

## **RESOLUTION 04-21-2025-A**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE CITY OF SONORA ENCROACHMENT PERMIT DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS AND DESIGN GUIDELINES AND LICENSE AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the City recognizes that outdoor uses, including outdoor dining in the City's right-of-way, pose special issues of equitable use of public space and community health and safety concerns and therefore warrant additional permitting to ensure continued public use within health and safety provisions; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 2, 2013, the City of Sonora adopted the Vision Sonora plan which, among other goals, aims to create downtown public spaces and networks of pedestrian oriented streets that can be connected to event spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, event spaces include the construction of small gathering spaces including "parklets" that may convert parking spaces into seating and dining areas in front of business; and

**WHEREAS**, parklets and outdoor use areas create more space for pedestrian activity and increase foot traffic and revenue for local businesses, especially those that offer outdoor dining; and

**WHEREAS**, outdoor use areas provide aesthetic elements to the streetscape and improve the overall quality of life for Sonora residents and tourists; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the economic benefits and additional sales tax to be generated with the expansion of business with outdoor dining and retail display space, a streamlined permitting process is necessary to facility the goals and objectives of Vision of Sonora; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has received input from downtown businesses at a community outreach meeting conducted on February 11, 2025, about appropriate City regulations for permanent outdoor uses and dining within public sidewalks and public parking spaces in a manner that promotes public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sonora Outdoor Use Encroachment Permit Development Standards and Design Guidelines provide development standards and design guidelines consistent with Vision Sonora for the establishment of outdoor uses including parklets, thereby allowing the extension of outdoor private commercial uses tied to brick-and-mortar establishments into the City's right-of-way; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Sonora Outdoor Use Encroachment Permit Development Standards and Design Guidelines provide standards and guidelines to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, the license agreement is a tool for the City to formalize use of public rights of way, collect fees for said uses and demonstrate to the community its efforts to facilitate more vibrant public spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2.32.080 of the Sonora Municipal Code, the Planning Commission is required to investigate and make recommendations to the City Council upon reasonable and practicable means for putting

the General Plan into effect, in order that it will serve as a pattern and guide for the orderly physical growth and development of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 31, 2025, the Planning Commission of the City of Sonora held a publicly noticed hearing to discuss and review the Ordinance, Outdoor Use Development Standards and Design Guidelines and the License Agreement and recommended approval by the City Council;

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the City Council of Sonora hereby adopts the attached City of Sonora Outdoor Use Encroachment Permit Development Standards and Design Guidelines and License Agreement.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** as a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sonora, California, at a regular meeting of said City Council held on April 21, 2025, by the following votes:

**AYES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ABSENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

Signed and dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ann Segerstrom**  
Mayor, City of Sonora

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

**Tracy Skelly**  
City Clerk, City of Sonora