



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: March 17, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Turu VanderWiel, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Resolution 03-17-2025-B Authorizing Opened Alcoholic Beverage Containers for the 2025 Mother Lode Round-Up Parade

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Approval of Resolution Number 03-17-2025-B, Authorizing Opened Alcoholic Beverage Containers and Public Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages within Designated Areas of the Special Event. These Areas are Marked by Street Closures on SR 49 (Washington Street) and Other Identified City Streets for the 2025 Mother Lode Round-Up Parade.

BACKGROUND:

Every year, the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Posse sponsors the Mother Lode Round-Up Parade on the Saturday preceding Mother's Day. This year, the parade will take place on Saturday, May 10, 2025, starting at 10:00 A.M. and lasting approximately two and a half hours. Historically, attendees have been allowed to possess open containers of alcoholic beverages and consume alcohol during the parade. However, after the parade concludes and before any streets reopen, or as directed by the Police Department, all open containers must be removed from public spaces and private lands that are open to the public.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

According to California Business and Professions Code section 25620, possessing open containers in any City, County, or City and County owned park or public place is prohibited if the respective authorities have enacted an ordinance against it. In line with this, Sonora Municipal Code section 9.08.010 makes it unlawful for anyone to drink, consume, or possess an open container of alcoholic beverages or intoxicating liquor or to smoke marijuana on public streets, public parks, public parking lots, public sidewalks, and grounds of public buildings, as well as on private buildings or lands that are open to the public.

The Tuolumne County Sheriff's Posse has requested that the area within the boundaries outlined in Sonora City Resolution Number 03-17-2025-B be designated as an open container area and that public consumption of alcoholic beverages will also be permitted for the duration of the Mother Lode Round-Up Parade, or as otherwise directed by the Sonora Police Department.



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To prioritize public safety, the Sonora Police Department recommends that, as a condition for Council allowing open containers of alcoholic beverages during this event, the containers must be made of materials other than glass.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no foreseen financial impact to the General Fund budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution 3-17-2025-B

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

- None