



RECEIVED

AUG 07 2008

County of San Diego

WALTER F. EKARD
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
(619) 531-6226
FAX: (619) 557-4060

CLERK-SUPERIOR COURT
SAN DIEGO, CA

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

HELEN N. ROBBINS-MEYER
ASST. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
(619) 531-4940
FAX: (619) 557-4060

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, STE. 209, SAN DIEGO, CA 92101-2472

August 5, 2008

RECEIVED

AUG 11 2008

SAN DIEGO
COUNTY GRAND JURY

The Honorable Kenneth So
Presiding Judge, San Diego Superior Court
220 West Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Judge So,

On August 5, 2008, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors approved responses to the six 2007-2008 San Diego County Grand Jury reports which addressed findings and recommendations to the County of San Diego. The Board further directed that these responses be sent to your office.

The six reports for which responses are attached are titled:

- Past Grand Jurors Association Implementation Review Board
- Notification and Training in Child Protective Services
- Proud to be in County Procurement
- A Warmer World – A Challenge and an Opportunity
- Conditions and Management of Detention and Other Law Enforcement Facilities in San Diego County
- The Fire Next Time – Will We Be Ready?

Since these are all the reports issued by the 2007-2008 Grand Jury that address recommendations to the Board of Supervisors or departments under its jurisdiction, the attached material represents the County's complete response for 2007-2008. If you have any questions, please contact me at (619) 531-5250.

Sincerely,

WALTER F. EKARD

Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment

cc: Board of Supervisors

County Response: This recommendation will be implemented. The Purchasing Agent for the County will establish management controls to allow for the balancing of workload among its staff to maintain its current high quality of service.

ATTACHMENT D

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RESPONSE TO 2007/08 GRAND JURY REPORT “A WARMER WORLD – A CHALLENGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY” Issued May 22, 2008

Finding #05: San Diego County Government has a responsibility to inventory global warming emissions in County operations and in the community at large, set reduction targets and create and implement an action plan.

County Response: We partially agree with this finding. The California Air Resources Board (CARB), as a requirement of AB32, is currently developing a plan to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California. This plan will be implemented through several regulations CARB will adopt. This plan will also provide the guidance for the requirements of local government as they relate to GHG emissions. The Plan is projected to be completed in November 2008. It is not clear if CARB will retain jurisdiction to enforce those regulations or if it will delegate authority to local governments. In addition, the County plans to create a GHG inventory, set reduction targets and create and implement a Climate Change Action Plan as a part of the General Plan update.

Finding #06: San Diego County has not yet developed a climate protection action plan.

County Response: We agree with this finding. The County is working to develop a comprehensive strategy that will enhance the sustainability of County business operations and communities, building on the many energy efficient and environmentally sound practices already in place in County departments. Additionally, the County is working on a General Plan Update. This update is based on smart growth principals and land use planning that will reduce GHGs by locating future development near existing communities and infrastructure, which will result in a reduction of vehicle miles traveled. The policies being considered for the General Plan Update to reduce GHGs and encourage sustainable practices will result in an implementation plan that:

- Prepares a climate change action plan with a baseline inventory and emissions reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions from all sources;
- Develops regulations and procedures to encourage the design and construction of new buildings in accordance with “green building” programs;
- Develops regulations that encourage the use of energy recovery, photovoltaic and wind energy in appropriate areas; and
- Promotes methane recovery in landfills.

Finding #07: San Diego County needs a climate action plan in order to comply with State legislation and to begin the process of stabilizing and reducing GHG emissions.

County Response: We partially agree with this finding. The CARB, as a requirement of AB32, is currently developing a plan to achieve reductions in GHG emissions in California. This document will provide the guidance for the requirements of local government as they relate to GHG emissions. The requirements have not been finalized to date. The Plan is projected to be completed in November 2008. The County is

following closely CARB's implementation of AB32. As sections become enforceable and apply to the County, we will take the appropriate role as the requirements are developed and finalized: enforcement, permitting, inventorying or implementing.

Recommendation 08-73 – The 2007/2008 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors: Review all policies, initiatives and resolutions related to climate protection strengthening them as needed to include targets, benchmarks and timetables in order to meet the mandate of AB 32.

County Response: This recommendation has not been implemented, but may be implemented in the future. The specific mandates and requirements of AB32 have not been finalized. The California Air Resources Board, as a requirement of AB32, is currently developing a plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in California. This document will guide the requirements of local government as they relate to GHG emissions. The Plan, when complete, will include a range of GHG reduction actions which can include direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions and market-based mechanisms such as a cap-and-trade system. The County is participating in the development of the resulting requirements of AB32 and will review policies against requirements when they are established. The Plan is expected to be completed in November 2008.

Recommendation 08-74 - The 2007/2008 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors: Develop an education and outreach program to inform the public, schools, professional associations, business and industry, and other jurisdictions about what they can do to reduce pollution that may cause global warming.

County Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The County has a number of aggressive outreach and small business assistance programs that educate others on ways to reduce air pollution and water pollution. This includes a Green Building Program designed to educate builders and provide incentives to build greener buildings (<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dplu/greenbuildings.html>). Additionally, there are also outreach programs on the importance of reducing air quality impacts (lawn mower trade-in program), reducing solid waste by recycling and other topics. It is anticipated that the County will expand existing outreach efforts, and tailor existing efforts to highlight the GHG reduction benefits associated with suggested pollution and waste reduction measures.

Recommendation 08-75 - The 2007/2008 San Diego County Grand Jury recommends that the San Diego County Board of Supervisors: Develop a formal structure whereby policy makers can interface with academia in order to develop policies that will promote sustainability and that are science based.

County Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The County of San Diego Science Advisory Board is an existing committee of distinguished scientists whose duties include the review and development of policy recommendations to the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Board of Supervisors on scientific and technological advances regarding their effect on the economic health and quality of life issues within the region. Additionally, the County is a participant in many other efforts organized by others: University of California, San Diego; the San Diego Foundation and the San Diego Association of Governments.