



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: September 21, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Tyler Summersett, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Submit a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the City of Sonora Parking Lots Improvement Project, Utilizing Class 1 (Existing Facilities) and Class 11 (Accessory Structures) Exemptions

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Giving Direction to Staff to Submit a Notice of Exemption, Utilizing Class 1 and 11 Exemptions, with the Office of Planning and Research and the County Clerk as the Appropriate Level of Environmental Document for the City of Sonora Parking Lots Improvement Project.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Sonora's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) identifies priority projects City-wide that are intended for improvement/investment. The parking lots at Lyons and Stewart and Stewart and Church are in the CIP and have been prioritized for funding. In August the City advertised an invitation to bid on re-constructing both lots. At the September 8, 2026 City Council meeting a contract with Taylor Backhoe Service was approved. This project requires submittal of an environmental document to the State Clearinghouse consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act guidelines.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The parking lots improvement project qualifies for two (2) exemptions, both listed below:

Class 1, Section 15301 Existing Facilities

Reasons why project is exempt: Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.

Class 11, Section 15311 Accessory Structures

Class 11 consists of construction, or replacement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, including, but not limited to (b) small parking lots.

The exemptions exist for projects such as the City's parking lot projects and help expedite delivery of projects in areas that have already been significantly disturbed and where no change of use is proposed. Staff will submit the attached Notice of Exemption to CEQA.net for posting.



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FISCAL IMPACT:

Filing a Notice of Exemption can be done electronically and is expected to cost less than \$200.

ATTACHMENTS:

Notice of Exemption

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

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