Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

CITY OF SONORA
City Council Regular Meeting
Agenda
Monday, June 02, 2025
5:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on June 2, 2025 at 5:00 PM in the City of Sonora Council Chambers located at 94 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370.

This meeting is physically open to the Public and citizens who wish to provide public comment during the meeting will be invited to do so by the Mayor.

Written comments can be submitted to be included as part of the administrative record; they will not be read during the meeting. All comments must be received by 3:00 pm on the day of the noticed meeting and can be submitted to the City Clerk at 94 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370, or via email to tskelly@sonoraca.com.

Public Access Audio and Video Live Streaming

The Public will not have access to give public comments via public access audio and video live streaming; they are available for audio and visual only; and can be accessed via our website at www.sonoraca.com.

Remote viewing of the meeting via live streaming is provided to members of the public as a courtesy. If the live streaming connection malfunctions for any reason and no Council Members are attending via teleconference, the City Council will continue the public meeting in Chambers without remote access.

CITY COUNCIL appreciates your interest and encourages participation. Regularly scheduled meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

The numerical order of the items on this agenda is for convenience of reference. Items may be taken out of order upon request of the Mayor or Council Members. All questions shall be directed to the Mayor who, at their discretion, will refer to Staff.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill

Council Members Bess Levine, Stephen Opie, Mark Plummer

City Administrator Melissa Eads

City Attorney Douglas White

Vision Statement: With leadership and integrity, the City of Sonora commits to excellent service through collaboration and innovation

Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

CLOSED SESSION - 4:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
4. **ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION**

   A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54956.9(b): Two (2) Potential Cases; Douglas White, City Attorney, Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

5. **RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION**

   OPEN SESSION - 5:00 PM

6. **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**
7. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
8. **ROLL CALL**
9. **CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON AGENDA POSTING**
10. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
11. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

    The public may address the Council on any item of public interest not otherwise on the agenda that is within the jurisdiction of the City. No action may be taken. Matters to be addressed may be referred to City Staff or placed on a subsequent meeting Agenda. Speakers are limited to a three (3) minute presentation.

12. **PRESENTATIONS**

    A. Receive an Update from the President of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce, Katie Dunn; Tracy Skelly, Administrative Services Officer/City Clerk.

    B. Receive a Presentation from Visit Tuolumne County Regarding the Quarterly Marketing Update, Lisa Mayo, President & CEO, and Jen Lopez, Marketing Director, Visit Tuolumne County.

Vision Statement: With leadership and integrity, the City of Sonora commits to excellent service through collaboration and innovation

C. Receive a Presentation Regarding Defensible Space Awareness, Sonora Fire Department Services, Frequently Asked Questions, and Best Practices for Preparing Your Home Before the Upcoming Wildland Fire Season; Brittan Gregory, Sonora Fire Captain, Grant Miller, Sonora Relief Fire Engineer.

13. CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be voted on in one motion unless a Council member or member of the public has a question or wishes to discuss an item. In that case, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

A. Consider Approval of the City of Sonora Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2025; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.

B. Consider the Re-Appointment of Curtis Wicks to the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) as a Representative for the City of Sonora with a Term to Expire in May of 2029; Tamera Blankenship, Tuolumne County Transportation Council Executive Director.

C. Receive an Update on the Removal of Trees on Mono Way by PG&E; Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.

D. Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing the Month of June as Pride Month in the City of Sonora, Andy Merrill, Vice Mayor.

14. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Waive the First Reading, Read by Title Only, and Introduce Ordinance No. 906, Approval and Adoption of the 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as Recommended by the California State Fire Marshal; Gary Carlson, Interim Fire Chief.

15. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

16. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at City Hall (209) 532-4541, tskelly@sonoraca.com. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

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CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Tracy Skelly, Administrative Services Officer/City Clerk

SUBJECT: Receive an Update from the President of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Katie Dunn.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an Update from the President of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Katie Dunn.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

President of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Katie Dunn will Present an Update on the Chamber Activities to the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact on the General Fund.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

There are no Core Council Priorities.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Lisa Mayo, President & CEO, and Jen Lopez, Marketing Manager, Visit Tuolumne County

SUBJECT: Receive a Presentation from Visit Tuolumne County Regarding the Quarterly Marketing Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a Presentation from Visit Tuolumne County Regarding the Quarterly Marketing Update.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Fiscal Responsibility and Stability, Economic Development/Growth and General Plan

Visit SONORA california

VISIT TUOLUMNE COUNTY
Quarterly Marketing Highlights for the City of Sonora

Quarter 3
Jan-March 2025

VISITORS

95.6K
+2% YOY
Average days in Sonora: 2.2

Visits to Sonora
*Includes domestic visitors who traveled from more than 50 miles away and stayed at least 90 minutes.

Top 5 Visitor Origins
Livermore
Castro Valley
San Jose
Pleasant Hill
Stockton

TRAVEL IMPACTS

2024 Travel Impacts in Tuolumne County

Travel-Related Spending: $307.8 million

- $83 million
- $100.7 million
- $38.1 million
- $26 million
- OTHER TRAVEL $10.8 million
- $49.3 million (Retail & Food)

State and Local Tax Receipts: $24.1 million

State and local tax revenue is equivalent to $1,058 per Tuolumne County resident household.

2,700 Industry Jobs*
*Does not include employment at Black Oak Casino Resort and Chicken Ranch Casino Resort.

Reported by Dean Runyan Associates

With new numbers just released from Visit California (via Dean Runyan Associates), 2023 travel spending numbers for Tuolumne County were updated from $287 million to $306.8 million! 2024 is showing a modest .3% growth in travel spending to $307.8 million. The general outlook for tourism in California (and across the country), faces challenges. For Tuolumne County this year's uncertainty regarding Yosemite has created obstacles for travelers, especially international travelers, and the current political and economic conditions have also negatively influenced tourism.

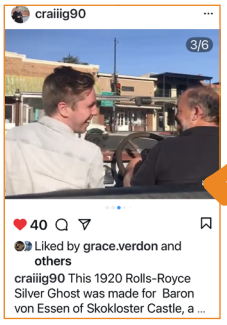
Good news: Visitors still come to Tuolumne County because they see it as a place where they can escape and disconnect from all the "noise" in our world. Even as there are challenges, we are actively inviting aspiring visitors every day.

INFLUENCER & MEDIA VISITS

@AlexKhachigian
(532K Instagram followers) for Visit California Hidden Gems Campaign

May 7-9. Stayed at Berkshire Inn Bed & Breakfast in Groveland and Mi-Wuk Village Inn in Mi-Wuk Village. Visited Downtown Sonora on May 9th.





Irish Familiarization Tour
for Black Diamond

May 14-18. Stayed at The Inn on Knowles Hill and explored and dined in Downtown Sonora.
Craig Hughes, Irish Daily Mail
Monthly readership: **205,000**

Sandra Mallon, Irish Daily Star
Monthly readership: **20,000**

Catherine Murphy, freelance journalist
Monthly readership: **465,000**

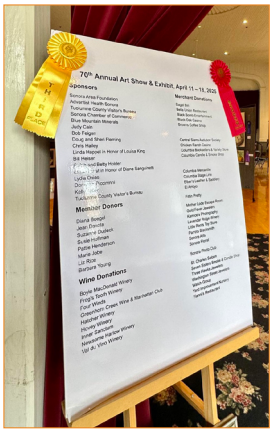
TRAVEL SHOWS



Visit Tuolumne County team members, along with First Light Resorts team members, had a booth at the Bay Area Travel & Adventure Show in Santa Clara in March. The show was very well attended with 13,000 attendees, a 38% increase over the previous year's event. The show provides an opportunity to engage with individuals in our drive market who have a demonstrated interest in travel and adventure, thereby increasing the likelihood of converting interest into actual visits.

Tuolumne County Art Week

Visit Tuolumne County was excited to celebrate the 5th annual Tuolumne County Art Week, April 12–20, 2025! VTC proudly supported the Mother Lode Art Association's annual Art Show by helping cover part of the Sonora Opera Hall rental—allowing the show to run even longer this year. Downtown Sonora also featured a creative art installation by Unicorn Tattoo at Pence Farms Sourdough, and exciting displays and activities popped up all across the County.



PROMOS & SPONSORSHIPS

Sponsorships

El Campo de Sonora: $500 sponsorship, and a VTC team member sits on the planning committee.

VTC continues to sponsor 2nd Saturday Art Nights.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media

Mother Lode Round-Up
Parade and Rodeo
Kick Off the Farmers Market

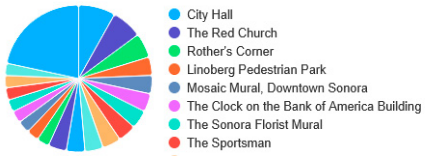


Sonora Selfie Trail

Check-Ins YTD
74

SONORA Selfie TRAIL

Top 8 Check-In Locations



IN THE NEWS & MORE

In the News

Remarkable Rooftops in California:
Visit California Media Pitch Mentions
The Armory
Sonora Inn
The Perch at Chicken Ranch Casino Resort

Scope of Work

The VTC Team has begun working on the Scope of Work for the City of Sonora per our Marketing Agreement. The scope of work will include a city highlights video, Paranormal Trail for fall, a social media influencer visit among other projects.

Gold Rush Path Presentation

VTC and partners received a presentation on the Gold Rush Path from Tamera Blankenship of Tuolumne County Transit at the April Marketing Meeting. The presentation was well-received, and we look forward to promoting the trail, which will be a great asset to the community.

Home & Garden Show

A VTC team member attended the Home & Garden Show in April with the mobile visitors center. The team member was available for the entire weekend to answer questions about the area and distribute the Tuolumne County Travel Guide.



Reminder to Submit Your Events

We encourage our partner businesses and organizations to submit their tourism-oriented events to our website at visittuolumne.com/event-submission.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Brittan Gregory, Fire Captain
Grant Miller, Relief Fire Engineer

SUBJECT: Defensible Space Awareness, Sonora Fire Department Services, Frequently Asked Questions, and Best Practices for Preparing Your Home Before the Upcoming Wildland Fire Season.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a Presentation Regarding Defensible Space Awareness, Sonora Fire Department Services, Frequently Asked Questions, and Best Practices for Preparing Your Home Before the Upcoming Wildland Fire Season.

BACKGROUND:

Wildland fire season is rapidly approaching, and many citizens may not be fully aware of what regulations are their responsibility. In addition, many people may not know what services are available to assist with making their property more fire safe.

This presentation will focus on defensible space awareness and other services that are provided by the Sonora Fire Department, as well as contact information regarding many other local programs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness

Defensible Space

PRESENTED BY

CAPTAIN GREGORY

RELIEF ENGINEER MILLER

Defensible Space: A Smart Strategy

- **Reduces Fuels:** Minimizes flammable materials around your property
- **Protects Homes:** Creates a buffer zone that helps prevent wildfire spread
- **Promotes Healthy Vegetation:** Encourages growth of fire-resistant, well-maintained plants



Zones



Zone 0
Immediate Zone 0-5’

Zone 1
Intermediate Zone 5-30’

Zone 2
Extended Zone 30-100’

Zone 0 (0–5 Feet from Structures)

Goal: Eliminate all flammable materials immediately around the home.

- **No Flammable Vegetation**
- **Use Hardscape Features:**
  - Rocks
  - Gravel
  - Bare dirt
  - Concrete or stone pathways
- **Clear Roofs and Gutters:**
  - Remove all leaves, pine needles, and plant debris

Create a fire-resistant buffer to protect your home from embers and direct flame contact.



Zone 1 (5–30 Feet from Structures)

Goal: Reduce fire intensity and prevent flames from reaching your home.

- **Avoid Continuous Planting:**
  - Space out plants to prevent fire spread
- **Use Hardscape to Separate Vegetation:**
  - Paths, gravel, or non-combustible materials
- **Prune Trees and Shrubs:**
  - Remove branches within 10 feet of structures
- **Eliminate Dead or Dying Materials:**
  - Clear away dry grass, leaves, and branches
- **Maintain Grass Height:**
  - Keep trimmed to 2 inches or less

Create a well-maintained, fire-smart landscape to slow fire spread and protect your home.



Zone 2 (30–100+ Feet from Structures)

Goal: Reduce fuel loads to slow fire spread and lower fire intensity.

- **Maintain Grass at 2” or Less**
- **Remove All Dead and Dying Fuels**
  - **Including leaves, branches, and dry vegetation**
- **Create Horizontal Spacing Between Plants**
  - **Prevent fire from jumping plant to plant**
- **Remove Stumps, Logs, and Large Debris**
- **Trim Tree Branches Up to 6 Feet**
  - **Eliminate *ladder fuels* that allow fire to climb into tree canopies**

A well-managed Zone 2 increases your property's resilience to wildfire.



Key Requirements for All Zones

- Remove vegetation 10’ around propane tank.
- Address numbers to be displayed and minimum of 4” in size.
- Store wood piles as far away from structures as possible.
- Do not store flammable material under decks.
- Remove all trash and debris.



Vacant Properties & Means of Egress

Required Clearance for Safety:

All property owners **must maintain a 10-foot reduced fuel zone** along property lines that:

- Border or are adjacent to **buildings, structures, or dwellings**
- Are next to **evacuation routes or means of egress**, such as driveways, roads, or access paths

Purpose:
To reduce fire risk and ensure safe exit routes during emergencies.

City of Sonora Burn Permit Information



- **Location: 201 S. Shepherd St, Sonora, CA (During business hours)**
- **Availability: Issued after burn ban is lifted**
- **Fee: $60 (Valid for 1 year)**
- **Process:**
  - **Request permit at the fire station**
  - **Firefighters inspect the burn area for compliance**
  - **Permit issued upon approval**
- **Before Burning: Contact Air Pollution Control to confirm it's a burn day**

Green Waste Program



Green Waste Disposal Options – City of Sonora

- **Free Drop-Off Events**
  In partnership with Waste Management, the city offers free green waste drop-off at Cal Sierra Earth Resource Facility (East Sonora)
  (Typically held in November and April)
- **Curbside Pick-Up Service**
  Green waste pick-up available year-round for a fee

Visit the City of Sonora website for details and application https://sonoraca.com/

Defensible Space Project for Seniors & Disabled

- The Tuolumne Fire Safe Council received a **$879,000 CAL FIRE Climate Investment Grant** (2024–2029) to create defensible space for **low-income seniors (65+) and disabled residents** in Tuolumne County.
- **Countywide project**
- Focused on those unable to afford or perform the work
- Estimated impact: **425 structures / 302 acres** over 4 years

Protecting vulnerable residents and reducing wildfire risk.

For more information and how to apply please visit (TFSC) website @ https://tuolumnefiresafe.org/

Firewise USA® Community



Neighbors Working Together for Wildfire Safety

- Organize to **clear vegetation** and reduce fire risk
- Eligible for **home insurance discounts**
- **Strengthens community bonds**
- Currently, **only 2 communities** within city limits are Firewise recognized

Join the effort to make your neighborhood safer!

How to Report a Fire Safety Concern



1. **Talk to the Property Owner First**
   - Politely discuss the concern and allow time for correction
2. **If the Hazard Remains**
   - Contact the **Sonora Fire Department**:
     (209) 532-7432
3. **What to Expect**
   - Your **name and address will be collected (kept confidential)**
   - Provide the **address of the hazard**
   - **Both properties** (yours and the reported one) will be inspected
     - Ensures a fair and equitable process

Working together for a safer community!

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Approval of the City of Sonora Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2025.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Staff Recommends that the City Council Approve Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact on the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2025.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Fiscal Responsibility and Stability, Infrastructure and Engineering, Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness, Economic Development/Growth and General Plan, Homelessness Issues, Staffing - Salary, Benefits, Training, and Retention

Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

CITY OF SONORA
City Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
Monday, May 19, 2025
5:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on May 19, 2025, at 5:00 PM in the City of Sonora Council Chambers located at 94 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370.

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Mayor Ann Segerstrom

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill

Council Members Bess Levine, Stephen Opie, Mark Plummer

City Administrator Melissa Eads

City Attorney Douglas White

Vision Statement: With leadership and integrity, the City of Sonora commits to excellent service through collaboration and innovation

Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

CLOSED SESSION - 4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 4:02 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Mayor Ann Segerstrom
Vice Mayor Andy Merrill
Councilmember Bess Levine
Councilmember Stephen Opie
Councilmember Mark Plummer

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment.

ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54956.9(b): Two (2) Potential Cases; Douglas White, City Attorney, Chris Gorsky, Assistant City Administrator.

2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54956.9(b): Two (2) Potential Cases; Douglas White, City Attorney, Chris Gorsky, Assistant City Administrator, Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director, Carlye Buchholz, City Engineer.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION - 5:00 PM

Called to order at 5:00 PM.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Ann Segerstrom stated direction was given to staff.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vision Statement: With leadership and integrity, the City of Sonora commits to excellent service through collaboration and innovation

Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Mayor Ann Segerstrom
Vice Mayor Andy Merrill
Councilmember Bess Levine
Councilmember Stephen Opie
Councilmember Mark Plummer

CITY CLERK'S REPORT ON AGENDA POSTING

The Agenda was posted on Friday May 16, 2025, at 8:17 AM.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember Mark Plummer, Seconded by Vice Mayor Andy Merrill. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

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Mayor Ann Segerstrom thanked the Community Development Department for a fabulous first Farmers Market; and the Fire Safe Council and Office of Emergency Service (OES) has defensible space funding for low-income seniors and disabled residents, there is more information on their websites.

Councilmember Mark Plummer liked enlarging the footprint of the Farmers Market; and thanked the Community Development Department.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be voted on in one motion unless a Council member or member of the public has a question or wishes to discuss an item. In that case, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

3. Consider Approval of the City of Sonora Meeting Minutes from May 5, 2025; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.

4. Consider Acceptance of an Informational Report for April 2025 Accounts Payable Payment Register and Void Report; Chris Gorsky, Assistant City Administrator.

Vision Statement: With leadership and integrity, the City of Sonora commits to excellent service through collaboration and innovation

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5. Consider Approval of Disbursements in the Amount of $208,482.47 and $197,882.39 for Payroll, Including Employee Salaries, Employer and Employee Taxes, Retirement Contributions, Miscellaneous Voluntary Employee Deductions, Holiday Pay, and Other Adjustments, Including Retro-Pay; Tracy Skelly, Administrative Services Officer/City Clerk.

6. Consider Adoption of Resolution 05-19-2025-A, Authorizing Temporary "No Parking" Zones Along Certain City Streets During the 2025 Mother Lode Fair; Turu VanderWiel, Police Chief.

7. Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 05-19-2025-B Approving a List of Projects to Receive Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account Funding (RMRA); Carlye Buchholz, City Engineer.

   Motion made by Councilmember Bess Levine, Seconded by Vice Mayor Andy Merrill. Voting Yea: Mayor Ann Segerstrom, Vice Mayor Andy Merrill, Councilmember Bess Levine, Councilmember Stephen Opie, Councilmember Mark Plummer

COMMUNICATIONS

8. California State Treasurer Fiona Ma to Visit Sonora for Economic Town Hall.

9. PG&E Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS).

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Stephen Opie discussed the YES Council meeting; and the IRWM (Integrated Regional Water Management) meeting is cancelled for May.

Councilmember Bess Levine attended the Visit Tuolumne County Board meeting; and the Farmers Market.

Councilmember Mark Plummer attended the CalPride Sierra community forum; and TCTC (Tuolumne County Transportation Council).

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill attended TCTC (Tuolumne County Transportation Council); Solid Waste Committee meeting; the CalPride Sierra community forum; and the Farmers Market.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom attended the Peace Officer Memorial; and the Central Sierra Economic Development District Board meeting.

Lieutenant Hannula read a statement from the Police Department thanking the community and partnering agencies for a successful Mother Lode Round-UP Parade.

Mission Statement: To foster a safe, vibrant, and prosperous community that enhances the quality of life for all

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:17 PM.

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Richard S. York
Chairman

Tamera Blankenship
Executive Director

TUOLUMNE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Date: May 14, 2025

To: Sonora City Council

From: Tamera Blankenship, Executive Director
Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC)

Subject: Re-Appointment of Curtis Wicks to the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) as a Representative for the City of Sonora with a term to expire in May of 2029

Background:

The Citizen's Advisory Committee provides input to the TCTC on all matters relating to the regional transportation system. Membership of the CAC consists of eight total members with staggered four-year terms. The Sonora City Council appoints two members, and the County Board of Supervisors appoints six members. Each Board Member, with the exception of the District Four Supervisor, appoints one person from their respective district. The Board of Supervisors or Sonora City Council must approve their respective appointments.

Staff has received an application from Mr. Curtis Wicks for re-appointment to be a City of Sonora Representative. The term for this vacancy expires on May 31, 2025. Staff is requesting that the City Council re-appoint Mr. Wicks to a four-year term with an expiration date of May 31, 2029.

Recommendation:

Re-appoint Mr. Wicks as a City of Sonora representative for a four-year term expiring on May 31, 2025.

Attachment:

Application of Curtis Wicks for the re-appointment as a Representative for the City of Sonora for the Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC).

Tuolumne County Transportation Council
Citizen's Advisory Committee
2 South Green Street, Sonora, California, 95370
(209) 533-5603

Vacancy Applied For: TCTC/Citizen's Advisory Comm member

Name: Curtis Wicks **Phone:**

Address:

E-mail Address:

How long have you lived in Tuolumne County? 8 years

Name and Address of Present Employer: retired

Occupation: Aerospace Middle Leader

Briefly describe the qualifications you possess which you feel would be an asset to the Tuolumne County Transportation Council's committee/council for which you are applying. ***(Attach an extra page if needed)***

Member TCTC/CAC
2021-22 Tuolumne County Grand Jury

List any Community Organizations which you are or have been involved with and generally describe how you were involved in each. ***(Attach an extra page if needed)***

Managed Transportation services out of College for YMCA of Santa Clara County

I have sufficient time to devote to this responsibility and plan to attend the required meetings if I am appointed to fill a vacancy. I understand that if I am appointed to a committee where a Disclosure of Assets Statement is required by State Law or Tuolumne County Transportation Council Policy, I shall do so within ten (10) days of assuming office.

Signature [redacted] 4-2-25 ***Date***

Applications not acted upon will expire after two years from the date submitted unless renewed by applicant. Please notify staff at the above phone number if you decide you are unable to serve on the committee you applied for and you wish your application to become inactive prior to two years.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Mono Way Tree Removal Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an Update on the Removal of Trees on Mono Way by PG&E.

BACKGROUND:

PG&E is offering to perform tree removal and trimming work at its own expense along Mono Way. PG&E would prefer that all the trees (including those identified for trimming) be removed. Regardless of which option is selected (trimming vs removal), PG&E is offering that all work be completed at their cost. The trees to be removed are native oaks.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

City staff, including Mike Lagomarsino, Mike Pugh, and Gary Carlson, met with PG&E crews in the field to review the offer for tree trimming and removal. In evaluating the trees identified to be trimmed, the root structure on the downhill side of these trees have been undermined. Trimming the trees away from the power lines would result in the trees being imbalanced with a tendency to lean away from the Mono Way retaining wall (downhill) and would make them prone to falling downhill in the future. In light of this, the consensus among staff present at the meeting is to support the PG&E recommendation that all of the trees (trees identified for removal and trees identified for trimming) be removed.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact, this Project is being Funded by PG&E.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Mono Way Tree Removal Map
- Pictures

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

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SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Infrastructure and Engineering, Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness

Mono Way / Hospital Road PG&E Tree Removal



1 - Mandatory Tree Removal - One large oak tree, one large pine tree, one dying pine tree (Reference Pictures 7993 (Second Tree on Left), 7994, and 7996)
2 - Optional Tree Removal - Mandatory Trimming (Reference Pictures 7988, 7992, and 7993 (First Tree on Left))
3 - Mandatory Tree Removal - Seven oak trees (Reference Picture 7989 and 7990)
4- Mandatory Tree Removal - Six to Eight oak trees (Reverence Picture 7991)







CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Andy Merrill, City of Sonora Vice Mayor

SUBJECT: Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing the Month of June as Pride Month in the City of Sonora

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing the Month of June as Pride Month in the City of Sonora.

BACKGROUND:

Each year, the month of June is recognized across the United States as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in commemoration of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan, a pivotal event in the movement for LGBTQ+ rights. Pride Month is both a celebration of the progress made toward equality and a continued call to action to ensure the protection and inclusion of LGBTQ+ individuals in all aspects of civic life.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

By proclaiming June 2025 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month, the City Council acknowledges the historical and ongoing struggles faced by the LGBTQ+ community and affirms its commitment to fostering a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable environment for all.

The proclamation outlines the values of unity, respect, and equality, and encourages public recognition of the social and economic contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals in Sonora. Furthermore, it supports the rights of community members to peacefully assemble and celebrate through Pride-related events that contribute to the city's vibrant civic life.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proclamation Recognizing the Month of June as Pride Month.

A PROCLAMATION

OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF JUNE AS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, the members of the City Council of Sonora do hereby unite in solidarity and common goals to recognize, represent, honor, and celebrate the diversity, culture, civil rights, and liberties of ALL residents of the City of Sonora; and

WHEREAS, this nation was founded on the principle that every individual has infinite dignity and worth, and the City of Sonora calls upon the people of this municipality to embrace this principle and work to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists; and

WHEREAS, every person should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence, or hatred based on one's race, gender identity, and/or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sonora recognizes community members of all ages and races who may identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and/or Queer as a vital part of our society; and who must be protected by the same inalienable rights enshrined in our nation's Constitution that are enjoyed and shared by all; and

WHEREAS, embracing and respecting our individual expressions of identity as Americans furthers the belief of "E Pluribus Unum," of standing together with our friends, family, neighbors, community members, and visitors as a united people; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Sonora hereby recognizes the month of June 2025 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month so that we may further our goals of inclusivity, diversity, equity, and unity in our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of Sonora encourages and supports the First Amendment rights of our community, and the social and economic benefits of annual Pride events within the City.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 16th day of June of the year two thousand and twenty-five.

Signed _____ Attest _____

Ann Segerstrom, Mayor Tracy Skelly, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 2, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Gary Carlson, Interim/Acting Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 906- Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map

RECOMMENDATION:

Waive the First Reading, Read by Title Only, and Introduce Ordinance No. 906, Approval and Adoption of the 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map as Recommended by the California State Fire Marshal.

BACKGROUND:

Government Code Section 51178 requires the California State Fire Marshal to identify and recommend areas within the state as moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria. On March 10, 2025, the City received the 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) Map from the State Fire Marshal, identifying designated zones within the City's jurisdiction.

Government Code Section 51179 requires local agencies to adopt the fire hazard severity zone map designations by ordinance within 120 days of receiving the recommendations from the State Fire Marshal.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The City has not reduced or altered the fire hazard severity designations established by the State Fire Marshal, and this adoption is consistent with the model ordinance requirements by the State Fire Marshal. The City finds that the adoption of the map is in the interest of public safety, supports fire prevention and mitigation efforts, and ensures compliance with applicable state law.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with the Fire Hazard Severity Zone designation (FHSZ). However, these changes may result in future costs to the city as it evaluates and implements compliance measures aligned with state regulations and fire safety best practices. The scope and scale of the costs will depend on future Council direction, regulatory requirements, and implementation strategies.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A- Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map for the City of Sonora

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

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SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

Below is the Cal Fire Hazard Severity Zones Website with additional information:

https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness

ORDINANCE NO. 906

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA ADOPTING THE 2025 FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 51178 requires the California State Fire Marshal to identify and recommend areas within the state as moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 51179, local agencies are required to adopt the fire hazard severity zone designations within 120 days of receiving the recommendations from the State Fire Marshal; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2025, the Sonora Fire Department received the 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) Map from the State Fire Marshal, identifying designated zones within the city's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, information regarding the 2025 FHSZ Maps on a state-wide and county-by-county basis is available on the public website of the State Fire Marshal at https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones ; and

WHEREAS, the specific map for the City of Sonora is attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the city finds that adoption of the map is in the interest of public safety, supports fire prevention and mitigation efforts, and ensures compliance with applicable state law; and

WHEREAS, the city has not reduced or altered the fire hazard severity designations established by the State Fire Marshal, and this adoption is consistent with the model ordinance requirements by the State Fire Marshal.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SONORA CITY COUNCIL DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. **ADOPTION of 2025 FHSZ Maps.** The 2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map for the City of Sonora, recommended by the California State Fire Marshal for the City's service area, is adopted without change and incorporated herein as Exhibit A.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 3. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from and after its final passage and adoption, provided it is published in a newspaper of general circulation at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage or a summary of the Ordinance is published in a newspaper of general circulation at least five (5) days prior to adoption and again at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage.

SECTION 4. CERTIFICATION OF COUNCIL ADOPTION AND APPROVAL. This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council held on June 2, 2025, and passed and adopted as Ordinance No. 906 at a regular meeting of the City Council held on June 16, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT OR ABSTAIN: _____

_____
Ann Segerstrom, Mayor, City of Sonora

ATTEST: _____
Tracy Skelly, City Clerk, City of Sonora

Approved as to Form:

_____
Douglas L. White, City Attorney

Publish: The Union Democrat, Sonora
_____, 2025

Attachment A.

