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Subject: COMMENTS 11/4/21. Tree Protection Update
Date: November 02, 2021 4:43:43 PM

EXTERNAL

11/2/21

Please add these comments to the record.

Dear Planning Commission: Thank you for your attention to the Comprehensive Tree Protection update currently underway. Such an update is consistent with the county's Climate Action and Resiliency strategy (see below).

The climate science is clear, we should place a much higher value on our trees, woodlands, and forest. We can't stop emitting green gas houses tomorrow, but we can stop cutting down trees under county jurisdiction where protection of homes and businesses are not implicated.

The County has an opportunity and obligation to properly protect these woodlands and forests for the public services that they provide the community in this time of climate crisis. As the *county's* Climate Action and Resiliency strategy recognizes, it is time to move -- not just talk about or plan to, protect the natural "air purifiers" of the community.

Excerpt from Sonoma County Climate Action and Resiliency Strategy"

"Goal 5: Maximize opportunities for mitigation of climate change and adaptation through land conservation work and land use policies

- **Objective 1:** By 2025, update the County General Plan and other county/special district planning documents to incorporate policy language and identify areas within the County that have the potential to maximize carbon sequestration and provide opportunities for climate change adaptation. The focus of these actions will be to increase overall landscape and species resiliency, reduce the risk of fire and floods, and address sea level rise and biodiversity loss.
- **Objective 2:** Develop policies to maximize carbon sequestration and minimize loss of natural carbon sinks including old growth forests, the Laguna de Santa Rosa, and rangelands. Encourage agricultural and open space land management to maximize sequestration. Develop a framework and policies to

incentivize collaboration with private and public land owners."

Thank you for your service.

Kimberly

"Balance - When we are urged to weigh the environmental impacts against the interests of developers, consider this...."We've lost nearly two-thirds of the world's wildlife since the first Earth Day 48 years ago."

—The Nature Conservancy

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