

**CITY OF SANTA PAULA
MEMORANDUM**

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: John Cotti, City Attorney
Ismael Cordero, Commander

Subject: Approval of a Response to the Grand Jury's Report Entitled Annual Detention Facilities and Law Enforcement Report

Date: July 17, 2017

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council: (1) Approve the response letter to the Ventura County Grand Jury and authorize the Mayor to sign the letter; and (2) take such additional, related action that may be desirable.

Report by: John C. Cotti, City Attorney; Ismael Cordero, Police Commander

Fiscal Impacts: None.

Personnel Impacts: None.

General Discussion: In California, civil grand juries are authorized to “investigate and report upon the operations, accounts, and records of the officers, departments, functions, and the method or system of performing the duties of any such city or joint powers agency and make such recommendations as it may deem proper and fit.” (Cal. Penal Code §925(a)). In Ventura County, the Grand Jury conducts annual inspections of detention facilities in the County, including Santa Paula’s holding facility and Police Station.

On May 17, 201, the Ventura County Grand Jury issued its annual report entitled “Annual Detention Facilities and Law Enforcement Report,” a copy of which is attached. The Report inspected each custodial jail, pre-trial detention facility and juvenile facility in Ventura County. Specific to Santa Paula, the Grand Jury found that the Santa Paula Police Department building is small and cannot accommodate all staff members (F-06) and is in need of repairs and renovations, including repairs to exposed wiring and missing ceiling tiles (F-07).

At the conclusion of the Report, the Grand Jury requested a response from the City to Conclusion C-06 (that the Police Station is small and is in need of repairs and renovations) and Recommendation R-06, which recommends that the Santa Paula City Council formally review the feasibility of upgrading or replacing its police facilities.

Within 90 days after a Grand Jury's issuance of the report, the City Council must comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report. In responding to each Grand Jury recommendation, State law requires the City indicate whether the recommendation (1) has been implemented; (2) has not yet been implemented, but will be in the future; (3) requires further analysis; or (4) will not implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.

The attached proposed Response to the Report addresses the Grand Jury's conclusions and recommendations.

Alternatives: State law requires the City Council to respond to the Grand Jury report. The City Council may:

- 1) Accept and file the Staff Report and approve the proposed response for submittal;
- 2) Propose alternative language to the response.

Attachments:

Grand Jury Report - Annual Detention Facilities

Response to Grand Jury - Annual Detention Facilities