EXTERNAL

Dear Sonoma County Planning Commission,

I am writing this message in regard to the upcoming Sonoma County Planning Commission meeting on November 4. 2021 **item number 2 and ORD21-0001**. Thank you for your planning on how best to meet our ecological obligations with regard to the climate crisis upon us.

I strongly advocate, as I know do others in this community, to maintain all the mature trees in our local environment and systematically plant more in accord with the understanding that these trees are an important part of the urgent efforts to mitigate the climate crisis. In this context I urge that:

- **There be a time out for tree removals in Sonoma County.**

- **That we follow the best science and not bow to political or economic concerns.**

- **That the ordinance specifically protect the mature trees that do the most to sequester the most carbon, have higher fire resistances, store more water, foster more wildlife, and have more developed roots and canopies.**

Please seek out the best and most scientific advice on making the best possible plans and ordinances to meet our objectives in the years ahead.

Thank you for your sincere deliberations on behalf of the natural world and our place within it as this crisis continues to unfold. I am now 66 years old and it pains me to know that the young and the planet's most vulnerable are bearing the weight of our historic inaction thus far!

Warmly,

Jeff Rooney
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"Roots tell us

through the flowers,

what the Earth is like on the inside….."
Humberto Ak'abal

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