

CITY OF

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PRESIDING JUDGE

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

September 15, 2006

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

Subject: Response to Ventura County Grand Jury report titled, Affordable Housing in Ventura County Cities

Your Honor:

The City is offering its general concurrence with the above captioned report. The status of the specific recommendations contained in the report are as follows:

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.

The City has convened a Workforce Housing Taskforce to consider potential solutions to affordable housing issues within the City of Ventura. This group is comprised of Council Members, other Agencies, business owners, and local non-profits.

The City is undertaking the process of considering an in-lieu fee component to complement its recently adopted city-wide Inclusionary Housing Program. This will require significant interaction with the development community on issues related to the topic of affordable housing.

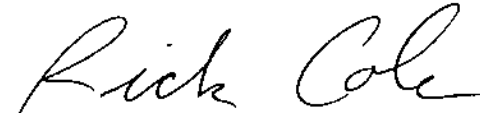
R-02. Each city should educate its residents on how local services (education, police, health care, etc.) depend upon the availability of affordable housing.

The City is presently looking at various avenues to expand education efforts to its residents on importance of workforce housing for key safety, education, and healthcare positions. As the City seeks to continue to expand avenues for expanding affordable housing opportunities these outreach efforts will be a key component of those efforts.

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The City appreciates the opportunity to comment on this report. Should you wish to discuss this further, please contact Nelson Hernandez, Community Development Director at 658-4723, or nhernandez@ci.ventura.ca.us.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rick Cole
City Manager

Enclosure: City Councils Minutes 09/11/06

C: City Council
Nelson Hernandez, Community Development Director