

**AGENDA  
SPECIAL MEETING  
SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025  
5:30 pm**

**Sierra Madre City Hall  
City Council Chambers  
232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard  
Sierra Madre, California 91024**

*Robert Parkhurst, Mayor  
Kristine Lowe, Mayor Pro Tem  
Edward Garcia, Council Member  
Gene Goss, Council Member  
Kelly Kriebs, Council Member*

*Sue Spears, City Treasurer*



The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting; As an alternative, public comment may be made by e-mail to [PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com](mailto:PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com) by 3:00PM on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting, filed into public record, and scanned onto the City website for public review.

The meeting will be streamed live on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com), on Foothills Media website at <http://www.foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre> and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Mayor Parkhurst, Mayor Pro Tem Lowe, Council Member Garcia, Council Member Goss, Council Member Kriebs

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INSPIRATION**

Mayor Parkhurst

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Vote of the City Council to proceed with City business.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CODE OF CONDUCT**

Your participation is welcomed and invited at all City Council meetings. The Council requests that participants refrain from making personal, slanderous, profane, or disruptive remarks. A person who continues to disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting after being warned by the Mayor or designee to cease the disruption may be precluded from further participation in the meeting. No signs, posters, or other large objects shall be brought into official meeting places if doing so would disrupt, disturb, or otherwise impede the orderly course of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Council will listen to the public on any item on the agenda. Addressing the City Council from the audience is not permitted; all comments addressing the Council must be made from the podium. Only public comment made from the podium will be recognized by the City Council and entered into public record.

### Providing Public Comment For Items on the Meeting Agenda

Persons wishing to speak on any item on the agenda will be called during the comment period at the time the agenda item is brought forward.

### Providing Public Comment

1. Any person wishing to provide public comment is asked to complete a comment card. Each speaker will be limited to up to three continuous minutes, which may not be delegated or deferred.
2. A podium is provided for public comment. Comments addressed to the Council shall occur during the appropriate time on the agenda and should not be construed as an opportunity for dialogue.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

*Regardless of staff recommendation on any agenda item, the City Council will consider such matters, including action to approve, conditionally approve, reject, or continue such item.*

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **1. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT FOR SB 90 – SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS, AND CLEAN AIR BOND ACT OF 2024**

It is recommended that the City Council support SB 90 and send a letter supporting SB 90 (Seyarto) to the state legislature, which now includes grant funding for backup electric generators for water reservoirs—an addition requested by the City of Sierra Madre.

**AVAILABILITY OF AGENDA MATERIALS**

*Materials related to items on this agenda are available for public inspection on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com).*

**LIVE BROADCASTS**

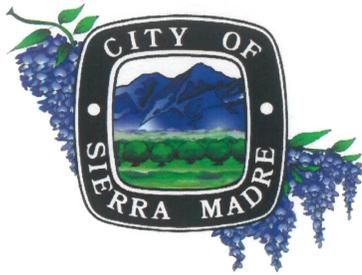
*Regular City Council meetings are broadcast live on Cable Channel 3 and rebroadcast on Wednesday and Saturday at 5:30 p.m.*

**MEETING ASSISTANCE**

*If you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerk's office at (626) 355-7135 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The City Council will adjourn to a meeting to take place March 11, 2025.*



# City of Sierra Madre Agenda Report

*Robert Parkhurst, Mayor  
Kristine Lowe, Mayor Pro Tem  
Kelly Kriebs, Council Member  
Gene Goss, Council Member  
Edward Garcia, Council Member*

*Sue Spears, City Treasurer*

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Jose Reynoso, City Manager

DATE: March 4, 2025

**SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT FOR SB 90 –  
SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, DROUGHT  
PREPAREDNESS, AND CLEAN AIR BOND ACT OF 2024**

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## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the City Council support SB 90 and send a letter supporting SB 90 (Seyarto) to the state legislature, which now includes grant funding for backup electric generators for water reservoirs—an addition requested by the City of Sierra Madre.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve a letter of support for SB 90 (Seyarto).
2. Direct staff to provide additional information before making a decision.
3. Take no action on this item.

## **SUMMARY**

In January, the City engaged Townsend Public Affairs, our grant consultant, to identify funding opportunities for emergency backup power at city yard water facilities. Townsend contacted Senator Seyarto, who introduced amendments to SB 90—the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.

Originally, SB 90 did not include funding for backup electrical generators for water reservoirs. However, at Sierra Madre's request, Senator Seyarto amended the bill to include grant funding for backup power emergency generators to supply water reservoirs.

FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

## **ANALYSIS**

SB 90, as amended, would provide grants to local agencies, special districts, joint powers authorities, tribes, nonprofit organizations, and fire-safe councils for various wildfire and drought preparedness projects. The bill authorizes \$135 million in grant funding for wildfire mitigation projects, structure hardening of critical community infrastructure, wildfire smoke mitigation, evacuation centers, including community clean air centers, structure hardening projects that reduce the risk of wildfire for entire neighborhoods and communities, water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes for communities in very high or high fire hazard areas, wildfire buffers, and incentives to remove structures that significantly increase hazard risk.

This bill will include in the list of eligible projects grants to the above-mentioned entities for improvements to public evacuation routes in very high and high fire hazard severity zones, mobile rigid dip tanks to support firefighting efforts, prepositioned mobile rigid water storage, and improvements to the response and effectiveness of fire engines and helicopters.

The bill will also include grants, in coordination with the Public Utilities Commission, to local agencies, state agencies, special districts, joint powers authorities, tribes, and nonprofit organizations for backup electrical generators for water reservoirs.

Sierra Madre's support of SB 90 aligns with the City's ongoing efforts to improve fire preparedness and water resilience. During the Eaton Fire, the City relied on a rented emergency generator to maintain water pressure after power loss at the city yard water facilities. Expanding access to state funding for similar infrastructure improvements will directly benefit the City and surrounding high-risk fire areas.

By supporting SB 90, Sierra Madre strengthens its position to receive grant funding and contribute to a statewide wildfire resilience initiative.

### **STRATEGIC GOALS IMPACT:**

SB90 aligns with the City's Strategy Goal 3 PS 3.1 Maintaining Hillside Areas to reduce fire risk.

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW / SOURCE OF FUNDING**

There is no direct financial impact associated with approving this resolution. However, the City's support for SB 90 may enhance eligibility for future state grant funding.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE PROCESS**

This item has been noticed through the regular agenda notification process. Copies of this report are available at the City Hall public counter and at the Sierra Madre Public Library and can be accessed on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com).

**ATTACHMENTS**

Draft Letter of Support for SB90



# City of Sierra Madre

**DRAFT COPY**

March 4, 2025

The Honorable Kelly Seyarto  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Room 7120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 90 (Seyarto) – Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Grants: Improvements to Public Evacuation Routes: Mobile Rigid Water Storage: Electrical Generators.**

City of Sierra Madre – Co-Sponsor

Dear Senator Seyarto,

On behalf of the City of Sierra Madre, I express our sincere gratitude for your leadership on SB 90 and reaffirm our proud co-sponsorship of this critical legislation. SB 90 will provide much-needed funding for wildfire prevention, emergency preparedness, and water infrastructure improvements, including backup electrical generators for water reservoirs—a provision added at our request.

Reliable emergency power is essential to fire suppression efforts. During the Eaton Fire, the City of Sierra Madre suffered a power outage at our city yard water facilities, causing a halt in water pumping from local reservoirs. Unfortunately, our existing emergency backup generator failed, requiring the immediate rental of an emergency generator to restore water access. This water was critical for refilling reservoirs used in firefighting efforts. Without functional backup power, our ability to provide water for fire suppression, public safety, and emergency response is severely compromised.

SB 90 directly addresses this need by providing grant funding for backup electrical generators—ensuring that local agencies, like Sierra Madre, can maintain uninterrupted access to water during emergencies. This funding is especially crucial for small municipalities that depend on reliable electric power to pump and distribute water effectively. Ensuring that cities like Sierra Madre have reliable backup power for water infrastructure will significantly enhance our resilience and ability to protect lives and property.

For these reasons, the City of Sierra Madre strongly supports SB 90 and urges the Legislature's approval of this vital measure.

Sincerely,

Robert Parkhurst  
Mayor  
City of Sierra Madre

**DRAFT COPY**

*232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
Telephone (626) 355-7135*