TO: Members of the City Council  
VIA: Jeffrey Foltz, Interim City Administrator  
FROM: Timothy M. Kiser, PE, Public Works Director/City Engineer  
Joe C. Heckel, Community Development Director  
SUBJECT: Alta Hill Reservoir Cover Reconstruction – Approval of SRF Loan Application and Environmental Assessment pursuant to CEQA  

RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve; 1) submittal of the bid documents to Department of Health Services for review, and 2) adopt the mitigated Negative Declaration in accordance with provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  

BACKGROUND: Sauers Engineering, Inc. (Sauers) was retained by the City in December, 2004, to prepare a pre-design report to evaluate alternatives for the reconstruction of a cover over the Alta Hill Reservoir, and to design the proposed solution. On June 13, 2006, Council approved the alternative of installing two (2) – one million gallon steel tanks to replace the existing Alta Hill Reservoir and floating cover. Sauers is currently finalizing the design of the steel tanks.

To fund the estimated two million dollar construction cost of the Alta Hill Steel Tank Reservoirs, staff submitted a California Safe Drinking Water SRF Loan pre-application and was selected to submit a funding application. On January 9, 2007, the Department of Health Services reviewed the City’s funding application and determined the application complete allowing the submittal of environmental documentation and bid documents for review.

With the final engineering almost complete, the Engineering Division is requesting Council approval to submit the bid documents to the Department of Health Services (DHS) for review and comment. DHS review is required as part of the SRL Loan approval process to ensure the appropriate compliance requirements (i.e. labor, contracting) are specified in the bid documents.

The Engineering Division worked with the Planning Division to prepare an environmental document to comply with CEQA and NEPA requirements. The City retained the services of North Fork Associates to conduct specialized studies in biology and cultural resources and prepare an environmental assessment. After completing an Initial Study, the City, with the assistance of North Fork Associates, determined that the project, if properly mitigated, would not result in any significant impacts. The Negative Declaration was released for a thirty (30) day public review period from May 14 to June 13, 2007. At the conclusion of the public review period, the City did not receive any public comments that raised any new issues or prompted new mitigation measures. All mitigation measures set forth in the
Negative Declaration will now be applied to the project.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Funds are available for the design and construction of this project in the FY 2007/08 Budget.

Attachment: City of Grass Valley Resolution 07-___
Mitigated Negative Declaration with public comments

Cc: Tom Last, Planning Director
Project File 04-01
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
ADOPTING THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ALTA HILL
TREATMENT PLANT CLEARWALL REPLACEMENT AT 11808 ALTA VISTA HILL ROAD

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley the applicant, submitted a request for
bid documents to Department of Health Services to replace the existing clearwell reservoir
at the City’s Alta Hill Water Treatment Plant located 11808 Alta Vista Hill Road (Assessor’s
Parcel Number 08-011-14), and

WHEREAS, an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration were
prepared on the 11808 Alta Vista Hill Road proposal by the City of Grass Valley in
accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and
Mitigation Measures were incorporated into the project to fully mitigate all potentially
significant impacts on the environment, and

WHEREAS, the City circulated the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration
for public review (from May 14, 2007 to June 13, 2007) and received no comments or
substantial evidence that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that a Mitigated Negative Declaration can
be adopted for replacement of the clearwell reservoir at the City’s Alta Hill Water Treatment
Plant, in accordance with the provisions of the CEQA. On July 10, 2007, the City Council
reviewed the Mitigated Negative Declaration and found that the document addresses the
impacts for the project through the mitigation measures described therein, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has independently reviewed, analyzed and
considered the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, and

WHEREAS, the design of the project will not likely cause substantial
environmental damage or substantially and unavoidably injure fish or wildlife or their
habitat.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of
Grass Valley does hereby adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the replacement the
existing clearwell reservoir at the City’s Alta Hill Water Treatment Plant located 11808 Alta
Vista Hill Road (Assessor’s Parcel Number 08-011-14), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all mitigation measures prescribed in the
Negative Declaration shall be applied and implemented for the project.

ADOPTED as a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Grass Valley at a
meeting

RESOLUTION NO.-___
AYES in favor of:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

______________________________
MARK JOHNSON, MAYOR

ATTEST: ______________________________
KRISTI K. BASHOR, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/
RuthAnn G. Ziegler, City Attorney