Past Mining Activities in Grass Valley

- Heritage of community tied to mining
- Contained Empire / Idaho-Maryland Mines
- Mines, jobs, economic base shaped City
- Mining industry continued to 1956
- Community evolved with other industries and expanded its City limits
Grass Valley - Circa 1852
A Few of the Mines in the Area
Portion of the Empire

The Pennsylvania Mine was part of the rich Empire Mine complex that kept Grass Valley humming.
Veins of gold running far underground provided the reason for the existence of Grass Valley at the turn of the century.
Rose Hill Mine
Examples of Challenges / Issues with Mining Legacy

- Drew Tunnel discharge into City sewer plant from old mine workings (0.50+ mgd)
- Uncover abandoned mine shafts – Ivy Street
- Discharge contaminants from surface drainage sources / Memorial Park (Magneta Drain)
- Residual contaminants found in soil conditions of projects – Village at S. Auburn Street, IMMC
- Scenarios presents public health/safety issues?
  - Heavy metals inc. mercury, arsenic, etc.
Challenges to Future Planning Programs / Projects

- Number of key properties have constraints
  - Viable vacant lands are diminishing
  - Example: Dorsey Drive interchange

- Planning for Future - How do we address past mining & required remediation early in process?
  - Applies to Large scale projects / SDA’s
  - Applies to RDA projects / infill
  - Applies to CIP projects
VACANT PARCELS
Within The
GRASS VALLEY CITY LIMITS
October 2008

Legend
- Blue: Grass Valley City Limits
- Red: Planning Area Boundary
- Light Blue: Vacant Commercial Parcels
- Yellow: Vacant Residential Parcels

Scale: 0 0.25 0.5 1.0 1.5 Miles
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS
DORSEY DRIVE INTERCHANGE

CITY OF GRASS VALLEY
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS
DORSEY DRIVE INTERCHANGE
City of Grass Valley / North Star SDA

Map Key
- Grass Valley City Limits
- North Star SDA
How to Improve Communication / Remediation Approaches

- Here to offer a City perspective / seek input

- City has obtained EPA Brownfield Grant
  - $200,000 to evaluate mining / milling activities

- Need clear process on how agencies & private sector when mining issues surfaces......
  - Who do you call?
  - ID Assessment through remediation steps
  - Limit effects on development, property maintenance, liability
Abandoned Mine Lands Forum

A City Perspective – How to Plan for and Address Past Mining Activities

City of Grass Valley
June 3, 2009
Primary mode of transportation for miners