

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

RECEIVED

Date: June 11, 2012

JUN 19 2012

Agenda Item No.: 6

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Council Action Date: June 18, 2012

To: Rick Cole, City Manager

From: Ken Corney, Police Chief

Subject: Grand Jury Response-Graffiti in Ventura County Cities and Vehicle Impound Fees in Ventura County

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council authorize the City Manager to approve the response to the Grand Jury Reports titled Graffiti in Ventura County Cities and Vehicle Impound Fees in Ventura County.

SUMMARY

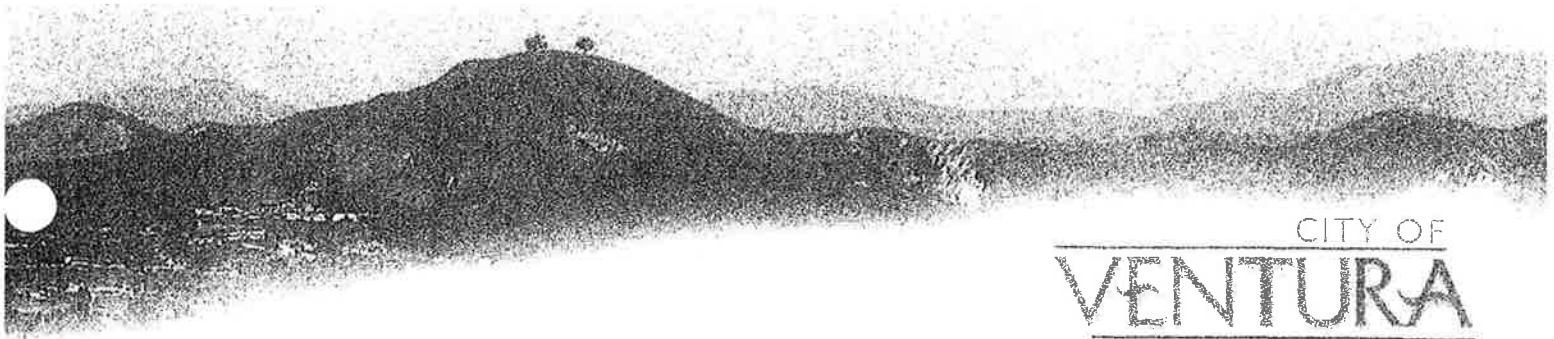
Penal Code 933.05 requires that the Council comment on the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury pertaining to city government under Council authority.

The Grand Jury produced these reports and made a series of findings and recommendations regarding impound fees and graffiti both countywide and specifically for the City of Ventura. Attached are our recommended responses.

DISCUSSION

On behalf of the Council and the City Manager the Ventura Police Department and Public Works Department have reviewed the above Grand Jury Reports and have collaborated on the attached responses for signature by the Mayor. These particular responses are from the affected Departments and are coordinated through the City Manager's office. Our responses are labeled as Attachments A - Graffiti and B - Impound Fees.

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CITY OF
VENTURA

City Council

Mike Tracy, Mayor
Cheryl Heitmann, Deputy Mayor
Neal Andrews, Councilmember
Brian Brennan, Councilmember
James L. Monahan, Councilmember
Carl E. Morehouse, Councilmember
Christy Weir, Councilmember

June 19, 2012

The Honorable Vincent J. O'Neill, Jr.
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura CA 93009

Re: Grand Jury Report Graffiti in Ventura County Cities

Dear Judge O'Neill:

Enclosed please find our Response Form to the Grand Jury report titled Graffiti in Ventura County Cities.

We agree with the report findings.

By way of explanation see our comments below regarding the recommendations:

R-01. The Cities should aggressively pursue the recovery of costs from the individual(s) convicted of graffiti vandalism. (FI-02, FI-03)

Response: We have an ordinance that allows us to aggressively recover costs for individuals who have either been convicted or found civilly liable under our ordinance.

R-02. The VCOG should schedule a follow-up to the 2007 Graffiti Summit for the purpose of updating and/or completing the roundtable recommendations previously established and to allow participants to share their current "best practices." (FI-OS)

Response: While recommendation 2 does not directly relate to the City of Ventura, we will participate in future collaborations with VCOG with regards to graffiti.

R-03. The VCOG should expand summit participation to include all entities that may experience graffiti damage. In addition to the 2007 Graffiti Summit participants, the following should be included: various volunteer organizations; railroads within the County; public transportation entities; and other special districts in the County. (FI-OS)

Response: While recommendation 3 does not directly relate to the City of Ventura we will participate in future collaborations with VCOG with regards to graffiti.

R-04. The Cities should enlist the assistance of volunteer groups within the County for graffiti abatement. Such groups might include: Sheriff's and Youth Graffiti Removal Incident Team; Keep America Beautiful; and various civic groups. (FI-07)

Response: While we utilize full time employees for graffiti clean up we will seek further volunteer assistance from additional civic groups as recommended.

R-05. The Cities, with the exception of Port Hueneme and Santa Paula, should amend their city codes regarding graffiti vandalism to include provisions for the city to petition the sentencing court for the delay or suspension of driving privileges for those convicted of graffiti vandalism, as allowed for in the state vehicle code. (FI-08) [Ref-07]

Response: We will work with our City Council and City Attorney to evaluate and potentially implement this recommendation. The Police Department shall take the lead in this effort and will begin this process within this month.

On June 18, 2012 the Ventura City Council approved this Grand Jury report response and authorized the City Manager to make this reply. We appreciate the Grand Jury's efforts in looking into this important matter.

Sincerely,

Mike Tracy
Mayor

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

Report Title: Graffiti in Ventura County Cities

Report Date: June 18, 2012

Response by: Rick Cole Title: City Manager

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: FI-01 thru FI-08
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: N/A
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R-1, R-4 have been implemented.
(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered R-2, R-3 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered R-5 require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 06/18/12 Signed: _____

Number of pages attached _____