



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: April 28, 2026

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Honoring Michelle Whitman As A Recipient Of North Bay Leadership Council’s 2026 Leaders
Of The North Bay Award For “From Red Tape To Red Carpet: Leadership In Government.”**

Whereas, Michelle Whitman is the 2026 “From Red Tape to Red Carpet: Leadership in Government” award honoree; and

Whereas, Since taking over the CDC Michelle has been proactive in advancing the cause of affordable housing. She has streamlined the department she manages. She is very responsive and proactive in advancing the cause of affordable housing in Sonoma County. In short she is a breath of fresh air; and

Whereas, Michelle is a collaborative leader with a focus on equity-driven housing solutions, Michelle is recognized for her expertise in community development across multiple sectors. She has successfully secured over \$120 million in funding to promote healthy, climate-smart, and disaster-resilient housing in the region. Notable achievements include operationalizing a housing-focused Joint Powers Authority and launching a \$22 million nonprofit loan fund to accelerate mission aligned housing production; and

Whereas, As Director of the Development Commission/Housing Authority, Michelle took responsibility for the Roseland Village redevelopment project (now called Tierra de Rosas): County efforts had been underway since 2011 due to lawsuits, annexation, funding shortages, staff changes, etc. Under Michelle’s leadership, public infrastructure, and the affordable housing component of this 7-acre property are under construction, nearing completion; and

Whereas, Michelle also collaborated with local developers on successful applications for two Project HomeKey awards, resulting in over 50 permanent supportive housing apartments across two separate publicly owned properties which had been previously vacant and unused; and

Whereas, As Director of the RED, Michelle took the initiative to hire a skilled consultant and organize efforts that resulted in the first AHSC grant (\$20 million) awarded to a project in Sonoma County. Michelle also organized multiple developers and acted as point person applying for an Infill Infrastructure grant that supported the construction of several hundred affordable apartments across multiple development projects.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors commends and honors Michelle Whitman as a recipient of North Bay Leadership Council's 2026 Leaders of the North Bay Award for "From Red Tape to Red Carpet: Leadership in Government."

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

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Date:

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So Ordered.