COMMENDING THE HOMESTEAD VALLEY LAND TRUST 50TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, in the early 1970's land development in Marin County was growing rapidly, and the unincorporated community of Homestead Valley was waking to the local threat to its open space lands; and

WHEREAS, also in the early 1970's, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was being formed and the Marincello development in the southern Marin Headlands was defeated; and

WHEREAS, Homestead Valley, through resident Helen Beck's efforts working with the County, created in 1967, County Service Area 14 (CSA14, a special taxing area); and

WHEREAS, Homestead resident Geoff Barrett, an avid proponent of preserving the Valley's open space, published on December 22, 1971 his "Whither Homestead?" letter to the community, warning and pleading for action against the threats of development to Homestead Valley's open space; and

WHEREAS, Howard (Mike) Cann came together with Geoff Barrett and formed the Homestead Valley Open Space Advisory Committee to pursue funding alternatives, which members included Marty Rosen, Al Wuthnow, Lou Harding, Marvin Haiken, Helen Beck, Chuck Oldenburg, and Larry Posner; and

WHEREAS, the Community, utilizing CSA 14, sponsored a ballot initiative to approve the issuance of a \$600,000 bond issue for open space purchases in Homestead Valley on September 18, 1973, which passed with 79% approval and also obtained \$113,250 in County of Marin Open Space matching funds; and

WHEREAS, the Homestead Valley Land Trust was created in 1976 to manage over 80 acres of open space land in Homestead Valley for the Marin County Open Space District; and

WHEREAS, encouraged by the establishment of the Homestead Valley Land Trust in 1976, community members Virginia Stolte Spalding, Betsy Weedon, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Norberg, and Mr. and Mrs. Judson Vandevere donated parcels of land to be preserved as open space.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby commends the community leaders and residents of Homestead Valley for their foresight in preserving over 80 acres of open space lands and acquiring vital community park properties, which have proven their value now for 50 years and will be available for the enjoyment of generations of residents to come.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 26th day of September 2023.

STEPHANIE MOULTON-PETERS – PRESIDENT
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 3

DENNIS RODONI – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4