



**City of Paso Robles  
2/19/2024  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**City of Paso Robles  
Fire and Emergency Services  
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### **Cal Fire Wildfire Prevention Grant Award**

PASO ROBLES, CA – In 2023, Paso Robles Fire and Emergency Services Department (PRFES) submitted an application to Cal Fire for a Wildfire Prevention Grant. PRFES requested grant funding to purchase vegetation management equipment. The City was recently notified it is the recipient of \$443,797.35 of Wildfire Prevention Grant funds from the state.

In 2019 the City declared a local emergency due to the accumulation of highly flammable vegetation within the Salinas River and the growing risk it posed to the community. For the past four years the City has been proactively managing the vegetation in the Salinas River, reducing the number and size of fires year over year. In 2023 the City saw a more than 50% reduction in the number of fires from the previous year and less than three acres burned, this is a direct result of the Salinas River Vegetation Management Program.

The City will use the grant funds to purchase much needed specialized equipment to continue the vegetation management within the Salinas River and expand fuel reduction work throughout the community. The City would like to thank the Cal Fire San Luis Obispo for their collaboration and support of our grant request. Additionally, the city would also like to thank the San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council for their overwhelming support of grant funding annually, without it the Salinas River Vegetation Management Program would not be possible.

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