



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: April 24, 2026

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Celebrating Gary Edwards as the 2026 Honorary Alcalde for the City of Sonoma

WHEREAS, the City of Sonoma has named Gary Edwards as its 2026 Honorary Alcalde, continuing a long-standing local tradition established in 1975 that recognizes an individual whose service reflects the spirit, generosity, and civic pride of Sonoma Valley; and

WHEREAS, the title Alcalde, the Spanish word for “mayor,” honors a community member whose sustained volunteerism and leadership have helped strengthen the social fabric of Sonoma and inspired others to contribute to the wellbeing of the Valley; and

WHEREAS, Gary Edwards has been a dedicated member of the Sonoma Valley community since making his home here in 1994, bringing with him a deep appreciation for Sonoma County’s agricultural heritage and a lifelong commitment to service; and

WHEREAS, over the past several decades, Gary Edwards has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and civic engagement, serving on the Sonoma Planning Commission, the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission, and the Sonoma City Council, while also contributing his time and energy to numerous nonprofit and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Gary’s generosity and hands-on spirit are perhaps best reflected in his decades of volunteer work organizing Sonoma’s annual free Thanksgiving Day dinner, where hundreds of residents and volunteers gather each year to share a meal and celebrate the spirit of community; and

WHEREAS, through leadership roles with Rotary, the Redwood Empire Food Bank, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley, and many other initiatives, Gary has consistently stepped forward to support youth programs, food security efforts, educational opportunities, and projects that bring neighbors together in service of the community; and

WHEREAS, Gary Edwards has also been recognized for his contributions to Sonoma Valley’s cultural and civic life, including being honored as the 2019 Sonoma Valley Muse by the Sonoma Community Center in recognition of his dedication to creativity, collaboration, and community building;

WHEREAS, friends, colleagues, and neighbors describe Gary as someone who leads not with fanfare, but through action—quietly bringing people together, solving problems, and strengthening the community through generosity, humility, and heart;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors proudly recognizes Gary Edwards on the occasion of his selection as the 2026 Honorary Alcalde for the City of Sonoma, and thanks him for his many years of service, leadership, and commitment to the people of Sonoma Valley.

Supervisors:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Hermosillo:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.