

The logo for the City of Ventura, featuring the words "CITY OF" in a smaller font above "VENTURA" in a larger, bold, serif font. The text is set against a background of a mountain range under a blue sky.

CITY OF  
**VENTURA**

**City Council**

Christy Weir, Mayor  
Bill Fulton, Deputy Mayor  
Neal Andrews, Councilmember  
Brian Brennan, Councilmember  
James L. Monahan, Councilmember  
Carl E. Morehouse, Councilmember  
Edward W. Summers, Councilmember

September 17, 2008

Don Cody, Foreman  
Ventura County Grand Jury  
800 South Victoria Avenue, L#3751  
Ventura CA 93009

Subject: Response to Ventura County Grand Jury report titled, Ventura Port District Financial Viability Review

Members of the Ventura County Grand Jury:

I'm offering on behalf of the Ventura City Council, the City's general concurrence with the above captioned report. The status of the specific recommendations contained in the report are as follows:

**R-02.** The Grand Jury recommends that both the City and the District take advantage of every opportunity to facilitate port economic development, particularly the development of District Parcels 15, 16, & 18, and the up-grading/improvement of older District properties.

Recommendation R-02 is already being implemented through the efforts of the City's Community Development Department, Planning Commission, Design Review Committee, and City Council. All parties have worked diligently with the Port District and private developer Sondermann Ring Partners to facilitate development of District Parcels 15, 16, & 18 with 300 residential apartment units and approximately 20,000 square feet of commercial floor area. The City's final discretionary permit approval was completed on January 22, 2007, and forwarded to the California Coastal Commission on March 1, 2008 for approval of the requested Local Coastal Plan Amendment.

The Coastal Commission has twice requested detailed financial information addressing the potential for increased coastal-related retail and recreational opportunities beyond which is being provided by the project applicant. The developer provided responses in both instances with the assistance of an economic consultant, and the Coastal Commission deemed the application complete on July 8, 2008. At this time, no hearing date has been set. Once the Coastal Commission approves the LCP Amendment, staff will work with the applicant to ensure timely issuance of necessary City permits.

RECEIVED

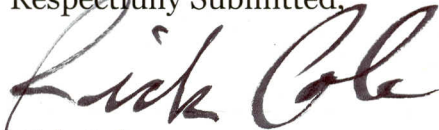
SEP 23 2008

VENTURA COUNTY  
GRAND JURY

Page Two  
Grand Jury  
September 17, 2008

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@cityofventura.net](mailto:nhernandez@cityofventura.net).

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Cole". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rick Cole  
City Manager

C: Honorable Colleen Toy White, Presiding Judge  
Ventura City Council  
Nelson Hernandez, Community Development Director