)

Taylor Day

From: sandra terronez
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 3:49 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Downtown Mill Street

My name is Sandy Terronez and I have lived in Grass Valley now for 42yrs so therefore I have watched our little town grow. I want to start with saying Thank You for taking the time to read my message. I also want to say how very proud I am of our town for stepping up to close the streets and help our community keep their businesses up and running. Downtown Mill Street feels nostalgic.....Peaceful, Serene and people are now taking the time once again to take it all in, lend a helping hand to each other and appreciate that we are very blessed to live where we do. Please keep Mill Street just the way it is now.

Thank You

Sincerely, Sandy Terronez

Taylor Day

From: Penny Short
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: TONIGHTS CITY COUNCIL VOTE

To all City Council members,

As you all know I purchased Tess Kitchen in January of this year. I'll get right to the point... June 8th you closed Mill Street without notice. As merchants, we were offered an apology 2 days later by Tim stating that it was necessary & would be a 30 day test. Your decisions with respect to this closure, have to date cost us several thousand dollars already!

Zero hours, which based on the stores history might happen once every 6 months have been a daily occurrence when the heat of the day reaches its peak. Substantial employee cost increases have also been felt in curbside pick-ups & customers needing assistance to their cars with their purchases. In addition, the complaints with respect to how inconvenient it is now to shop downtown are a daily conversation.

This city has a history of insufficient parking which has clearly not been corrected. In addition, you are all well aware of the assigned revenue value of each & every one of the parking places here on Mill Street.

The history of what closures like this have done is clear... Look at K Street in Sacramento, look at downtown LA & countless others. Without convenient accessible parking these types of closures fail EVERY TIME! Please feel free to provide me information to the contrary if its out there...

Downtown is a blend of businesses, but primary retail. There is a simple equation for a successful retail business. Good business plan + Good demographics + Good location + Good access = SUCCESS! You miss on any one point of that equation & you are guaranteed failure.

The next 100 days equates to well over 1/2 of our potential annual revenue & you find it necessary to jeopardize that... Why exactly? A vote to leave Mill Street closed is a vote to potentially destroy not only Tess, but many other retailers downtown who are counting on a successful holiday season to offset their Covid-19 losses.

A vote to keep it closed puts every single person who can't find parking this holiday season one step closer to ordering on-line & I shouldn't need to mention that many, many folks have done just that during Covid.

In closing, if the only options open to us are reopen Mill 100% or keep it closed, my vote it to see it reopened 100%. If the vote however lands in favor of keeping it closed I will take action & do everything necessary to relocate my business in 2021.

Taylor Day

From: Teri Reuter
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 5:19 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street/Main Street

Well, I just discovered this email, so decided to respond even though it is a bit late.

I think you all need to really consider the businesses on Main Street.

As a born and raised resident of Grass Valley, Mill Street looks great and is fun.

However, having a business on Main Street has shown me how Main Street struggles and is very much ignored!

All these businesses pay the same rent's, and the same fees, yet are greatly ignored and struggle through on their own.

Mill Street is now set up as an "event" look and feel. You are catering to a handful of people. When Mill Street is closed, people do not cross the street.

When there is an 'event' on Mill, people will park in the two parking lots, come down or up the middle and enjoy Mill and then go home.

Now, with huge cement barriers, this moreless tells people, "do not cross the street".

Crossing the street at Mill has become extremely dangerous!

Cars on Main do not have to look for cross traffic and are rolling through the stop more often than not.

Please, consider everyone involved!

Thank you for your time.



120 West Main Street
Grass Valley, CA 95945

E:

W: www.gobeautiful.com

Taylor Day

From: Galen Ellis
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Mill Street closure

Greetings! I wanted to express my strong support for keeping Mill Street closed to vehicles permanently. I live in French Corral, but spend a lot of time in downtown GV.

Warmly,



Galen Ellis, MPH
President

P.O. Box 901
Nevada City, CA 95959

www.ellisplanningassociates.com

"We are traveling with tremendous speed toward a star in the Milky Way. A great repose is visible on the face of the Earth. My heart is a little fast. Otherwise everything's fine." - Bertolt Brecht

Taylor Day

From: audrey schwartz
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 4:13 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: Black Lives Matter Always

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To City Council;

Will you please add Racial Justice to the agenda today and from now on until there ceases to be racial injustice?

Are you aware of Black, and Indigenous, and People of Color being photographed by white people locally? What are you doing to make this community safe for everyone of every race? How can you call this "a great community," (quoted from last GV city council meeting), when there are people in this community who do not feel safe because of their skin color? How is this a "great community" when there are people who live here yelling racial epithets at Black People as well as calling other People Of Color in this community racial slurs? How is this a "great community " when you Members of city council went along with racist requests to take down signs in support of Black People's Lives and refuse to put them back up?

How is this a "great community" ?

Will you please make racial justice a priority because it is?

Have you all had racial equity training recently? Has the GVPD? Will you get that done ASAP please?

What are you doing to make grass valley a safe place for Black and Indigenous and People Of Color?

MINUTES OF THE

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF October 5th, 2020

**Lisa Swarthout, Mayor
Jan Arbuckle**

Howard Levine

**Ben Aguilar, Vice Mayor
Hilary Hodge**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL,
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AUTHORITY AND REDEVELOPMENT "SUCCESSOR
AGENCY"**

3:00 P. M., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 2020

AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER:** 3:10 pm by Mayor Swarthout
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Swarthout
ROLL CALL: Council Member Arbuckle, Council Member Levine, Council Member Hodge, Vice Mayor Aguilar, and Mayor Swarthout were present
- B. AGENDA APPROVAL**
No changes for the agenda.
- C. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**
No closed session.
- D. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**
No presentations.
- E. PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were no public comments received.
- F. CONSENT ITEMS** – There were no consent items.
- G. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**
- H. PUBLIC HEARING**
- I. ADMINISTRATIVE**
1. Downtown Holiday Seasons
RECOMMENDATION: That Council 1) authorize expenditure plan of up to \$50,000 to mitigate Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) as the City moves forward with safely attracting patrons downtown; 2) approve the City Manager to implement the expenditure plan; 3) authorize the Finance Director to approve any necessary budget adjustments and/or transfers necessary to fund the expenditure plan; 4) provide staff direction on a COVID-19 Halloween Costume Event Downtown; and 5) provide staff direction on potentially allowing alcoholic beverages outdoors within the closed portion of Mill Street under a special event permit.
- Tim Kiser, City Manager, gave this presentation on the follow up to the previous meeting for a spending budget for Mill Street. The City is proposing the following spending budget, to be

administered by GVDA: \$14,000 for marketing, \$8,000 for propane heaters, \$9,000 for pop-up canopies, and an additional \$6,000 to help with administrative processes and COVID-19 assistance. Working with the GVDA to put together some sort of socially distanced safe Halloween Trick or Treat parade. Council was also presented with the proposal to allow alcohol downtown within the Mill Street closure boundaries on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Additionally, \$12,500 in spending is being proposed from the General Fund for Halloween candy and decorations for all the upcoming seasons.

- Mayor Swarthout discussed the process of having a reimbursement process for the pop-up canopies wherein each business could be reimbursed up to \$300 in grant funds for a canopy purchase. The heaters would be gifted to the businesses.
- Council Member Levine moved that \$37,000 of CARES money be granted to the Grass Valley Downtown Association and added an additional \$10,000 CARES money for unforeseen costs, \$10,000 from the General Fund for decorations, and \$2,500 from the General Fund for candy. Council Member Arbuckle seconded, and the motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote.

J. BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Vice Mayor Aguilar urges everyone to go Downtown and look at the decorations that are going up. Mayor Swarthout is working with the GVDA and the Downtown stores to make the best seasons possible.

K. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Swarthout at 3:32 pm.

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor

Andy Heath, Administrative Services Director



**City of Grass Valley
City Council
Agenda Action Sheet**

Council Meeting Date: October 13, 2020

Date Prepared: October 8, 2020

Prepared by: Timothy M. Kiser, City Manager *TMK*

Title: Local Emergency Proclamation (COVID-19)

Recommended Motion: Continuance of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency.

Agenda: Consent

Background Information: On March 5, 2020 the City Manager, acting as the Director of Emergency Services for the City of Grass Valley and the Disaster Council (Vice Mayor Aguilar and Councilmember Arbuckle), declared a local State of Emergency to ensure emergency personnel can obtain equipment and resources in the most timely and effective manner. In accordance with the Emergency Services Act Section 8630 (b) the governing body must ratify the declared emergency within 7 days for it to remain in effect. On March 10, 2020, at the Grass Valley City Council Meeting, the City Council approved Resolution 2020-09, Proclamation of Local Emergency. The City Council shall review, at its regularly scheduled meeting until the local emergency is terminated, the need for continuing the local emergency.

On March 16, 2020, the City Manager, acting as the Director of the Emergency Services for the City of Grass Valley and the Disaster Council (all five Council Members), declared that all commercial places of public assembly with a Fire Code occupancy limit of 25 or more persons shall no longer operate for commercial purposes. Places of public assembly include, but are not limited to, movie theaters, performing arts venues, and auditoriums. This action does not include restaurants, and/or similar uses, and does not override the First Amendment right of persons to congregate for non-commercial activities. To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Disaster Council approved, at the Director of Emergency Services' request, waiving the administrative charges for using credit cards to pay utility bills for the next 60 days. For more information, see attached Grass Valley Disaster Council Order 2020-01.

On April 14, 2020, the City Council authorized a local financial emergency and the necessity to layoff multiple city employees to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Council Goals/Objectives: Continuance of the proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency due to prepare against coronavirus COVID-19 executes portions of City Strategic Goal #6: Public Safety. The City of Grass Valley is devoted to providing a safe Place to Live, Work and Play.



**City of Grass Valley
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Agenda Action Sheet**

Fiscal Impact: The Fiscal Impact is anticipated at more than \$940,000 loss in the General Fund and \$550,000 loss in Measure E Sale taxes fund over the rest of this Fiscal Year and Fiscal Year 2020-21, but due to the constantly changing impacts of COVID-19 the actual fiscal impact may change.

Funds Available: N/A

Account#: N/A

Reviewed by: *JK* City Manager



**City of Grass Valley
City Council
Agenda Action Sheet**

Council Meeting Date: October 13, 2020

Date Prepared: October 8, 2020

Prepared by: Mark Buttron, Fire Chief

Title: Local Emergency Proclamation

Recommended Motion: Continuance of sinkhole proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency due to extreme weather.

Agenda: Consent


Background Information: On January 11, 2017 the City Manager, acting as the Director of Emergency Services for the City of Grass Valley, declared a local State of Emergency as a result of damages caused by extreme weather. In accordance with the Emergency Services Act Section 8630 (b) the governing body must ratify the declared emergency within 7 days for it to remain in effect. Resolution 2017-02, Proclamation of Local Emergency, was ratified on January 17th at a special meeting of the Grass Valley City Council. The City Council shall review, at its regularly scheduled meeting until the local emergency is terminated, the need for continuing the local emergency.

Council Goals/Objectives: Continuance of the proclamation declaring a Local State of Emergency due to extreme weather executes portions of City Strategic Goal #6: Public Safety. The City of Grass Valley is devoted to providing a safe Place to Live, Work and Play.

Fiscal Impact: The Majority (more than 75%) of the costs should be reimbursed by various agencies.

Funds Available: N/A

Account#: N/A

Reviewed by:  City Manager



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

Council Meeting Date: October 13, 2020

Date Prepared: October 7, 2020

Prepared by: Alexander K. Gammelgard, Chief of Police

Title: Adopt Resolution 2020-53 approving Grass Valley Downtown Association to sell alcohol within the footprint of the COVID-19 related downtown street closure

Recommended Motion: Adopt Resolution 2020-53

Agenda: Administrative

Background Information:

In response to COVID-19 the City of Grass Valley has closed Mill Street to vehicular traffic in order to provide open space for commerce, outdoor dining, and other activities that are in compliance with California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy (<https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy>). The State of California has adopted a four-tier county-risk-level based approach to reopening based upon individual county metrics. At the time of this staff report, the County of Nevada is classified in the "moderate" (orange) tier and has progressed in a positive direction from its original status at the roll-out of the tier-based system, which was "substantial" (red).

Individuals, businesses, community-based organizations, and government have had to adapt to the changing dynamics of COVID-19. The City of Grass Valley has been progressive in this space and continues to be innovative in finding safe yet creative ways to provide for businesses and citizens. As such, the Grass Valley Downtown Association (GVDA) has requested partnership with the City to enhance the use of the downtown street closure corridor. In addition to actions taken at the special City Council meeting on 10/05/2020 related to financial support for COVID-19 mitigation efforts in light of the upcoming holiday season, the City Council provided direction to staff to take forward the appropriate actions to allow for regulated alcohol sales in the street closure area.

Passage of the attached resolution is required to allow for alcohol consumption within the City right-of-way and within the street closure area. It is important to note that although this resolution allows for the activity to occur, any activity will need to be in compliance with State compliance with COVID-19 protocols. The purpose of this action is not to create gatherings, rather it is to support efforts to bring additional people to the downtown corridor to support retail sales and use of the space, thereby supporting local business.

This resolution will be supplemental to Resolution 2018-52 which was passed in June of 2018 related to "beer and wine garden" activity when operated by the GVDA. This resolution will only apply to the duration of this street closure footprint and/or COVID-19 related street closures and in partnership with the GVDA as the operator, special event permit holder, and responsible party.



City of Grass Valley City Council Agenda Action Sheet

The attached resolution provides for the approval of the use pursuant to municipal code Title 9, Section 8, requiring a resolution of the council for possession/consumption of alcohol in the public right of way. The resolution further provides authority to the Police Chief to add restrictions, make modifications, or disallow such activities based on existing law and/or safety concerns. The GVDA will be required to submit a Special Event permit in cooperation with the Police Department setting forth a number of requirements and conditions prior to issuance, including but not limited to:

- ABC License requirements
- Types, quantities, frequency of sale
- Day/Time of sale
- Wristband and cup designations
- Monitoring and signage
- Other conditions as may be appropriate for public safety and public health


Fiscal Impact

None – except funds that may be used related to downtown street closure as approved by previous Council action.

Funds Available: Yes

Account #: N/A

Reviewed by:

 City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-53

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES TO BE SOLD AND CONSUMED IN A DESIGNATED PUBLIC AREA DURING THE COVID-19 RELATED MILL STREET CLOSURE, SANCTIONED AND OPERATED BY THE GRASS VALLEY DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, pursuant to Grass Valley Municipal Code, public consumption and serving of alcohol is generally prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the Grass Valley City Council in 2003 amended Chapter 9.08 of the Grass Valley Municipal Code to allow consumption of alcohol upon specified public properties with prior authorization of the City Council by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Grass Valley Downtown Association (hereinafter referred to as “GVDA”) is requesting authorization to sell alcoholic beverages within the existing Mill Street closure area during specified days of the week and times; and

WHEREAS, during previous special events the GVDA has worked closely with the City, including the Police and Fire Departments, related to mitigating any safety considerations as well as fire access requirements; and

WHEREAS, the GVDA has worked closely with City staff to safely operate a “beer and wine garden” on prior occasions; and

WHEREAS, the GVDA will file the appropriate paperwork with the State of California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and the Grass Valley Police Department and possess all necessary permits and insurances prior to any alcohol sales.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY, as follows:

1. That all of the above recitals are true and correct.
2. That the selling of alcohol by GVDA within the existing COVID-19 Mill Street closure will be a benefit to the GVDA, downtown businesses, vendors, and residents.
3. The sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be subject to those special regulations and conditions adopted by the City Council as set forth in this resolution and

all other local, state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

4. The City Council hereby authorizes the sale alcoholic beverages by the GVDA for consumption within the Mill Street COVID-19 street closure area.

5. The GVDA must obtain approval pursuant to the City of Grass Valley Special Events Permit process only at the location specifically approved by the Chief of Police (if more restrictive than provided in this resolution), and that the GVDA must comply with the following:

- a. prior to engaging in serving activities, all GVDA volunteers shall sign a document, which must be provided to the Police Department for inclusion with GVDA's Special Event Permit, indicating they are aware of the sanctions and penalties enumerated in California Business and Professions Code section 25602 related to overserving of alcoholic beverages; and
- b. prominent and specific signage shall be posted at any exit/entry point of the street closure area explicitly stating: "**NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEYOND THIS POINT. OPEN CONTAINERS OR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IS NOT ALLOWED OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED AREA OR ANY OTHER PUBLIC STREET/SIDEWALK OR INSIDE ANY BUSINESS**"; and
- c. any sales booth will be staffed exclusively by GVDA personnel or trained volunteers; and
- d. GVDA will assign volunteers as may be necessary after consultation with the Police Department, to ensure that at all points of access to the street closure are monitored for patrons exiting the designated area with open containers; and
- e. serving may not commence until the time explicitly noted on the approved Special Event Permit; and
- f. serving must not occur beyond the time explicitly noted on the approved Special Event Permit; and

- g. the GVDA shall provide final specifications as to the layout of any sales/service points related to the overall closure and consumption areas for approval by the Chief of Police no later than one (1) week prior to any alcohol sales/service; and
- h. the Chief of Police may require any changes to the operation, conditions, or layout of the alcohol related activities and has the authority to rescind approval of serving of alcoholic beverages without cause at any time and may rescind approval for any future sales without cause at any time.

ADOPTED as a resolution of the City Council of the City of Grass Valley at a regular meeting held on the 13th day of October, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINING:

Lisa Swarthout, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Andy Heath, City Clerk

Michael Colantuono, City Attorney