

**COUNTY OF SONOMA
AGENDA ITEM
SUMMARY REPORT**

Clerk of the Board Use Only
 Meeting Date _____ Held Until _____
 Agenda Item No: _____ Agenda Item No: _____

Department: Permit and Resource Management
 Department

() 4/5 Vote Required

Contact:
 Sigrid Swedenborg

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Board Date:
 April 7, 2009

Deadline for Board Action:

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:

Heritage Tree Certificate; [REDACTED]

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

Presentation of a Sonoma County Heritage Tree Certificate, authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Heritage Tree Certificate, direct the PRMD Director to execute a Notice of Heritage or Landmark Tree Designation and direct the County Recorder to record the document with no fee. Recognition of the tree has been approved by the owners for property located at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] APN 099-020-032; Supervisorial District 5.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES

ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

Estimated Cost \$

Contingencies \$
 (Fund Name:)

Amount Budgeted \$

Unanticipated Revenue \$
 (Source:)

Other Avail Approp \$
 (Explain below)

Other Transfer(s) \$
 (Source:)

Additional Requested: \$

Add'l Funds Requested: \$

Explanation (if required):

Prior Board Action(s):

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Heritage Tree Ordinance #3651 in 1986. The Ordinance establishes a means for the Board to recognize certain trees. A Certificate and plaque have been prepared for the property owners. The Board of Supervisors has recognized many Heritage Trees in the County.

Alternatives - Results of Non-Approval:

The tree will not be afforded the protection granted by the Ordinance.

On File With Clerk: Heritage Tree Certificate

Background:

In 1986 the Board of Supervisors adopted the Sonoma County Heritage or Landmark Tree Ordinance. This Ordinance established a means for the Board of Supervisors to recognize certain Heritage or Landmark trees in Sonoma County. Through the nomination and evaluation process, many individual and groups of trees have been nominated. Evaluation of the nominated trees and notification of the property owners is an ongoing process.

This recognition is for a redwood tree with an extremely unusual shape. The circumference at 4.5 feet above the ground is over 40 feet. The tree has been dubbed the “Rhino tree” due to the shape of a large burl on the south side of the tree. There are about five large branches growing up out of the burl. There is an existing “fairy ring” of about 12 smaller trees around the “mother” tree. The property owners applied to have the tree recognized as a Heritage Tree.

The tree is located at Muniz Ranches near Jenner. It is unique, due to its size and shape compared to other trees in the project vicinity and easily meets the criteria for designation as a Heritage Tree.

Part of this designation process is recordation of a notice to alert future property owners on Title Reports that the tree on the site is protected by Ordinance No. 3651. In order to remove a tree, a Tree Removal Permit is obtained so that options for preservation and notification can occur.



Attachments:

Draft Resolution
EXHIBIT A: Heritage or Landmark Tree Nomination Form

On File With Clerk: Heritage Tree Certificate

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than “Requested”)

Vote: