TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Deputy Director of Emergency Services, Scott Bryan
SUBJECT: Adopt resolution proclaiming the existence of an ongoing emergency in the County of Yuba due to Tree Mortality.
DATE: September 22, 2020
NUMBER: 481/2020

Recommendation: Adopt resolution proclaiming an ongoing local emergency due to Tree Mortality.

Background: On January 17, 2014, Governor Edmund G Brown Jr. declared a Statewide Drought Emergency due to the impacts on the State of California due to four continuous years of drought. On February 18, 2014, the Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency due to the effects the drought has had within the County of Yuba.

The current drought has put tremendous stress on trees resulting in widespread mortality throughout the State. The County of Yuba is not immune to the loss of trees due to the on-going drought as thousands of dead and dying trees line our landscape. On October 30, 2015, Governor Edmund G Brown Jr. declared a Statewide Tree Mortality Emergency, which included California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding to mitigate the most severely affected counties. On December 13, 2016, the Yuba County Board of Supervisors proclaimed a local emergency in the County due to tree mortality.

Discussion: There are currently 10 counties designated as “Priority Counties,” which include two contiguous counties to Yuba, in Nevada and Placer. Although Yuba County’s tree mortality emergency has yet to reach the severity of Nevada and Placer Counties, significant tree mortality exists in Yuba County, which requires mitigation efforts to remove hazard trees threatening public infrastructure and safety.

Committee Action: Item had no committee action due to it being an on-going item before the Board of Supervisors.

Fiscal Impact: Costs to alleviate this issue are unknown.

Attachments: 481/2020: Tree Mortality Resolution