



City of Thousand Oaks

July 19, 2006

RECEIVED

OCT 10 2006

MAYOR DENNIS C. GILLETTE

RECEIVED
VENTURA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

JUL 21 2006

Honorable John R. Smiley, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, Ventura County
Hall of Justice #2120
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDING JUDGE

Re: Ventura County 2000-2005 Grand Jury Report titled, *Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities*

Dear Judge Smiley:

This correspondence responds to the late Foreman, James H. Dekker, Ventura County 2000-2005 Grand Jury's letter dated June 20, 2006, transmitting the *Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities* report.

On July 18, 2006 City Council of the City of Thousand Oaks considered the letter and attached *Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities* report and submits the following comments on the reports *findings* and *recommendations*. This letter is submitted in accordance with Penal Code 933.05 sections (a) thru (c). Specifically, Foreman Dekker's letter asks City Council to:

- State whether City Council concurs, concurs in part, or disagrees with the Grand Jury's *findings*.
- Explain the reasons City Council disagrees in whole or in part with each applicable *finding*.
- For each applicable *recommendation*,
 - o State whether you concur, concur in part, or disagree with the Grand Jury's *findings*.
 - o Explain the reasons why you disagree in whole or in part with each applicable *finding*.
 - o State if it has already been implemented, will be implemented (with expected date of implementation), will not be implemented (with an explanation of the reason), or requires further study.

As requested, a copy of the Minutes of the City Council meeting of July 18, 2006 is attached.

Honorable John R. Smiley

Re: Response to 2005-2006 Grand Jury Report – *Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities*

July 19, 2006

Page 2

Findings:

The City Council of City of Thousand Oaks responds to the Grand Jury findings as follows:

Findings F-01 thru F-08 (excluding Finding F-06 related to City of Port Hueneme):

Response: City Council concurs with Grand Jury findings.

Finding F-06:

Response: City Council is not directly aware of unique problem facing City of Port Hueneme, thus has no comment on Grand Jury finding.

Conclusions:

The City Council of City of Thousand Oaks responds to the Grand Jury conclusions as follows:

Conclusion C-01 thru C-05:

Response: The City Council agrees with the Conclusions except for C-03. The City concurs in part with C-03 but believes the state and federal governments must be partners in solving affordable housing needs.

Recommendations:

The City Council of City of Thousand Oaks responds to the Grand Jury Recommendations as follows:

Recommendation R-01:

"Each city should increase efforts to work with businesses and developers to actively pursue solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems associated with the issues of Affordable Housing."

Response to Recommendation R-01:

City Council has worked diligently with developers and non-profits to address affordable housing concerns for many years. The City has recently increased its efforts in this area. On March 28, 2006, City Council conducted an Affordable Housing Study Session. Following the study session, Council directed staff to develop and bring back for Council review actions with the goal to: 1) establish Housing Trust Fund, 2) consider enactment of an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, which would include consideration of an In-Lieu Fee and Commercial/Industrial Linkage Fee(s), 3) adopt an In-Fill (or "Smart Growth") strategy, and 4) consider local preferences for affordable housing programs.

Honorable John R. Smiley

Re: Response to 2005-2006 Grand Jury Report – *Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities*

July 19, 2006

Page 3

This recommendation of the Grand Jury is currently being implemented as outlined above.

Recommendation R-02:

"Each city should educate its residents on how local services (education, police, health care, etc) depend upon the availability of Affordable Housing."

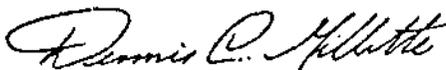
Response to Recommendation R-02:

City Council already is implementing this recommendation. For example, during the Affordable Housing Study Session discussion concerning local housing preferences recognized the important link between affordable housing and local services. Staff was directed to give matter further study and return policy recommendations for Council consideration. City Council further agrees that education of existing or future employers within the City and County is also critical in building community support for the production of additional affordable housing to serve not only Very Low or Low Income residents, but all members of the 'workforce' community.

Other means to further increase public awareness of affordable housing issues include City Council support through financial sponsorship of annual Ventura County Housing Conferences held over the past few years, commissioning Affordable Housing Opportunities Assessment (AHOA) study and ad hoc committee review and recommendations on specific program options identified in AHOA which was primary focus of March 28, 2006 Affordable Housing Study Session

Should you have any questions and/or comments, please contact City Manager Scott Mitnick, at 805/449-2121.

Sincerely,



Dennis C. Gillette
Mayor

Attachments:

June 20, 2006 Grand Jury letter

July 18, 2006 City Council Meeting Minutes

c: City Council
Scott Mitnick, City Manager
Amy Albano, City Attorney

CMO:510-40/dgillette/dmg/06grandJuryResponseLtrAffordableHousing

CDD:430-90\rw\h\GrandJury\06-JulyGrandJuryResponseLtrAffordableHsg