



City of Sonora
"Queen of the Southern Mines"
94 N. Washington Street
Sonora, CA 95370

Area Code 209
Administrator.....532-6115
Administration.....532-4541
Finance532-6331
Building/Planning.....532-3508
Police532-8143
Fire.....532-7432
Public Works532-2922
Cemetery532-4492
Opera Hall.....532-7725
www.sonoraca.com

September 8, 2020

To the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors,

As the governing body for the City of Sonora, we recognize the importance of collaboration in providing fire services for every resident of Tuolumne County. Fires in Tuolumne County do not respect jurisdictional boundaries and the demand for fire services continues to increase while expenses for these services continue to outpace revenue, compelling us to work closely with our fellow districts and departments.

It is our understanding that the County is considering possible options for submitting a parcel tax for fire services to the voters in the spring of 2021. We also understand that attorneys from Tuolumne County, Groveland Community Services District, and our City Attorneys, are working together to develop a recommendation about which mechanism would be best to enable one single ballot measure for all Tuolumne County voters. Furthermore, it is our understanding that should a parcel tax be approved by the voters, the revenue collected would be distributed to those districts participating in the tax measure based on the number of parcels in each district.

To that end, it is our intent to:

- Join the effort in developing one unified ballot measure for a special parcel tax for fire services in spring 2021;
- Agree to the attorney-recommended mechanism that allows for that unified ballot measure;
- Share the cost of the special election based on the number of registered voters in our district;
- Commit to participating in a coordinated public education campaign for the ballot measure, once it is approved; and
- Continue to collaborate and share resources, where feasible, through a Joint Powers Authority Agreement or other recommended mechanism, after the parcel tax has been placed on the ballot.

We look forward to the developing partnership with the City, County and Fire Districts to enhance fire protection and preventions services.

Sincerely,

City of Sonora City Council

Matt Hawkins, City of Sonora Mayor