



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 17, 2014, Cotati, CA

### **INFORMATIONAL DISPLAY OF RARE REDWOOD TREE AT COTATI CITY HALL**

Photos and information about Cotati's rare albino chimera coast redwood tree are now on display at Cotati City Hall. The tree is the largest of the ten known albino chimera coast redwoods, standing just over 50 feet tall, and is the only tree of this species mature enough to produce both male and female pine cones.

Currently located near East Cotati Avenue in the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) railroad right-of-way, the tree was slated to be cut down to make way for the new commuter rail line but after hearing concerns from experts and the public, rail officials are working to determine the viability of moving the tree to a new location. Should SMART decide to relocate the tree, the Veronda-Falletti Ranch has been selected by the Cotati City Council as its new location. This site was selected because the conditions are favorable and the rare tree would be a valuable component of the overall goal for the Ranch as an example of local history and agricultural/resource stewardship.

Photos and information about this special tree were provided to the Cotati City Council by arborist Tom Stapleton at a recent Council meeting, and at Cotati Councilmember John Moore's suggestion, were put on display in the Cotati City Council Chamber at Cotati City Hall for the public to enjoy.

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