

ORDINANCE NO. XXX

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA AMENDING
CHAPTER 12.20, SHADE TREES AND SHRUBS, OF TITLE 12, STREETS AND
SIDEWALKS, OF THE SONORA MUNICIPAL CODE TO DISSOLVE THE CITY TREE
AND LANDSCAPING BOARD**

WHEREAS, Chapter V of the Sonora City Council Rules and Procedures authorizes the Sonora City Council (“City Council”) to establish committees by ordinance or resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Sonora City Council formed the City Tree and Landscaping Board (“Board”) by Ordinance, including it in several provisions of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12, Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board was formed to develop and administer a written plan for trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas and to review landscaping plans for new development; and

WHEREAS, the Board is comprised of the City Council subcommittee on parks, recreation and beautification and other members of the public appointed by the mayor; and

WHEREAS, there are no City Council or public members assigned to the Board and there is no record of recent Board activity; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2025, the City Council discussed the dissolution of the Board; and

WHEREAS, during that discussion, the City Council recommended dissolution of the Board to streamline City operations and reduce unnecessary bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, during that same discussion, the City Council agreed to dissolve the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Committee which is part of the Board and intends to adopt a resolution to do so; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now intends to dissolve the Board through the amendment of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code by replacing all references to the Board with ‘the City Administrator or their designee’; and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends to remove all references to the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Committee within Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code.

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 12.20.030, Creation and Establishment of a City Tree and Landscaping Board, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, is hereby repealed in its entirety and reserved for future use.

SECTION 2. Section 12.20.040, Duties and Responsibilities, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.040 which shall read as follows:

12.20.040 - Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the City Administrator or their designee ~~board~~ to study, investigate, counsel and develop and/or update ~~annually as needed~~, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas. As may be directed by the city council, ~~s~~Such plan will be presented ~~annually~~ to the city council and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree and landscape plan for the city. The ~~board~~ City Administrator or their designee, when requested by the city council, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.

SECTION 3. Section 12.20.050, Street Tree Species to be Planted, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.050 which shall read as follows:

12.20.050 - Street Tree Species to be Planted

The City Administrator or their designee ~~Sonora tree and landscaping board~~ will develop a list of appropriate trees to be planted in public spaces and will forward it to the city council for adoption and publication by resolution.

SECTION 4. Section 12.20.070, Public Tree Care, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.070 which shall read as follows:

12.20.070 - Public Tree Care

The city may plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be

necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.

The [City Administrator or their designee](#) ~~city tree and landscaping board~~ may remove or cause or order to be removed, any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, power lines, gas lines, water lines or other public improvements, or is infected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with this chapter.

SECTION 5. Section 12.20.080, Tree Topping, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.080 which shall read as follows:

12.20.080 - Tree Topping

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm or city department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical, may be exempted from this section at the determination of the [City Administrator or their designee](#). ~~city tree and landscaping board~~.

SECTION 6. Section 12.20.100, Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.100 which shall read as follows:

12.20.100 - Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property

The city may remove any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a threat to other trees within the city. The [City Administrator or their designee](#) ~~city tree and landscaping board~~ will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within sixty days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the city may remove such trees and charge the cost of removal to the owners.

SECTION 7. Section 12.20.120, Landscape Plans Required for Subdivisions/Planned Developments, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.120 which shall read as follows:

12.20.120 - Landscape Plans Required for Subdivisions/Planned Developments

As provided for below, all subdivision and planned development plans filed for tentative approval shall include a landscape plan, as defined in this chapter.

Where said projects may potentially affect or change the existing landscape in the discretion of the planning department, the planning department shall require a landscape plan to be referred to the Planning Commission ~~city tree and landscaping board~~ for review and written approval. ~~The board shall complete its review and make its determination within fifteen days of receipt of the landscape plan from the planning department.~~ An applicant may appeal the decision of the ~~board to the P~~planning Ceommission, according to procedures set forth in Section 17.62.100 of this code.

Once a landscape plan has been approved as provided in this chapter, no changes shall be permitted in the approved plan without the review and written approval of ~~the city tree and landscaping board~~ the Community Development Director.

SECTION 8. Section 12.20.130, Landscape Plans Required for Commercial, Industrial, Parking Lots and Multifamily Residential Construction, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.130 which shall read as follows:

12.20.130 - Landscape Plans Required for Commercial, Industrial, Parking Lots and Multifamily Residential Construction

As provided for below, all commercial, industrial, parking lots and multifamily residential construction plans for new construction or exterior remodel/rehabilitation shall include a landscape plan, as defined in this chapter.

Where said projects may potentially affect or change the existing landscape in the discretion of the planning department, the planning department shall require a landscape plan to be referred to the Planning Commission ~~city tree and landscaping board~~ for review and written approval. ~~The board shall complete its review and make its determination within fifteen days of receipt of the landscape plan from the planning department.~~ An applicant may appeal the decision of the

~~board to the Planning Commission~~, according to procedures set forth in Section 17.62.100 of this code.

Once a landscape plan has been approved as provided in this chapter, no changes shall be permitted in the approved plan without the review and written approval of the ~~city tree and landscaping board~~ Community Development Director.

SECTION 9. Subdivision A of Section 12.20.135, Security Provisions, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Subdivision A of Section 12.20.135 which shall read as follows:

12.20.135 - Security Provisions

- A. A guarantee of performance bond or escrow agreement must be provided and posted in a manner described below, with the amount to be determined by the community development director and approved by the ~~City Administrator or their designee parks, beautification and recreation committee~~, to insure satisfactory completion of the landscaping plan as submitted and approved. The amount of such guarantee shall be equal to one and one-fourth times the cost of purchasing, installing, and completing landscaping and screening materials required under this chapter. All such guarantees shall be subject to approval by the city council and shall be made payable to the City of Sonora.

...

SECTION 10. Section 12.20.140, Building Permits, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.140 which shall read as follows:

12.20.140 - Building Permits

No building permits for the type of improvements delineated in Sections 12.20.120 and 12.20.130 will be issued unless a landscape plan has been approved by the Planning Commission ~~city tree and landscaping board~~. Further, no final building inspection and/or certificate of occupancy shall be issued by the building department unless landscaping has been installed in substantial compliance with the approved landscape plan, or adequate provisions for installation of landscaping have been made.

SECTION 11. Section 12.20.145, Maintenance and Enforcement, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal

Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.145 which shall read as follows:

12.20.145 - Maintenance and Enforcement

- A. The property owner shall be responsible for the on-going maintenance of all landscaping in a healthy and growing condition that is appropriate for the season of the year. Maintenance shall be conducted in all landscape areas, parking lots, driveways and aisles, hardscape, pavement and curb markings. Throughout the life of the project, maintenance of approved landscaping shall consist of regular watering, mowing, pruning, fertilizing, clearing of debris and weeds, the removal and replacement of dead plants, and the repair and replacement of irrigation systems and integrated architectural features. Plants that die shall be replaced as directed by the community development director with new plant materials that conform to the approved landscape plan. For the first three years of maintenance of landscape areas for which a landscape plan has been approved, it shall be professionally maintained by a licensed contractor. At the discretion of the City Administrator or their designee~~city tree and landscaping board~~, professional maintenance may be required for up to the first ten years of maintenance.

- B. Enforcement of the implementation of approved landscape plans and of the above maintenance provisions shall be at the direction of the community development director. After inspection, if a violation of this section is determined to exist, written notice shall be given to the property owner. Notice shall include identification of the property location; the nature of the violation; the section(s) of the code upon which the violation is based; a description of actions required to address the violation; and time within which the work must be accomplished. Generally, the time allowed for work to bring the premises into compliance shall not be less than thirty days or more than ninety days from the date of the written notice.

- C. Prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, the landowner shall file a maintenance agreement and easement to enter and maintain, and a security guarantee in a manner like that outlined in Section 12.20.135 of this chapter to the approval of the city attorney. The agreement and easement to enter and maintain shall ensure that if the landowner, or subsequent owners, fails to maintain the required installed site improvements, the city will be able to accomplish the required maintenance. The amount of the

security throughout the maintenance period shall be one and one fourth times the licensed contractor's estimate of the cost to maintain the project.

SECTION 12. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof. The City Council of the City of Sonora hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section(s), subsection(s), sentence(s), clause(s), phrase(s), or word(s) be declared invalid.

SECTION 13. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from and after its final passage and adoption, provided it is published in a newspaper of general circulation at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage or a summary of the Ordinance is published in a newspaper of general circulation at least five (5) days prior to adoption and again at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora, held on the ____ day of _____, 2025, and given its first reading at said meeting. Said Ordinance was given a second reading at a regular meeting of the City Council held on ___ day of ____, 2025, and after such reading, Councilmember _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilmember ____, said Ordinance was thereupon adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Tracy Skelly
City Clerk, City of Sonora

Ann Segerstrom
Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 911

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA AMENDING CHAPTER 12.20, SHADE TREES AND SHRUBS, OF TITLE 12, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, OF THE SONORA MUNICIPAL CODE TO DISSOLVE THE CITY TREE AND LANDSCAPING BOARD

WHEREAS, Chapter V of the Sonora City Council Rules and Procedures authorizes the Sonora City Council (“City Council”) to establish committees by ordinance or resolution; and

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WHEREAS, the Board was formed to develop and administer a written plan for trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas and to review landscaping plans for new development; and

WHEREAS, the Board is comprised of the City Council subcommittee on parks, recreation and beautification and other members of the public appointed by the mayor; and

WHEREAS, there are no City Council or public members assigned to the Board and there is no record of recent Board activity; and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2025, the City Council discussed the dissolution of the Board; and

WHEREAS, during that discussion, the City Council recommended dissolution of the Board to streamline City operations and reduce unnecessary bureaucracy; and

WHEREAS, during that same discussion, the City Council agreed to dissolve the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Committee which is part of the Board and intends to adopt a resolution to do so; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now intends to dissolve the Board through the amendment of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code by replacing all references to the Board with ‘the City Administrator or their designee’; and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends to remove all references to the Parks, Recreation, and Beautification Committee within Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code.

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 12.20.030, Creation and Establishment of a City Tree and Landscaping Board, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, is hereby repealed in its entirety and reserved for future use.

SECTION 2. Section 12.20.040, Duties and Responsibilities, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.040 which shall read as follows:

12.20.040 - Duties and Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the City Administrator or their designee to study, investigate, counsel and develop and/or update as needed, and administer a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and in other public areas. As may be directed by the city council, such plan will be presented to the city council and upon their acceptance and approval shall constitute the official comprehensive city tree and landscape plan for the city. The City Administrator or their designee, when requested by the city council, shall consider, investigate, make findings, report and recommend upon any special matter or question coming within the scope of its work.

SECTION 3. Section 12.20.050, Street Tree Species to be Planted, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.050 which shall read as follows:

12.20.050 - Street Tree Species to be Planted

The City Administrator or their designee will develop a list of appropriate trees to be planted in public spaces and will forward it to the city council for adoption and publication by resolution.

SECTION 4. Section 12.20.070, Public Tree Care, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.070 which shall read as follows:

12.20.070 - Public Tree Care

The city may plant, prune, maintain and remove trees, plants and shrubs within the lines of all streets, alleys, avenues, lanes, squares and public grounds, as may be necessary to insure public safety or to preserve or enhance the symmetry and beauty of such public grounds.

The City Administrator or their designee may remove or cause or order to be removed, any tree or part thereof which is in an unsafe condition or which by reason of its nature is injurious to sewers, power lines, gas lines, water lines or other public improvements, or is infected with any injurious fungus, insect or other pest. This section does not prohibit the planting of street trees by adjacent property owners providing that the selection and location of said trees is in accordance with this chapter.

SECTION 5. Section 12.20.080, Tree Topping, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.080 which shall read as follows:

12.20.080 - Tree Topping

It shall be unlawful as a normal practice for any person, firm or city department to top any street tree, park tree, or other tree on public property. Topping is defined as the severe cutting back of limbs to stubs larger than three inches in diameter within the tree's crown to such a degree as to remove the normal canopy and disfigure the tree. Trees severely damaged by storms or other

causes, or certain trees under utility wires or other obstructions where other pruning practices are impractical, may be exempted from this section at the determination of the City Administrator or their designee.

SECTION 6. Section 12.20.100, Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.100 which shall read as follows:

12.20.100 - Dead or Diseased Tree Removal on Private Property

The city may remove any dead or diseased trees on private property within the city, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a threat to other trees within the city. The City Administrator or their designee will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within sixty days after the date of service of notice. In the event of failure of owners to comply with such provisions, the city may remove such trees and charge the cost of removal to the owners.

SECTION 7. Section 12.20.120, Landscape Plans Required for Subdivisions/Planned Developments, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.120 which shall read as follows:

12.20.120 - Landscape Plans Required for Subdivisions/Planned Developments

As provided for below, all subdivision and planned development plans filed for tentative approval shall include a landscape plan, as defined in this chapter.

Where said projects may potentially affect or change the existing landscape in the discretion of the planning department, the planning department shall require a landscape plan to be referred to the Planning Commission for review and written approval. An applicant may appeal the decision of the Planning Commission, according to procedures set forth in Section 17.62.100 of this code.

Once a landscape plan has been approved as provided in this chapter, no changes shall be permitted in the approved plan without the review and written approval of the Community Development Director.

SECTION 8. Section 12.20.130, Landscape Plans Required for Commercial, Industrial, Parking Lots and Multifamily Residential Construction, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.130 which shall read as follows:

12.20.130 - Landscape Plans Required for Commercial, Industrial, Parking Lots and Multifamily Residential Construction

As provided for below, all commercial, industrial, parking lots and multifamily residential construction plans for new construction or exterior remodel/rehabilitation shall include a landscape plan, as defined in this chapter.

Where said projects may potentially affect or change the existing landscape in the discretion of the planning department, the planning department shall require a landscape plan to be referred to the Planning Commission for review and written approval. An applicant may appeal the decision of the Planning Commission, according to procedures set forth in Section 17.62.100 of this code.

Once a landscape plan has been approved as provided in this chapter, no changes shall be permitted in the approved plan without the review and written approval of the Community Development Director.

SECTION 9. Subdivision A of Section 12.20.135, Security Provisions, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Subdivision A of Section 12.20.135 which shall read as follows:

12.20.135 - Security Provisions

- A. A guarantee of performance bond or escrow agreement must be provided and posted in a manner described below, with the amount to be determined by the community development director and approved by the City Administrator or their designee , to insure satisfactory completion of the landscaping plan as submitted and approved. The amount of such guarantee shall be equal to one and one-fourth times the cost of purchasing, installing, and completing landscaping and screening materials required under this chapter. All such guarantees shall be subject to approval by the city council and shall be made payable to the City of Sonora.

...

SECTION 10. Section 12.20.140, Building Permits, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.140 which shall read as follows:

12.20.140 - Building Permits

No building permits for the type of improvements delineated in Sections 12.20.120 and 12.20.130 will be issued unless a landscape plan has been approved by the Planning Commission . Further, no final building inspection and/or certificate of occupancy shall be issued by the building department unless landscaping has been installed in substantial compliance with the approved landscape plan, or adequate provisions for installation of landscaping have been made.

SECTION 11. Section 12.20.145, Maintenance and Enforcement, of Chapter 12.20, Shade Trees and Shrubs, of Title 12 Streets and Sidewalks, of the Sonora Municipal Code, shall be repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 12.20.145 which shall read as follows:

12.20.145 - Maintenance and Enforcement

- A. The property owner shall be responsible for the on-going maintenance of all landscaping in a healthy and growing condition that is appropriate for the season of the year.

Maintenance shall be conducted in all landscape areas, parking lots, driveways and aisles, hardscape, pavement and curb markings. Throughout the life of the project, maintenance of approved landscaping shall consist of regular watering, mowing, pruning, fertilizing, clearing of debris and weeds, the removal and replacement of dead plants, and the repair and replacement of irrigation systems and integrated architectural features. Plants that die shall be replaced as directed by the community development director with new plant materials that conform to the approved landscape plan. For the first three years of maintenance of landscape areas for which a landscape plan has been approved, it shall be professionally maintained by a licensed contractor. At the discretion of the City Administrator or their designee, professional maintenance may be required for up to the first ten years of maintenance.

- B. Enforcement of the implementation of approved landscape plans and of the above maintenance provisions shall be at the direction of the community development director. After inspection, if a violation of this section is determined to exist, written notice shall be given to the property owner. Notice shall include identification of the property location; the nature of the violation; the section(s) of the code upon which the violation is based; a description of actions required to address the violation; and time within which the work must be accomplished. Generally, the time allowed for work to bring the premises into compliance shall not be less than thirty days or more than ninety days from the date of the written notice.

- C. Prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, the landowner shall file a maintenance agreement and easement to enter and maintain, and a security guarantee in a manner like that outlined in Section [12.20.135](#) of this chapter to the approval of the city attorney. The agreement and easement to enter and maintain shall ensure that if the landowner, or subsequent owners, fails to maintain the required installed site improvements, the city will be able to accomplish the required maintenance. The amount of the security throughout the maintenance period shall be one and one fourth times the licensed contractor's estimate of the cost to maintain the project.

SECTION 12. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof. The City Council of the City of Sonora hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, and word thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section(s), subsection(s), sentence(s), clause(s), phrase(s), or word(s) be declared invalid.

SECTION 13. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from and after its final passage and adoption, provided it is published in a newspaper of general circulation

at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage or a summary of the Ordinance is published in a newspaper of general circulation at least five (5) days prior to adoption and again at least within fifteen (15) days after its passage.

This Ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Sonora, held on the ____ day of _____, 2025, and given its first reading at said meeting. Said Ordinance was given a second reading at a regular meeting of the City Council held on ___ day of ____, 2025, and after such reading, Councilmember _____, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilmember ____, said Ordinance was thereupon adopted by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Tracy Skelly

City Clerk, City of Sonora

Ann Segerstrom

Mayor