



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: July 20, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Community Development Department Update- April, May, June 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Receive the City of Sonora Community Development Department Quarterly Report for April, May, and June 2026.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The following activities were undertaken by the Community Development Department:

DAILY ACTIVITIES

- Walk in permits / citizen/contractor customer service and assistance.
- Answer Phones
- Staff Office hours
- Issue Permits—Construction, Solar, Special Event, Banner, Planning, Encroachment, etc.
- Plan reviews
- Conduct Inspections (Tuesdays and Thursdays)
- Expired Permits / Permit Maintenance.
- Legislative watch – (See attached Legislative Update)

SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

Special Event Permits/Film Permits for the following Community Events:

1. Special Event Permit(s): N/A
2. Film Permit: N/A



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FARMERS MARKET

- The 2026 Market season is open! The first 2 months has seen a strong start with good vendor and community participation.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Code enforcement continues to support Administration (Business Licenses), Building (Permits), Police Department (abandoned vehicles) and Fire Department (Defensible Space)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) MANAGEMENT

- Sonora Fire Resources CDBG grant has been fully closed out.
- An application for re-habilitating 290 S. Stewart Street was submitted for Funding. HCD has made several follow-up inquiries on our application and staff is cautiously optimistic that the project may be selected for funding.

ORDINANCE UPDATE(S)

- A Tobacco Retail License Ordinance was adopted in June.

PLANNING COMMISSION

- April Meeting- The Safety Element was reviewed and recommended to City Council for Adoption. Additionally, Ordinance 916—Tobacco Retail License was heard by the Planning Commissioners. They recommended to City Council that waiving of the license fee be considered.
- May Meeting- Cancelled
- June Meeting—A Use Permit Application for Knowles Hill Bed and Breakfast was continued to the July Planning Commission meeting.

SO BEAUTIFUL (Community Beautification Program)

- All ten (10) pieces of art have been placed in downtown Sonora business windows. The program is being considered in the Economic Development Plan as a way to beautify downtown Sonora in a financially feasible manner.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Przybyla Advisors has a draft plan being prepared for consideration by City Council. The plan is being scheduled to come before City Council in August with projects identified for funding consideration.

GOLD RUSH PATH

- Preparation of the Environmental document for the project has been a big lift. An Initial Study was prepared with a Mitigated Negative Declaration likely as the appropriate level of environmental analysis.



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The City went before the California Transportation Commission in June to extend project deadlines. The request was granted. After adopting the Environmental document for the project, the team will begin work on the next phase of project development—PSE, Plans, Specifications and Estimates.

ANCHOR PROJECT

- This is a major Caltrans project being planned for 2030. It is a complete streets safety project that will stretch from Jamestown through downtown Sonora, terminating at Steffen Road. Staff is participating in Project Development Team meetings to help guide the development of this project through Sonora.

SONORA AREA FOUNDATION GRANT

- The City held a ribbon cutting event for the new Woods Creek Playground surfacing on June 1, to celebrate the Sonora Area Foundation gift to the City/Community.

USE PERMIT

- There is one active Use Permit, submitted on behalf of Knowles Hill Bed and Breakfast requesting an expansion of the current B&B use allow for special events and tea/Lunch servings by reservation.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) APPLICATIONS

- Applications for two City projects were submitted. One for:
 1. Sonora Moves— The project aims to enhance community walkability and bikeability by creating convenient connections from downtown, including ADA-compliant pedestrian and bicycle routes from public parking on S Stewart Street to the transit hub and Tuolumne Heritage Trail Phase 1 at S Green Street and SR 49 (Stockton). The east block of Linoberg Street from S Stewart to SR 49 (Washington) will be a Class I path and plaza. On west Linoberg, on-street parking will be removed between SR 49 (Washington) and S Green to install a Class I path, preserving one-way motorized travel for emergency vehicles headed to the police station.
 2. Downtown Sidewalks-- The Downtown Sidewalk Improvement Project focuses on repairing the sidewalks along Washington Street (from Stockton Street to Dodge), which are currently in poor condition yet heavily trafficked. Beyond rehabilitating the sidewalks and making ADA improvements, the project will implement traffic calming measures from the Vision Sonora plan.

ENCROACHMENT PERMITS (Caltrans)

- N/A

BUILDING UPDATE (Building Official, Brian Odom)



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- See Legislative Update, attached

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact, for information purposes only

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

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