

CITY OF SIMI VALLEY



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September 3, 2003

RECEIVED

SEP 8 2003

Mr. Duane Christensen, Foreman
Ventura County 2002-2003 Grand Jury
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

VENTURA COUNTY GRAND JURY

Dear Mr. Christensen:

The City of Simi Valley has received the Grand Jury's report entitled Redevelopment Agencies and the requirements for low- and moderate-income housing. You have requested that the City indicate whether the City concurs, concurs in part, or disagrees with each Findings and for the City to state whether Recommendations R-4 and R-5 has already been implemented, will be implemented, will not be implemented, or requires further study. The following is offered in response:

Findings:

- F-1 Concur
- F-2 Concur
- F-3 Concur
- F-4 Concur
- F-5 Partly Concur. The State Controller's Office regularly reviews and monitors a redevelopment agency's use of housing set-aside funds via the Annual Report that is submitted to the State of California within six months of the close of the fiscal year.
- F-6 Concur
- F-7 Concur
- F-8 Concur
- F-9 Concur
- F-10 Concur
- F-11 Concur
- F-12 Concur
- F-13 Partly Concur. In accordance with the California Redevelopment Law, Project Area Committees (PACs) are required when a significant number of low- or moderate-income residents could be displaced due to redevelopment activities. The Simi Valley Community Development Agency (SVCDA) often seeks input from all residents, businesses, and landowners whether located inside or outside of Project Areas. Further, the SVCDA seeks citizen input during the formation

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of Project Areas. During the formation of the most recent Project Area, the SVCDA sent notices to over 5,000 property and business owners soliciting their input at one of four scheduled "town hall" meetings to discuss the proposed Project Area. Further, the State requires that redevelopment agencies conduct public hearings regarding the adoption and mid-term reviews of the Implementation Plans and Ten-Year Housing Production Plan.

F-14 Concur
F-15 Concur

Recommendations:

- R-4 Will not be implemented. The Simi Valley City Council and the SVCDA meet concurrently for the convenience of the citizens of Simi Valley. Providing for meetings on two different dates will require citizens to come to City Hall on multiple occasions to address issues on each agency's agenda. Having meetings at the same time requires only one visit to City Hall. Citizen input on all agenda items is received at the beginning of the agenda as part of the Public Statements or Public Hearings portion of the meeting. Therefore, citizens are not required to wait extended periods of time to address individual agenda items, whether City or SVCDA. Additionally, unlike meetings of the Ventura County Board of Supervisors, meetings of the SVCDA are conducted in the evening to allow better access by the public.
- R-5 Will be implemented upon notification of the designated County office.

If you should have any further questions regarding the Simi Valley Community Development Agency, please feel free to contact me at 583-6701.

Sincerely,



Brian Paul Gabler
Director of Economic Development/
Assistant City Manager

cc: City Council
City Manager
City Attorney