



MEMO

To: GRTA Board of Directors

From: Executive Director Stogner

Date: May 23, 2022

Subject: **Agenda Item F.4** - Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Amendment to City of Ukiah Lease Agreement to include Mason Street Property – Ukiah, Mendocino County

The City of Ukiah has created approximately 4 miles of multi-use trail parallel to GRTA trackway within the city limits of Ukiah. The trail was created under a lease with NCRA/GRTA that extends through 2039.

The City would like to extend the existing 25-year term (17 years remain on the lease) for another 25 years from the expiration of the existing term. This is necessary because the city wants to demonstrate that it has site control for a minimum of 30 years, a condition required when applying for state or federal grant funding.

Additionally, the city currently holds a non-exclusive easement on NCRA/GRTA properties along Mason Street that are immediately adjacent to the trail. The city believes it is uniquely qualified to promote the use of these properties in a manner that is most beneficial to the community.

The city has focused on several opportunities for amenities along the Great Redwood Trail including parking, covered seating/picnic area, and bicycle racks. The city believes that these features would significantly enhance the public benefits associated with the Great Redwood Trail.

To this end, the city is interested in acquiring an exclusive easement to manage these parcels, granting the city full control of these GRTA-owned parcels along Mason Street.

Staff Recommendation:

Authorize staff and legal counsel to work with Ukiah City representatives to extend the existing trail lease by 25 years, and to grant the city an exclusive easement on GRTA-owned properties along Mason Street.