



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 5, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Ann Segerstrom, City of Sonora Mayor

SUBJECT: Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing October 23, 2026, as Civil Aviation Appreciation Day in the City of Sonora.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and Discuss Adding to a Future Agenda a Proclamation Recognizing October 23, 2026, as Civil Aviation Appreciation Day in the City of Sonora.

BACKGROUND:

Civil aviation has played an important role in the history and development of Sonora and Tuolumne County by connecting the region with the rest of California and supporting transportation, commerce, recreation, tourism, emergency response, and public service. On May 30, 1936, the Aviation Country Club of California made a historic flight to Sonora, marking an early and memorable chapter in the City's aviation history. The year 2026 marks the 90th anniversary of that flight.

The proclamation also recognizes the regional aviation heritage associated with Columbia Airport, which was constructed in 1934 and dedicated in 1935 as Ralph Field. For more than nine decades, the airport has served as a general aviation facility and gateway to the Sierra Nevada foothills and historic Gold Rush communities, while also supporting public safety and emergency response, including aerial firefighting efforts.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Recognizing Civil Aviation Appreciation Day provides the City an opportunity to acknowledge the generations of pilots, aircraft owners, mechanics, flight instructors, airport personnel, firefighters, first responders, aviation businesses, volunteers, and enthusiasts who have contributed to aviation in Sonora and Tuolumne County. Civil aviation continues to provide educational, economic, recreational, and public-service opportunities and helps inspire interest in aviation, aerospace, engineering, and related careers.

The proposed proclamation designates October 23, 2026, as Civil Aviation Appreciation Day in the City of Sonora and encourages residents to recognize and celebrate the history, contributions, and continuing importance of civil aviation to the community.



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FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact on the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Proclamation Recognizing October 23, 2026, as Civil Aviation Appreciation Day.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community Engagement