



City of Santa Paula

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RECEIVED

July 7, 2003

Duane Christensen, Foreman
Ventura County Grand Jury
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

RE: Grand Jury Report dated June 5, 2003

Dear Mr. Christensen:

The City received a copy of the Ventura County Grand Jury Report entitled *Redevelopment Agencies and the Requirements for Low and Moderate Income Housing*. That Report is dated June 5, 2003.

A review of the Report shows that the Grand Jury made a number of findings regarding Redevelopment Agencies. The City of Santa Paula was asked to respond to Recommendations R-4 and R-5. With regard to R-4, it appears that the Grand Jury's concern (see Conclusion C-3) is that citizen participation may be discouraged because Redevelopment Agency meetings "[are] held after all City Council business and it is often quite late."

In an effort to facilitate City business and encourage citizen participation, the City Council recently began holding joint meetings of the City Council and Redevelopment Agency Board. This allows all public business to be conducted on one Agenda rather than having two separate meetings. We believe that such action has helped increase public participation with the Redevelopment Agency since the public need not attend meetings held different days, times, and places; stay for later meetings; or use different agendas. Accordingly, we believe this action fulfills your apparent goal in making Redevelopment Agency actions more customer friendly.

Regarding R-5, the City can certainly provide the County with a copy of Redevelopment Agency reports upon request. While we think that our constituents are more likely to view such reports at City Hall, there is certainly no objection to sharing reports with the County.

"Citrus Capital of the World"

Ventura County Grand Jury
July 7, 2003
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Report. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Procter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

John T. Procter
Mayor

cc: Vice-Mayor
Councilmembers
City Manager
Interim City Attorney