

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 1/20/05  
**Department Name:** Planning and Development  
**Department No.:** 053  
**Agenda Date:** February 8, 2005  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Valentin Alexeeff, Director of Planning and Development

**STAFF CONTACT:** Lisa Hosale, Planner  
568-2007

**SUBJECT:** **Witmer Tree Removal, 05EMP-00000-00002**  
Informational report on issuance of emergency permit.  
387 Lambert Road, Toro Canyon Area, APN 005-100-011, First Supervisorial District

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## **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Receive the Director's report regarding an Emergency Permit issued to Robert Muraora, agent for the landowner, to authorize the removal of eleven eucalyptus trees that have become unstable due to recent storm events. The Emergency Permit will alleviate the existing hazard to residential structures.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2., A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work and Visit.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

Pursuant to Section 35-171 of Article II of the County's Zoning Ordinance, when an Emergency Permit is issued, the Director of the Planning and Development Department must report the nature of the emergency and the work involved to the Board of Supervisors in writing. This notification fulfills the ordinance requirement. The California Coastal Commission has also been notified of the issuance of this emergency permit.

The subject emergency permit, approved and issued on January 24, 2005, authorized the removal of eleven mature eucalyptus trees ranging in height from 30 feet to 60 feet. The trees were in danger of falling and posed a hazard to life and property. Existing structures are as close as 20 feet to the trees.

### **Background Information**

The project site is located west of Lambert Road in the Toro Canyon area, addressed as 387 Lambert Road. The 3.84 acre project site is residentially developed with a dwelling, guest house, barn, and garage. The eleven eucalyptus trees to be removed are located within the top-of-bank of a stream. They are afflicted with hard wood rot. Recent storms and heavy rainfall have saturated the soil, and caused swift water flows and high winds. These conditions have resulted in tree failure as confirmed by an Arborist. One tree fell on January 10, 2005; others are leaning and threaten to fall on the residential structures. Existing structures are as close as 20 feet to the trees.

For more information on the specifics of the emergency work, please refer to the attached permit.

### **Mandates and Service Levels:**

None

### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

County costs for the preparation of the emergency permit are reimbursed by the applicant in conformance with the current Board-approved fee resolution. The project causes no fiscal or facilities impacts to the County.

### **Special Instructions:**

None

### **Concurrence:**

County Counsel

### **Attachments:**

Emergency Permit (05EMP-00000-00002 issued 1/24/05)