

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
MICHAEL ANTONOVICH

February 14, 2012

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITIES IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

The unincorporated communities of Los Angeles County have many historical landmarks and points of historical interest that are of local and regional importance, including the remnants of ranchos and early farms, routes of early explorers, and the homes and businesses of prominent people who shaped local history.

Although the County of Los Angeles General Plan contains language that supports historic preservation, the County does not have a system in place to proactively encourage and ensure the preservation of older structures and landmarks that are architecturally and/or culturally significant. Experience in other jurisdictions indicates that not only is it is feasible to do so, but having such a system can strengthen community ties and revitalization.

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Historical preservation could also be utilized as an economic stimulus strategy to promote direct re-investment in these older communities. Thus, the County should explore options to adopt such procedures for the unincorporated communities.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS direct the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of the Department of Regional Planning, in consultation with the Los Angeles County Historical Landmarks and Records Commission and the Assessor's Office to:

- Research and recommend survey methods, including their fiscal and operational impacts, whereby the County could identify historic structures and resources;
- Research and identify options, including their fiscal and operational impacts, whereby the County could protect historical structures and resources from being demolished;
- Identify mechanisms which have been implemented by other cities and counties to prevent the demolition of historic structures and resources;
- Research the feasibility of enacting a Mills Act program for the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County in order to provide financial incentives to qualified property owners; and
- Report back to the Board of Supervisors within 120 days with a written report.

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