



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: July 20, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Brittan Gregory, Fire Chief
Tyler Summerset, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Consider Authorization for the City Administrator to Execute a Right of Entry Agreement with Tuolumne Fire Safe Council for Environmental Review of City of Sonora Property at Stockton Road and Highway 108 (APN 056-020-043)

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider Authorization for the City Administrator to Execute a Right of Entry Agreement with the Tuolumne Fire Safe Council, Permitting Access to City-owned Property Located at the Intersection of Stockton Road and Highway 108 (APN 056-020-043), for the Purpose of Conducting a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Environmental Review.

BACKGROUND:

The Tuolumne Fire Safe Council (TFSC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing wildfire risk in Tuolumne County. The City of Sonora previously partnered with the TFSC on the Dragoon Gulch Trail Fuel Reduction Project, which resulted in defensible space improvements along the Dragoon Gulch corridor. That project was funded in part through a grant, and a balance of funds remains unspent. City-owned property located at the corner of Stockton Road and State Highway 108 has been identified by TFSC as a candidate for vegetation management and fire risk reduction treatment. Before any ground disturbing work or formal project planning can proceed, a CEQA environmental review must be completed to identify potential environmental impacts and ensure compliance with California state law.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

The Tuolumne Fire Safe Council has requested a Right of Entry from the City of Sonora to access the City-owned property at Stockton Road and Highway 108 to conduct site assessments and complete the required CEQA environmental review. This review will evaluate existing vegetation conditions, potential environmental sensitivities, and feasible treatment options for the property. The CEQA process will determine the appropriate level of environmental documentation required (e.g., Categorical Exemption, Negative Declaration, or Mitigated Negative Declaration) based on the proposed scope of work. Remaining grant funds from the completed Dragoon Gulch Project will be utilized to cover the cost of the environmental review, resulting in no new financial obligation to the City at this time. Upon completion of the CEQA review, staff will return to the City Council with a presentation of findings and a range of treatment options for Council consideration and direction. Potential



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

treatment approaches may include manual, mechanical, or prescribed methods of fuel reduction and vegetation management, consistent with applicable fire safety standards and environmental requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No direct fiscal impact to the City General Fund is anticipated at this time. The cost of the CEQA environmental review will be funded using remaining grant funds from the Dragoon Gulch Trail Fuel Reduction Project. Staff will return to Council for authorization before any treatment is started.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Right of Entry Agreement

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

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