



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 8, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Brittan Gregory, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Consider Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Sonora and the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians Pertaining to Assistance Under the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System for the Dove Fire, and Authorize the City Administrator to Execute the Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Sonora and the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians Pertaining to Assistance Under the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System for the Dove Fire, and Authorize the City Administrator to Execute the Agreement.

BACKGROUND:

On July 26, 2026, extreme fire conditions, including strong winds and low humidity, contributed to a fire that swept through the region, referred to as the "Dove Fire." On that same day, a Presidential Declaration of Emergency (FEMA-5652-FM-CA) was issued in connection with the fire. Pursuant to the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, the Fire Chief of the City of Sonora, serving as the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator, requested mutual aid assistance from the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians. These agencies provided fire personnel, equipment, and materials from July 28, 2026 through August 1, 2026, to assist with fire suppression and emergency protective services in connection with the Dove Fire.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System is issued and revised under the authority of Sections 8550, 8569, 8615 through 8619, and 8668 of the California Government Code, the California Emergency Plan, and the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. It establishes the standard procedures used to request and coordinate fire service mutual aid resources when an emergency cannot be resolved by a single fire agency within an Operational Area.

The attached Memorandum of Agreement formalizes the mutual aid assistance provided during the Dove Fire and obligates the City of Sonora to reimburse the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians



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

for all reasonable costs associated with their fire service mutual aid assistance. Each participating agency has agreed to document its respective costs and submit them to the City as attachments to the Agreement.

Staff recommend that the City Council approve the Agreement and authorize the City Administrator to execute it on behalf of the City. Approval of the Agreement ensures the City honors its mutual aid obligations, supports continued regional cooperation among fire service partners, and allows the participating agencies to be reimbursed for the resources they committed during the Dove Fire.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total reimbursement cost to the City is not yet determined and will be based on the documented mutual aid assistance costs submitted by the Twain Harte Community Services District, the Mi-Wuk Sugar Pine Fire Protection District, the Tuolumne County Fire Department, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians. Because the Dove Fire was covered by a Presidential Declaration of Emergency (FEMA-5652-FM-CA), a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) has been approved for the fire, and the City intends to pursue reimbursement of these costs through that grant and other applicable state and federal disaster assistance programs.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Memorandum of Agreement Pertaining to Assistance Under the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System (Dove Fire).

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Public Safety.