



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 18, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Community Development Department Update- January, February and March 2026

RECOMMENDATION

Receive the Community Development Departments Quarterly Report for January, February and March 2026.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The following activities were undertaken by the Community Development Department:

DAILY ACTIVITIES

- Answer Phones
- Staff Office hours
- Issue Permits—Construction, Solar, Special Event, Banner, Planning, Encroachment, etc
- Conduct Inspections (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

SPECIAL EVENT PERMITS

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

1. Special Event Permit(s): N/A
2. Film Permit: Backroads Culture, various Sonora locations

FARMERS MARKET

- City Council adopted a resolution to close Stewart Street on Saturdays to accommodate an expanded Farmers Market. Additionally, the Market season was elongated to stretch through the end of October, with a possible holiday market in November. Applications for market were updated for the 2026 season,



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website was updated accordingly. Market manager and Market assistant contracts were executed. Fielding inquiries from interested Market participants.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

- Code enforcement is helping to lead implementation efforts of the shopping cart ordinance and sidewalk encroachment permits.
- 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 in final closeout. Staff working with State HCD to get all submittals approved.
- An application for re-habilitating 290 S. Stewart Street was submitted for Funding. Awards will be made in the Fall.

ORDINANCE UPDATE(S)

- A Tobacco Retail License Ordinance is being drafted in partnership with County Public Health and the Blue Zones Project. Staff is reviewing the initial draft. The draft ordinance will come to City Council for consideration in the second quarter of 2026.

PLANNING COMMISSION

- January Meeting- Cancelled
- February Meeting- Ordinance 908—Overlay Zone to support the Housing Element Update certification was recommended for approval.
- March Meeting—A Development Agreement to extend the life of the Cuesta Heights subdivision was considered and ultimately recommended for approval.

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



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- Przybyla Advisors has a draft plan being prepared for consideration by City Council. The plan is being planned for release ahead of budget discussions so that projects identified can compete for discretionary funding in the budget process.

GOLD RUSH PATH

- 60% Design documents for the 1.5-mile multi-use path have been issued. The Environmental document for the project is being prepared for consideration and approval by Caltrans.

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 was awarded \$60,000 from Sonora Area Foundation to re-surface the playground at Woods Creek Park. This project was originally part of the Pickleball court improvements but due to a lack of funding was eliminated. Sonora Area Foundation has provided the City the needed funding to deliver the project. Anticipated for delivery in May.

USE PERMIT

- N/A

HOUSING ELEMENT

- Ordinance 908 was approved by City Council in March 2026. This was the final step in seeking certification for the City's Housing Element.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (ATP) APPLICATIONS

- The City will re-submit its Sonora Moves application to the State ATP program in June. The application narrowly missed funding in the last cycle and is expected to compete well. Staff de-briefed with California Transportation Commission staff on the application.



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- One additional project is being considered—Downtown Sidewalk replacement. This project is being analyzed to see how well it will compete.

ENCROACHMENT PERMITS (Caltrans)

- N/A

BUILDING UPDATE (Building Official, Brian Odom)

- 367 Building Permits Issued
- 523 Inspections
- 148 Final Inspections
- 30 New Business Occupancy Inspections
- 2 Food Truck Approvals
- 4 Certificate of Occupancies issued:
 1. 210 Stockton Rd. - Harvest Church
 2. 850 Sanguenetti - Physical Therapy
 3. 154 Stockton Rd. – Blaze Wings
 4. 940 Sylvan Ln. – Health Education Center (MACT)

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

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