



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, May 04, 2026
5:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on May 4, 2026, 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 nmccutchen@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 Christopher Gorsky

City Attorney Douglas White

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



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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—Consideration of Initiation of Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4)) (one matter); Douglas White, City Attorney, Chris Gorsky, City Administrator, 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. 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 Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2026; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.

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B. Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026); Ann Segerstrom, Mayor.

C. Consider Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025/26, for the period ended March 31, 2026; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Approval of Resolution 05-4-2026-A Recognizing and Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the City of Sonora's Incorporation; and

Receive a Presentation from Pat Perry on the History of Sonora.

14. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

15. 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, nmccutchen@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: May 4, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Approval of the Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2026.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Staff Recommends the City Council Approve the Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2026.

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



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**CITY OF SONORA
City Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026
5:00 PM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sonora City Council will have their regular meeting on April 20, 2026, 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 nmccutchen@sonoraca.com.

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Mayor Ann Segerstrom

Vice Mayor Andy Merrill

Council Members Bess Levine, Stephen Opie, Mark Plummer

City Administrator Christopher Gorsky

City Attorney Douglas White

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CLOSED SESSION - 4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 4:03 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—Consideration of Initiation of Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4)) (one matter); Douglas White, City Attorney, Chris Gorsky, City Administrator, Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director.
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Liability Claim - Pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54956.95: One (1) Potential Case, Claimant: Andrews; Agency Claimed Against: City of Sonora; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

OPEN SESSION - 5:00 PM

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Ann Segerstrom stated direction was given to staff.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Bess Levine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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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, April 17, 2026, at 9:34 am.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

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.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce thanked the Public Works Team for their work at the Opera Hall; and the next Mixer is Tuesday, April 21st at the Bank of Stockton.

A member of the League of Women Voters addressed the Council.

Andy Carter Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC) and Tuolumne County Transit Agency (TCTA) gave an update to the Council.

Kathryn Baker addressed the Council.

PRESENTATIONS

3. Recognize and Thank Administrative Services Officer Tracy Skelly for her Dedicated Service to the City of Sonora and Extend Best Wishes Upon her Retirement; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator.

Chris Gorsky City Administrator recognized and thanked Tracy Skelly for her service; and presented her with a Certificate of Recognition.

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Tracy Skelly Administrative Services Officer addressed the Council.

Councilmembers expressed warm remarks.

4. Receive an Update from the President of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce Katie Dunn; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce presented the results of the 2025 Sonora Chamber of Commerce Event Survey; and reviving the historic tradition of the All-American Soap Box Derby, April 24, 2027.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce introduced Brad Smith and Shawn Vessels with Northern California Soap Box Derby.

Brad Smith discussed with the Council the Tuolumne City Soap Box Derby from 2010-2017.

Councilmember Stephen Opie excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce continued with the presentation.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce invited Shawn Vessels to the lectern.

Shawn Vessels discussed the proposed race route with the Council.

Brad Smith added additional information.

Katie Dunn Executive Director of the Sonora Chamber of Commerce continued with the presentation and discussed with the Council.

Brad Smith and the Councilmembers continued to discuss.

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.

5. Consider Approval of the Meeting Minutes from March 30, 2026 (Special) and April 6, 2026; Stacy Enos-Del Razo, Deputy City Clerk.
6. Approve a Proclamation Recognizing April 19-25, 2026, as California Cities Week in the City of Sonora; Ann Segerstrom, Mayor.

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7. Consider Acceptance of an Informational Report for March 2026 Accounts Payable Payment Register and Void Report; Chris Gorsky, City Administrator
8. Consider Acceptance of Disbursements in the Amount of \$206,476.62 and \$233,161.04 for Payroll, Including Employee Salaries, Employer and Employee Taxes, Retirement Contributions, Miscellaneous Voluntary Employee Deductions, Holiday Pay, and Other Adjustments, Including Retro-Pay; Nicole McCutchen, Administrative Services Officer.

No public comment.

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 Mark Plummer

Councilmember Stephen Opie was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Consider Approval for the Bid in the Amount of \$99,110.00 from Cornerstone Construction to Paint and Complete General Maintenance of the City of Sonora Fire Station and Authorize the City Administrator to Execute the Agreement; Brittan Gregory, Fire Chief.

Brittan Gregory Fire Chief presented the bid to paint and complete general maintenance to the fire house.

Councilmembers asked questions and discussed.

No public comment.

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

Councilmember Stephen Opie was absent.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Stephen Opie was absent.

Councilmember Bess Levine attended the Visit Tuolumne County Marketing meeting.

Councilmember Mark Plummer attended Tuolumne County Transportation Council (TCTC).

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Vice Mayor Andy Merrill shared personal news; and the Columbia Orchestra and Choir are performing Friday at 7:00 pm and Saturday at 2:00 pm.

Mayor Ann Segerstrom attended TCTC; Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO); was interviewed by mymotherlode.com; attended the Modesto State of the City; and volunteered at the Old Mill Run.

Councilmember Bess Levine made additional comments on the early years of Soap Box Derby.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:25 pm.

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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: May 4, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Ann Segerstro, City of Sonora Mayor

SUBJECT: Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026).

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026).

BACKGROUND:

Tourism plays a vital role in the economic vitality of the City of Sonora, Tuolumne County, and the surrounding Mother Lode Region. Visitors support local businesses, restaurants, lodging establishments, retail shops, cultural attractions, and recreational destinations, generating revenue and employment opportunities throughout the community.

The State of California recognizes May as California Tourism Month, highlighting the importance of travel and tourism to the state's economy and communities. In addition, National Travel and Tourism Week is celebrated annually to recognize the contributions of the travel industry and its positive impact on local economies nationwide.

Visit Tuolumne County serves as the destination marketing organization for the region and works to promote Tuolumne County as a premier travel destination through advertising, partnerships, visitor services, and tourism development efforts. Their work helps attract visitors to Sonora and the surrounding area, supporting local economic growth and showcasing the region's unique history, outdoor recreation, arts, and hospitality.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The proposed Proclamation recognizes the importance of tourism to the City of Sonora and acknowledges the efforts of Visit Tuolumne County, local businesses, hospitality professionals, and community partners who contribute to a welcoming visitor experience.

Recognition of California Tourism Month and National Travel and Tourism Week provides an opportunity to celebrate the positive impact of tourism, encourage continued collaboration, and thank those who help promote Sonora and Tuolumne County as outstanding destinations to visit.



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Representatives from Visit Tuolumne County may be present at the meeting to accept the Proclamation and share brief remarks regarding tourism initiatives and regional visitor activity.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proclamation Recognizing National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026).

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

A PROCLAMATION

Item B.

OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA
National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California
Tourism Month (May 2026)

WHEREAS, National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026) provide an opportunity to recognize the importance of the travel and tourism industry and the positive impact it has on Tuolumne County and the City of Sonora; and

WHEREAS, The travel and tourism industry is a vital contributor to the economy of Tuolumne County and the City of Sonora, generating significant revenue, creating jobs, and supporting local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to the City of Sonora, in 2025, directly contributed \$497,753 of Transient Occupancy Tax dollars into the City's revenue; and

WHEREAS, The tourism sector also generated \$25.2 million in total state and local tax revenue in 2025, which supports emergency and essential services; and

WHEREAS, Visitors to Tuolumne County contributed \$304 million to local accommodations, shops, dining establishments, and recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, The tourism industry provided employment for over 4,000 individuals directly and supported thousands more through indirectly related industries and jobs; and

WHEREAS, Travel enables success for all industries—including manufacturing, agriculture, utilities, services, automotive, healthcare and more—by driving sales growth, innovation, education, and operations that power our economy; and

WHEREAS, The natural beauty, cultural heritage, and recreational opportunities of Tuolumne County attract visitors from around the world, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Sonora hereby proclaims National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, National Travel and Tourism Week, May 3-9, 2026, and California Tourism Month (May 2026) provide an opportunity to recognize the importance of the travel and tourism industry and the positive impact it has on Tuolumne County and the City of Sonora.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed this 18th Day May of the year two thousand and twenty-six.

Signed _____

Ann Segerstrom, Mayor

Attest _____

Nicole McCutchen, 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: May 04, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Chris Gorsky, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Consider Acceptance of the Quarterly Investment Report for the Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025/26, for the period ended March 31, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend that the City Council receive and file this Quarterly Investment Report for informational purposes. No further action is required at this time, as the portfolio remains in compliance with all applicable policies and regulations. This report fulfills the reporting requirements under California Government Code Section 53601 and City policy.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sonora maintains an investment portfolio to manage surplus funds generated from taxes, fees, grants, and other revenues. The portfolio is governed by the City's Investment Policy, last updated and adopted by the City Council on January 15, 2024, which emphasizes the principles of safety, liquidity, and return in that order of priority. Investments are limited to those authorized under California Government Code Section 53601.

This quarterly report is prepared to provide transparency on the status of the City's investments, as required by the City's Investment Policy. The portfolio's performance is benchmarked against indicators such as the LAIF apportionment rate and short-term U.S. Treasury yields.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The City's investment portfolio as of March 31, 2026, totaled \$22,452,239 in market value. The portfolio is well diversified, with a heavy allocation to highly liquid assets like LAIF (33%) to ensure funds are readily available for operational and capital needs.

Key performance metrics include:

- **Quarterly Earnings:** The City earned \$104,353 in investment income this quarter, primarily from LAIF, money market funds, and other short-term holdings. Earnings remained steady, consistent with stable short-term market rates.
- **Year to Date Earnings:** \$524,459.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

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- **Rate of Return:** The weighted average yield to maturity was 4.0%. This annualized rate aligns closely with the LAIF benchmark of 4.2% and the 3-month U.S. Treasury Bill rate of 3.61%. No unrealized losses exceeded 1% of book value, indicating low volatility.

The following table details the holdings by investment type, and market values. Earnings are accrued and include interest income and any amortization or accretion. Market values are sourced from reliable providers such as the State Treasurer's Office or custodian reports.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The quarterly earnings of \$104,353 contribute positively to the City's General Fund and other funds, providing additional revenue for operations without increasing taxes or fees. Fiscal Year 2025-26 earnings total approximately \$524,459, which supports budgetary flexibility and helps offset inflationary pressures on expenditures. There are no negative fiscal impacts noted; the portfolio's conservative approach is to minimize risk. Future rate changes could affect yields, but the current structure ensures stability.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ending March 31, 2026

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

Quarterly Investment Report For the Quarter Ending: March 31, 2026

Investment Type	Issuer/Institution	Purchase Date	Maturity Date	Market Value	Interest Rate	Days to Maturity
Cash						
Checking Account	Bank of Stockton	Various	Liquid	\$610,616	0.50%	-
State Pooled Investments						
LAIF Pooled Investment Fund	CA State Treasurer	Various	Liquid	\$7,356,665	4.20%	254
Pension Trust						
CalPERS 115 Trust Account	CalPERS	Various	Restricted	\$1,297,272	-1.00%	-
Money Market Accounts						
Money Market	Bank of Stockton	Various	Liquid	\$6,044,209	3.36%	-
FDIC Insured Sweeps	Bank of Stockton	Various	Liquid	\$2,020,637	3.65%	-
Certificate of Deposit						
Northpointe Bank CD	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	08/05/26	\$245,000	4.01%	401
Luana Savings CD	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	11/03/26	\$245,000	3.85%	491
KS Statebank CD	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	02/05/27	\$245,000	3.89%	585
First Bank CD	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	05/07/26	\$245,000	3.91%	311
Government Bonds						
Federal Farm Credit U.S. Gov. Agency Bond	Bank of Stockton	05/07/25	07/23/29	\$499,883	4.51%	1484
Federal Home Loans Bond	Bank of Stockton	03/18/26	03/24/31	\$697,163	4.60%	2093
Municipal Bonds						
California State University Bonds	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	11/01/30	\$114,869	6.43%	1950
Fresno California Water System Bonds	Bank of Stockton	03/03/26	06/01/30	\$155,931	6.50%	1797
Los Angeles Community College	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	08/01/29	\$215,202	7.53%	1493
Riverside Water Revenue Bonds	Bank of Stockton	02/06/26	10/01/29	\$153,907	6.50%	1554
Corporate Bonds						
United Health Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	01/15/30	\$101,203	4.80%	1660
State Street Bank Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	11/23/29	\$101,606	4.78%	1607
Pacific Corp Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	06/15/29	\$96,183	3.94%	1446
Hershey Company Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	02/24/30	\$101,514	4.75%	1700
Blackstone Regional Bond	Bank of Stockton	02/09/26	11/03/30	\$196,854	4.37%	1952
Walt Disney Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	03/22/30	\$98,121	3.87%	1726
Conoco Phillips Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	10/01/27	\$99,046	3.79%	823
Centerpointe Energy Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	03/15/30	\$101,280	4.80%	1719
Howard University Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	10/01/30	\$78,228	3.85%	1919
Archer Daniels Midland Bond	Bank of Stockton	04/01/25	03/27/30	\$95,850	3.39%	1731
Mutual Funds						
Vanguard Short Term Federal	Bank of Stockton	Various	-	\$1,236,000	3.85%	-

Total City Portfolio: \$22,452,239

Total Investment Income FY25-26 (All Funds): \$524,459

Compliance: All investments are in compliance with the City's Investment Policy and Government Code Section 53601



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: May 4, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Chris Gorsky, City Administrator; Pat Perry, City Historian

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Resolution No. 05-4-2026-A Recognizing and Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the City of Sonora's Incorporation; and

Receive a Presentation from Pat Perry on the History of Sonora.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Approval of Resolution 05-4-2026-A Recognizing and Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the City of Sonora's Incorporation; and

Receive a Presentation from Pat Perry on the History of Sonora.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sonora was officially incorporated on May 1, 1851, during the early years of California statehood and the Gold Rush era. As one of California's earliest incorporated cities, Sonora has a rich and distinguished history that reflects the perseverance, character, and community spirit of its residents.

Over the past 175 years, the City has grown and evolved while preserving its historic character and continuing to provide essential services to residents and businesses. This milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on Sonora's history, recognize the contributions of past and present community members, and celebrate the City's continued vitality.

The City has also received a proclamation from Governor Gavin Newsom and David Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District recognizing this significant anniversary.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The proposed resolution formally recognizes the 175th Anniversary of the City's incorporation and expresses appreciation to the many individuals who have contributed to the City's development and success over time.

This recognition is consistent with similar actions taken by other municipalities to commemorate significant anniversaries. Adoption of the resolution provides an opportunity for the City Council and community to acknowledge this milestone and to celebrate Sonora's history and future.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

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FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution No. 05-4-2026-A
- Congressional Record – Recognizing the City of Sonora's 175th Anniversary
- Letter of Recognition from Gavin Newsom, Governor of California
- Letter of Recognition from David Tangipa, Assemblymember, 8th District
- Certificate of Recognition from Senator Marie Alverado-Gil

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Fiscal Responsibility and Stability, Infrastructure and Engineering, Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness, Economic Development/Growth and General Plan.

RESOLUTION 05-04-2026-A

A RESOLUTION OF THE SONORA CITY COUNCIL COMMEMORATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY'S INCORPORATION ON MAY 1, 1851

WHEREAS, the City of Sonora was officially incorporated on May 1, 1851, making it one of the oldest incorporated cities in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, Sonora's rich history is rooted in the California Gold Rush, serving as a center of commerce, culture, and community in Tuolumne County; and

WHEREAS, for 175 years, the City of Sonora has grown and evolved while maintaining its historic character, strong sense of community, and commitment to public service; and

WHEREAS, generations of residents, businesses, and civic leaders have contributed to the City's development, resilience, and continued success; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of preserving its history while continuing to plan for a vibrant and sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, the 175th Anniversary provides an opportunity to celebrate Sonora's past, honor those who have shaped the community, and reaffirm the City's commitment to serving its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Sonora hereby recognizes and celebrates the 175th Anniversary of the City's incorporation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council expresses its appreciation to all past and present residents, employees, and leaders whose dedication has contributed to the City's enduring legacy; and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City encourages the community to join in commemorating this milestone and to reflect on Sonora's history and future.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED as a Resolution by the Sonora City Council at a meeting held by the City Council on the 4th day of May 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

ABSENT: _____

Ann Segerstrom, Mayor, City of Sonora

ATTEST: _____
Nicole McCutchen, City Clerk, City of Sonora



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

TOM MCCLINTOCK
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FIFTH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

MAY 1, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF SONORA'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HONORABLE TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2026

M. Speaker

It is my distinct honor to extend my warmest congratulations to the City of Sonora as they celebrate the 175th anniversary of their incorporation on May 1, 2026.

Following their origins as a gold rush mining settlement in 1848 and their incorporation in 1851 as one of California's earliest cities, Sonora has stood as a testament to the pioneering spirit that shaped our state. As the 11th city to be incorporated, the Sonora community holds a proud place in California's rich history, one forged during a time when determination, enterprise, and self-governance laid the foundation for generations to come.

Over the past 175 years, Sonora has preserved that legacy while continuing to grow as a vibrant and enduring community. The city reflects the best of our state's heritage: a deep respect for tradition, a commitment to local governance, and a resilient spirit that endures through changing times.

This milestone is not only a celebration of the past, but also a recognition of the citizens, leaders, and families who have carried Sonora forward with pride and purpose. It is a reminder that strong communities are built not by government alone, but by the character and dedication of the people who call them home.

On behalf of the people of California's 5th Congressional District, I commend the city on this remarkable achievement and wish them continued prosperity in the years ahead.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 1, 2026

175th Anniversary of the City of Sonora

On behalf of the state of California, I am pleased to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Sonora, as the state also commemorates 175 years of statehood and the nation commemorates 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The City of Sonora has stood as a testament to resilience, heritage, and community. As the 11th city incorporated in California on May 1, 1851, Sonora remains an integral part of the Golden State's rich history. Founded during the California Gold Rush by miners from Sonora, Mexico, Sonora has grown from a mining settlement into a vibrant and enduring community. Known as the "Queen of Southern Mines," Sonora played a central role as an economic and civic hub of the Mother Lode region.

The City of Sonora's proximity to the nearby state forest and national park, the city's natural beauty, and its charming historic downtown continue to attract visitors. Over the years, Sonora has not only preserved this rich history serving as an economic center for miners, it has also evolved into a regional epicenter for community life, cultural heritage, and local commerce in the Sierra foothills.

On this occasion, California joins the City of Sonora in commemorating this momentous occasion. I am wishing all the residents of Sonora a joyous 175th anniversary.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

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P.O. BOX 942849
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DISTRICT OF Item A.
6245 N FRESNO STREET, SUITE 106
FRESNO, CA 93710
(559) 446-2029
FAX (559) 446-2028

April 21, 2026

Mayor Ann Segerstrom
City of Sonora
94 Washington St.
Sonora, CA, 95370

Dear Mayor Segerstrom,

I am delighted to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the City of Sonora on reaching its 175th Anniversary. This historic milestone is an outstanding achievement deserving of recognition and celebration.

Over the last 175 years, the City of Sonora has overcome adversity on many fronts and achieved success at every level. The last 175 years in Sonora, California have been marked with modern innovation and a commitment to upholding Californian history that has defined Sonoran culture. I commend the Sonoran Redevelopment Agency for your dedication to restoring and celebrating historic Sonora and showcasing early Californian establishment.

The City of Sonora embodies the spirit of early Californians and continues to be a pinnacle of resilience. As one of the oldest cities in California, Sonora continues to symbolize the strength of Californians and stands as a living monument to the establishment of the state and early mining.

It is with enthusiasm that I offer my congratulations to the City of Sonora and its tireless leaders for achieving 175 years of service to Sonoran residents and visitors. I am honored to recognize and celebrate this milestone with you and wish you the best of success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Tangipa", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Tangipa
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 8th DISTRICT



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

City of Sonora
Celebrating 175 Years

On behalf of the California State Senate, I would like to congratulate and recognize the City of Sonora on the occasion of its 175th Anniversary of Incorporation.

For more than a century and a half, the City of Sonora has stood as a cornerstone of Tuolumne County and California's historic Gold Country. From its early beginnings during the Gold Rush to its present-day role as a vibrant center of commerce, culture, and community life, Sonora has demonstrated enduring resilience, civic pride, and a strong commitment to its residents.

Sonora continues to contribute to the economic vitality, cultural heritage, and regional identity of the Sierra, reflecting the strength and spirit of its community.

Congratulations on this remarkable milestone.

Presented on this Day

May 1, 2026

Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil

FOURTH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE