# 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 | Phone: (707) 565-1914 | Board Date: June 2, 2009 | Deadline for Board Action: |

**AGENDA SHORT TITLE:**

Heritage Tree Certificate; [redacted]

**REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:**

Presentation of a Sonoma County Heritage Tree Certificate and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Heritage Tree Certificate. Recognition of the tree has been approved by the owner of property located at 20889 Geyserville Ave., Geyserville; APN 140-100-071; Supervisorial District 4.

**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 No. 3651 in 1986 to recognize certain Heritage or Landmark trees in Sonoma County. 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 Heritage Tree 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 specific recognition is for an extremely large Douglas fir tree. The circumference of the tree at 4.5 feet above the ground is over 20 feet and is approximately 150 feet high.

The applicant also stated that the site where the tree is located was owned by the Bahai many years ago. According to the applicant, over 100 years ago Luther Burbank, a Bahai, determined that the tree was 500 years old. March 10, 2009 PRMD received the request by the property owner to have the tree recognized as a Heritage Tree.

The tree is located at Isis Oasis in Geyserville. 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. A Heritage Tree Certificate and plaque have been prepared for the property owner.

Part of this designation process is to record a Notice of Heritage or Landmark Tree Designation executed by the Director of PRMD. This Notice alerts future property owners that the tree on the site is protected by County Ordinance No. 3651 and the Notice would appear on a Title Report in the event that there is a change in property ownership. In order to remove a designated tree, a Tree Removal Permit shall be 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:** |
|---|---|
| _____<br>_____<br>_____ | |