

RESOLUTION NO. 89-26

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR A FOREST RESTORATION AND WILDFIRE RISK MITIGATION GRANT FOR THE RAPID CREEK WATERSHED & WATER SUPPLY RESILIENCE PROJECT AND APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE TOWN OF PALISADE

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado that:

The City of Grand Junction, by, with and through this Resolution of the City Council, supports the Forest Restoration and Wildfire Risk Mitigation (FRWRM) Grant application to the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) for the Rapid Creek Watershed & Water Supply Resilience Project.

In partnership with the Town of Palisade, the City proposes to implement strategic fuels reduction and forest health treatments across approximately 216 acres of City- and Town-owned property within the Rapid Creek watershed on the northwest slope of the Grand Mesa above Palisade. The Project will reduce wildfire risk to communities, municipal water supplies and infrastructure, improve firefighter access and suppression opportunities, and improve forest and watershed resilience.

The City and Town have developed a Memorandum of Understanding for Watershed Wildfire Mitigation and Coordination (MOU) to establish a framework for continued cooperation and to define the parties' respective responsibilities associated with the Project and administration of the FRWRM Grant.

The City Council finds that pursuit of the FRWRM Grant and approval of the MOU are in the best interest of the City and its residents by leveraging outside funding and intergovernmental cooperation to advance wildfire mitigation and watershed protection efforts.

The total Project budget is estimated at \$295,653, with \$147,826 requested through the FRWRM Grant Program and an anticipated award in 2027. The City Council authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations, including established deadlines, of any grant awarded.

The Memorandum of Understanding for Watershed Wildfire Mitigation and Coordination between the City of Grand Junction and the Town of Palisade, in substantially the form presented to the City Council, is approved.

The City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute the MOU on behalf of the City and, if the grant is awarded, to execute the grant agreement and other documents necessary to accept and administer the grant and implement the Project.

The City staff has recommended that the City Council support the MOU and grant application, and if awarded that the grant be utilized for the important purposes of continuing to carefully manage the City's watershed.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 7th day of October 2026.



Laurel Lutz
President of the Council

ATTEST:



Selestina Sandoval
City Clerk

