



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: Stephen Opie, Councilmember

SUBJECT: Authorize Placement of a Proclamation Condemning Violence and Promoting Respectful Dialogue to the October 20, 2025, City Council Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Placement of a Proclamation Condemning Violence and Promoting Respectful Dialogue to the October 20, 2025, City Council Agenda.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to the Councilmember Handbook, requests for new agenda items must be submitted through the Consent Calendar at a prior meeting, with a brief description of the item and its relevance. If approved by the Council, the item will be placed on the agenda for a future meeting.

The City of Sonora is committed to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive community for all residents. Violence—whether political, religious, racial, ethnic, or based on sexual orientation—undermines the values of liberty, dignity, and self-governance upon which our nation was founded.

The Constitution of the United States guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms to all individuals. Among these rights is the freedom to hold and express differing beliefs, so long as such beliefs do not incite or rely on violence. As a community, we also recognize that while freedom of speech allows for offensive or vulgar language, respectful communication remains essential to maintaining civility and mutual understanding.

By adopting this proclamation, the City Council will publicly affirm its stance against all forms of violence, encourage respectful dialogue, and emphasize the importance of protecting the rights of all individuals within our community.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The proposed proclamation recognizes that:

- The City of Sonora condemns violence in all forms, regardless of its motivation.
- The City is committed to upholding the constitutional rights of all individuals.
- A self-governed nation and community require mutual respect and the preservation of each individual's liberty.



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- Civil dialogue, even when disagreements remain, strengthens community bonds and promotes unity.

This proclamation is not intended to limit free speech but to encourage a community standard of respectful engagement and discourage demonization based on differences.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact to the General Fund

ATTACHMENTS:

- Draft Proclamation Condemning Violence and Promoting Respectful Dialogue