

**MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5
Thomas M. Miller, County Executive Officer

DATE: January 10, 2012

SUBJECT: **RESOLUTION-** Approve a Resolution congratulating the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and Railroad on their 100-year anniversary.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve a Resolution congratulating the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and Railroad on their 100-year anniversary.

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS

The Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and Railroad went into operation on March 23, 1912 in the American River Canyon. They played a significant role in the development of Placer County.

The bridge has become a scenic historical icon in the American River Canyon and the Auburn State Recreation Area and appears on the National Register of Historic Places. At the time it was built, it was the longest span for a concrete arch bridge used for railroad traffic and owned by a private company.

It operated from the Quarry Plant on the Middle Fork of the American River to Flint Station on the main rail line in Auburn from 1912 to 1940. Since the 1940s the bridge has served as a trail crossing and is a well-known landmark for several premier endurance events, such as the Western States Trail Foundation's Tevis Cup 100-miles One Day Ride and the 100-miles Western States Endurance Run.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

COUNTY OF
Placer
Board of Supervisors

RESOLUTION

In the matter of a Resolution congratulating
the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and
Railroad on their 100-year anniversary.

Resolution No. _____

WHEREAS, on March 23, 1912, the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and Railroad went into operation in the American River Canyon near Auburn; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge was designed and engineered by John B. Leonard, a leading pioneer in the construction of concrete bridges; and

WHEREAS, at the time it was built the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge was the "longest span concrete arch bridge for railroad traffic, owned by a private company;" and

WHEREAS, from its opening in 1912 to 1940, the railroad operated from the Quarry Plant on the Middle Fork of the American River to Flint Station on the main rail line in Auburn; and

WHEREAS, since the 1940s the bridge has served as a trail crossing and temporarily as a vehicle crossing when the Highway 49 bridge was destroyed in the flood of 1964; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge has served for over 50 years as the landmark crossing point for several premier endurance events including the Western States Trail Foundation's Tevis Cup 100-miles One Day Ride and the 100-miles Western States Endurance Run; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge has become a scenic historical icon in the American River Canyon and the Auburn State Recreation Area used by thousands of visitors and viewed by millions of visitors and motorists on Highway 49 annually; and

WHEREAS, the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the County of Placer wishes to preserve and protect our valuable historic assets, both natural and human-made, both public and private.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Placer does hereby recognize 2012 as the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge and the Mountain Quarries Railroad; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County of Placer encourages all related agencies, groups and associations to recognize and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge by any and all efforts to highlight the history, significance, and contribution the bridge has made to the citizens of this region, the people of California and the nation.

Jennifer Montgomery, District 5
Chairman 2012

Jack Duran
Supervisor, District 1

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