

CITY OF SONORA ORDINANCE NO. 905

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA AMENDING CHAPTER 8.30, "EMERGENCY SERVICES," OF THE SONORA MUNICIPAL CODE TO UPDATE EMERGENCY SERVICES PROVISIONS AND ADOPT THE 2025 CITY OF SONORA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Sonora is committed to maintaining a comprehensive emergency management framework consistent with California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Incident Command System (ICS); and

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code Section 8610 et seq.) authorizes cities to provide for an emergency organization and establish powers, duties, and procedures to effectively respond to emergencies and disasters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sonora has developed the 2025 City of Sonora Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP") in compliance with best practices and guidance provided by the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG 101); and

WHEREAS, the City's Disaster Council and Core Planning Team have reviewed and updated the EOP to enhance the City's preparedness and ensure eligibility for state and federal disaster assistance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to adopt the updated Emergency Operations Plan by replacing 8.30 and adding Chapter 2.28 of the Sonora Municipal Code to reflect current standards, procedures, and organizational structures for emergency management.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Replacement of Chapter 8.30

Chapter 2.28 of the Sonora Municipal Code ("Emergency Services") is hereby added to:

1. **Update Definitions** to align with the California Emergency Services Act and incorporate references to SEMS, NIMS, and ICS.
2. **Clarify the Organization and Membership of the Disaster Council**, specifying roles for the Director of Emergency Services (City Administrator), Assistant Director (Fire Chief), Emergency Services Coordinator, and key stakeholders.
3. **Designate the City Administrator as the Director of Emergency Services**, responsible for leading emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts, and adopting the order of succession for emergency leadership roles.
4. **Authorize the Director of Emergency Services** to implement the Emergency Operations Plan and, during an emergency, to issue necessary rules, regulations, and orders for the protection of life and property, subject to subsequent City Council review and ratification as required by law.
5. **Formally Adopt the 2025 City of Sonora Emergency Operations Plan**, including annexes for Alert and Warning, Evacuation, Debris Management, and other hazard-specific and functional annexes, recognizing the plan as a living document that may be amended administratively by the Emergency Services Coordinator to address changing conditions, risks, and best practices.

6. **Ensure Compliance with the California Emergency Services Act**, SEMS, NIMS, and FEMA guidance, maintaining eligibility for federal and state disaster assistance programs and grants.
7. **Reaffirm the Authority of the City Council** to review, amend, or replace the Emergency Operations Plan as needed, and require periodic review and exercises to maintain operational readiness.

Section 2. Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 3. Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days following its adoption by the City Council.

Section 4. Publication

The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance and shall cause the same to be published and/or posted pursuant to the provisions of the Government Code of the State of California.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Sonora this 21st day of July, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

APPROVED:

Ann Segerstrom, Mayor, City of Sonora

ATTEST:

Tracy L. Skelly, City Clerk