



SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE 2013-2014 SAN MATEO COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY'S FINAL REPORTS

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BACKGROUND

California Penal Code Section 933(a) requires the Grand Jury to “submit to the presiding judge of the superior court a final report of its findings and recommendations that pertain to county government matters during the fiscal or calendar year.” Section 933(c) requires comments from the governing body, elected county officers, or agency heads to the presiding judge of the superior court on the findings and recommendations within the required period of time. Governing bodies of public agencies are required to respond no later than 90 days after the grand jury submits a final report, elected county officers and agency heads no later than 60 days.

All civil grand jury reports and the responses can be reviewed on the following website:
http://www.sanmateocourt.org/court_divisions/grand_jury/.

The responses and comments submitted concerning reports issued by the 2013-2014 Grand Jury were evaluated by the 2014-2015 Grand Jury in light of California Penal Code Section 933.05(b), which requires the agency head, county officer, or governing body to provide one of four possible responses to each recommendation:

1. Have implemented the recommendation
2. Will implement the recommendation
3. Will study the recommendation
4. Will not implement the recommendation

California Penal Code Section 933.05(b)(2) requires that respondents indicating that they “will implement in the future” must include a timeframe for implementation.

California Penal Code Section 933.05(b)(3) requires that respondents indicating that “further study” will be necessary must conclude such study within six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.

On March 26, 2015, the Grand Jury mailed follow-up letters requesting updates from the respondents who indicated either “further study” or “will implement” when responding to the reports’ recommendations.

This report will bring the public up to date on the status of those responses that indicated the entity would study or will implement the recommendation(s).

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

The 2013-2014 Grand Jury issued nine final reports that required responses from a total of 60 individual elected bodies or agencies (respondents). Of those, 111 responses indicated that the recommendation required “further study” or that the entity “will implement” the recommendation. The current status of those responses is as follows:

RESPONSE	NUMBER	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Implemented (Fully or Partially)	29	26%
Will Implement	35	32%
Will Not Implement	15	13%
No Response	32	29%
TOTAL	111	100%

“No Response” indicates that the recipient did not respond to the Grand Jury’s March follow-up letter requesting an update. Specifics of the above results may be viewed in the appendices at the end of this report.

The 2014-2015 Grand Jury wishes to thank all respondents for their careful consideration of the Grand Jury’s recommendations. This review provides continuity and permits each successive grand jury to track the responses made by the affected agencies to the recommendations of each final report.

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO THE 2013-2014 SAN MATEO COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY FINAL REPORTS

REPORT TITLE & RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONSE WILL STUDY/ IMPLEMENT	STATUS
<p><i>Is the New Devil's Slide Trail Safe?</i></p> <p>R1. By December 31, 2014, research improving the emergency communication system currently available.</p> <p>R4. By December 31, 2014, replace the existing guardrail and install K-Rail to reduce the risk of injury.</p>	Board of Supervisors	R1 R4	In process Implemented
<p><i>Reducing the Incidents and Impact of Elder Financial Abuse in San Mateo County</i></p> <p>R1. By December 31, 2014, Adult Protective Services will develop a coordinated outreach effort involving all relevant County departments to further educate the public to identify and report elder financial abuse.</p> <p>R2. By December 31, 2014, Adult Protective Services will develop and implement training programs for mandated reporters addressing elder financial abuse.</p> <p>R3. By December 31, 2014, the District Attorney's office, in collaboration with Adult Protective Services, will implement the Financial Abuse Specialist Team model, to improve its current Multidisciplinary Team model, to include consulting community private sector financial specialists and to contribute to the investigation and resolution of elder financial abuse cases.</p> <p>R4. By December 31, 2014, the District Attorney's Office will develop and implement a computer system to record the details of elder abuse cases.</p> <p>R5. By March 31, 2015, the District Attorney's Office will evaluate the need for designating a full-time Deputy District Attorney and Inspector with responsibility for the prosecution and investigation of elder abuse cases.</p>	Board of Supervisors District Attorney	R1, R2, R3 R3 R4 R5	In process Done by 12/2015 Implemented Done by 7/1/15

REPORT TITLE & RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONSE WILL STUDY/ IMPLEMENT	STATUS
<p><i>Educational Frenemies: Can Charter Schools Inspire Better Student Outcomes in Public Schools in San Mateo County?</i></p> <p>R1. By December 31, 2014 utilize the monthly superintendents' meetings with the County Office of Education to develop and implement a written protocol to create more robust communication among the leaders of charter and traditional public schools, including but not limited to determining a method for including charter school leaders in relevant meetings of leaders of non-charter schools and districts.</p> <p>R2. By December 31, 2014 develop in each County school district a plan to determine the viability of extending the school day.</p> <p>R3. By December 31, 2014 develop in each County school district a plan to determine the viability of extending the school year.</p> <p>R4. By December 31, 2014 develop, at a district level, detailed mission statements which include quantifiable goals designed to produce better student outcomes. Mission statements will be posted on a publicly accessible website.</p>	Office of Education	R1	Implemented
	Bayshore Elementary School District	R2, R3	No Response
	Burlingame School District	R4	Done by 6/2015
	Hillsborough School District	R1	Will not implement
	Ravenswood City School District	R4	Done by 6/2015
	San Mateo-Foster City School District	R3	Will not implement
	Sequoia High School District	R4	Implemented
<p><i>Food Safety: Increasingly in the News</i></p> <p>R2. Continue progress toward achieving full implementation of the Federal Health Association National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards.</p> <p>R4. Improve by December 31, 2014 the usefulness of the Environmental Health Department website by ensuring that each facility entry contains a synopsis of any violations, the latest inspection date and type, and the facility's food safety rating.</p> <p>R5. Develop and implement by December 31, 2014 a quality assurance process to audit the content of the Restaurant and Food Inspection Results section on the website.</p> <p>R6. Develop and implement by June 30, 2015 a program which requires food establishments to prominently display their inspection status via the use of window placards.</p>	Board of Supervisors	R2, R4 R5 R6	Done by 12/2015 In process Implemented

REPORT TITLE & RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONSE WILL STUDY/ IMPLEMENT	STATUS
<p align="center"><i>Inmate Welfare Trust Fund</i></p> <p>R1. For FY 2013-14 and all future fiscal years, the medical, dental and prescription fees deducted from inmates' personal accounts should be transferred to the County's general fund, as prescribed by California Penal Code § 4011.2.</p> <p>R2 Beginning with the FY 2014-15 contract for the inmate services currently provided by the Service League, the County should more clearly delineate the source of funds for services to released inmates either through more specific contract provisions or by providing for such services in a separate contract altogether.</p>	Sheriff	R1, R2	No Response
<p align="center"><i>Partly Cloudy with a Chance of Information: Investigating the Transparency of Independent Special Districts' Websites</i></p> <p>R1. Each independent special district's website will conform to the accepted criteria listed in the SDLF's transparency checklist on or before May 15, 2015.</p> <p>R2. By December 31, 2014, independent special districts will consult with professional website developers if in-house staff is incapable of creating and/or managing their website as described above.</p> <p>R3. Each district will take the necessary steps to keep its website current.</p> <p>R4. Districts will complete the District of Distinction program offered by SDLF by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R5. Districts will seek to attain the SDLF Transparency Certificate of Excellence by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R6. Districts currently lacking staff or board members who have achieved the SDLF's Recognition in Special District Governance will seek the training available under this program by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R7. District administrators will seek the SDLF Special District Administrator C.</p> <p>(Continued next page)</p>	Bayshore Sanitary District	R1, R2, R3 R4	Implemented Will not implement
	Coastside Fire Protection District	R1 R4, R5 R6, R7	Implemented Will be done in 2015 Still studying
	Coastside Water District	R1, R5 R4, R6, R7	Done by 9/30/15 Will not implement
	Colma Fire Protection District	R1, R3	No Response
	East Palo Alto Sanitary District	R1 R2 R4, R5, R6 R7	Done 5/15/15 In process Will not implement Done by 1/2016
	Granada Sanitary District	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7	No Response
	Highlands Recreation District	R4, R6, R7 R5	In process Done by 10/2014
	Ladera Recreation District	R1 R4, R5, R6, R7	Done 5/15/2015 Will not implement
	Menlo Park Fire Protection District	R2, R4, R5	No Response

REPORT TITLE & RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONSE WILL STUDY/ IMPLEMENT	STATUS
<p><i>Partly Cloudy with a Chance of Information: Investigating the Transparency of Independent Special Districts' Websites (Continued)</i></p> <p>R1. Each independent special district's website will conform to the accepted criteria listed in the SDLF's transparency checklist on or before May 15, 2015.</p> <p>R2. By December 31, 2014, independent special districts will consult with professional website developers if in-house staff is incapable of creating and/or managing their website as described above.</p> <p>R3. Each district will take the necessary steps to keep its website current.</p> <p>R4. Districts will complete the District of Distinction program offered by SDLF by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R5. Districts will seek to attain the SDLF Transparency Certificate of Excellence by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R6. Districts currently lacking staff or board members who have achieved the SDLF's Recognition in Special District Governance will seek the training available under this program by June 30, 2015.</p> <p>R7. District administrators will seek the SDLF Special District Administrator Certification.</p>	Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District	R4, R5 R6 R7	Done by 10/1/15 Will not implement Done by 12/2015
	Mid-Peninsula Water District	R1, R4 R5 R6 R7	Done by 5/29/15 Done by FY 2018/1019 Done by FY 2017/2018 Implemented
	Montara Water and Sanitary District	R1, R2, R3, R5	No Response
	North Coast County Water District	R4 R6, R7	Done by 6/30/2015 Done by 12/31/2015
	Peninsula Health Care District	R4 R5	Done by 12/2015 Done by 9/1/2015
	San Mateo County Harbor District	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7	Will provide updates By end of July 2015 (No Response)
	San Mateo County Mosquito & Vector Control District	R1, R2, R6 R4, R5 R7	Implemented Done 6/30/2016 Will not implement
	San Mateo County Resource Conservation District	R3	No Response
	Sequoia Healthcare District	R1, R4, R5, R6, R7	Implemented
	Westborough Water District	R1, R4 R5 R7	Done by 5/31/2015 Done by 11/30/2015 Still to be done
	Woodside Fire Protection District	R1	No Response

REPORT TITLE & RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONDING AGENCY	RESPONSE WILL STUDY/ IMPLEMENT	STATUS
<p><i>San Mateo County Detention Facilities: An Overview</i></p> <p>R1. Document performance results reflecting the effectiveness of the adult programs and services as outlined in the Jail-Based Services and Reentry Programming Strategic Implementation Plan.</p> <p>R3. Document performance results reflecting the effectiveness of the juvenile programs and services provided in all juvenile facilities.</p> <p>R4. Annually submit a report to the Board of Supervisors for public discussion concerning the performance measures for the above-referenced juvenile services and programs.</p>	Board of Supervisors	R3 R4	In progress Implemented
	Sheriff	R1	No Response
<p><i>What is the Price of Dysfunction? The San Mateo County Harbor District</i></p> <p>R1. The Local Agency Formation Commission will initiate a service review of the Harbor District by December 31, 2014.</p> <p>R2. The County Board of Supervisors will begin the process of dissolution of the Harbor District by December 31, 2014.</p> <p>R5. The Harbor District will standardize detailed quarterly financial reporting at commission meetings by March 30, 2015.</p> <p>R6. The Harbor District will identify a successor agency to assume control of the West Trail by December 31, 2014.</p> <p>R7. The Harbor District will explore transferring or cost-sharing with the City of Half Moon Bay, the co-sponsorship with the Army Corps of Engineers of the Surfer's Beach dredging operation by December 31, 2014.</p> <p>R9. The Harbor District will explore the outsourcing of management of all commercial real properties to a real estate management firm by December 31, 2014.</p> <p>R11. Harbor District commissioners and general manager will earn Special District Leadership Foundation certifications by July 1, 2015.</p>	Board of Supervisors	R2	Cannot give update at this time (No Response)
	San Mateo County Harbor District	R5, R6, R7, R9, R11	Will provide update by end 7/2015 (No Response)
	Local Agency Formation Commission	R1	Done by 7/2015

Issued: June 30, 2015