



Date: November 3, 2017

Subject: Conserving property corners and survey monumentation during the clean-up and rebuild process

As we begin the process of clean up and rebuilding I have a responsibility to make you aware of the need for the preservation of survey monumentation in the affected neighborhoods as well as the cost associated with the required replacement and subsequent mapping.

Section 8771 of the Professional Land Surveyors Act states in part:

(c) A permanent monument shall be reset in the surface of the new construction or a witness monument or monuments set to perpetuate the location if any monument could be destroyed, damaged, covered, disturbed, or otherwise obliterated, and a corner record or record of survey shall be filed with the county surveyor prior to the recording of a certificate of completion for the project. Sufficient controlling monuments shall be retained or replaced in their original positions to enable property, right-of-way and easement lines, property corners, and subdivision and tract boundaries to be reestablished without devious surveys necessarily originating on monuments differing from those that currently control the area.

(d) The governmental agency performing or permitting construction or maintenance work is responsible for ensuring that either the governmental agency or landowner performing the construction or maintenance work provides for monument perpetuation required by this section.

The property corners in every lot may be in jeopardy as the cleanup effort begins. In most subdivisions the street monuments should provide "sufficient controlling monuments" per 8771 (c) to enable remonumentation of the lots within. There are many parcels in the County, even some subdivisions (notably in the Larkfield Wikiup area) that do not have street monumentation. Regardless of the methodology used in remonumentation, the effort needed to replace any destroyed property corners and to file Records of Survey should not be overlooked. Private local surveyors, the City of Santa Rosa Surveyor, and I have begun discussions about how to facilitate this work, but given the quick response toward cleaning up the fire areas, I thought it important to bring this issue to your attention. I am always available to discuss this matter if there are any questions.

Thank you.


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