



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: October 6, 2025
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
FROM: Mike Pugh, City Engineer
SUBJECT: Receive a Presentation on the Gold Rush Path Phase 1 Project Progress Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a Presentation on the Gold Rush Path Phase 1 Project Progress Update

BACKGROUND:

The Gold Rush Path multi-use project is a premier multi-use trail project in Tuolumne County. The Phase 1 project includes the segments of trail that runs through the City of Sonora that will provide a multi-use trail along two separate alignments. The first segment runs along State Route 49 (Stockton Road), which starts near the Mother Lode Fairgrounds, picking up the planned trail coming from Jamestown to the south and extending north to the newly constructed Transit Center and downtown area. The second segment runs from the intersection of Stockton Road and Woods Creek Drive and extends west to the Dragoon Gulch trail head and Sonora High School.

The Project Approval / Environmental Documentation (PA/ED) effort for the Phase 1 project has been ongoing since August 2024 and recently hit a significant milestone. The draft 30% design and plans have been completed, the biological environmental technical documents have been prepared and reviewed by Caltrans, and the cultural technical studies (historic and archeological resources) are near complete with a scheduled submittal date to Caltrans in mid to late October. A Project Development Team (PDT) meeting was held with the City of Sonora, TCTC, and Caltrans on August 26, 2025, to discuss the project details and solicit input on the proposed design.

Current ongoing work includes the scheduling of project stakeholder outreach meetings. A meeting with the 7th Day Adventist was held on August 26, 2025; they are proponents of the Phase 1 Project. Future work includes the preparation of the Initial Study document required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Initial Study is scheduled to be submitted for review in late November / early December and is planned to be ready for public circulation by February of 2026. The completion of the PA/ED effort is scheduled for June 2026.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Derik Kirkland from Wood Rodgers will present the details of the Phase 1 Gold Rush Path project and provide updates on the project status and schedule. Wood Rodgers is the engineering consultant for the Phase 1 project.



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FISCAL IMPACT:

None. This is an informational item presenting the progress of the Gold Rush Path Phase 1 Project. The PA/ED effort is being funded through a combination of ATP and CMAQ grant funds.

ATTACHMENTS:

Phase 1 Gold Rush Path Exhibits

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

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