



City of Camarillo

601 Carmen Drive • P.O. Box 248 • Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

Office of the City Manager
(805) 388-5307
FAX (805) 388-5318

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July 25, 2013

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

The Honorable Brian J. Back
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Dear Honorable Judge Back:

Subject: Grand Jury Request – Senior Transportation in Ventura County

Attached you will find the Camarillo City Council's written response signed by Mayor Craven, as requested by the Grand Jury, to the Findings and Recommendations in subject report.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this Grand Jury report. The City appreciates the very important role that the Grand Jury serves. If additional information is needed, please feel free to contact me at (805) 388-5309.

Sincerely,


Bruce Feng
City Manager

cc: Jay Whitney, Foreman
Ventura County Grand Jury (2012-2013)
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Camarillo City Clerk

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

Report Title: Senior Transportation in Ventura County
Report Date: May 23, 2013
Response by: Mayor Charlotte Craven and Camarillo City Council
Title: Mayor and City Council Members

FINDINGS

The Report does not request the City of Camarillo to respond to any Findings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Report requests the City of Camarillo to respond to Recommendations R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04 and R-05

Recommendations numbered as listed below have been implemented.

None

(Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)

Recommendations numbered as listed below have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Recommendations R-01, R-02, R-03, R-04 and R-05

(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)

Recommendations numbered as listed below require further analysis.


None

(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 as listed below will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.

None

Date: July 25, 2013


Charlotte Craven, Mayor
City of Camarillo

Number of pages attached: 2

ATTACHMENT TO RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Grand Jury recommends that:

R-01. The Grand Jury recommends that an independent, non-elected County administrator be assigned to oversee the collaborative efforts of all the senior transportation modalities in the County and produce strategies to simplify senior transportation. This administrator would seek consensus with the independent companies and city transportation agencies with a goal of consistency in the areas of availability, acceptability, accessibility, adaptability, and affordability. Further, the administrator would develop an advisory board comprised of senior bus-riding citizens to point out the opportunities for improvements. In addition, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors should be encouraged to ride a bus route once a year to determine needs and the effectiveness of the programs.

Response to R-01: The Camarillo City Council does not support Recommendation R-01 for two reasons. First, the Ventura County Transportation Commission already has a staff to coordinate the transportation needs in Ventura County including the transportation needs of seniors. Second, there is limited funding for transportation. Therefore, there is no need for an independent, non-elected County administrator to be assigned as proposed in R-01.

R-02. In cooperation with the VCTC and VCAAAA, programs should be implemented that are designed to assist senior citizens with transportation within their cities and throughout the County.

Response to R-02: The City of Camarillo will continue to participate in implementing local and countywide programs designed to aid senior citizens as well as other transit patrons. The development of a memorandum of agreement among five public entities in East Ventura County is a current example of a program designed to improve bus transportation.

R-03. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors should allocate specific funding for senior transportation.

Response to R-03: Like other services and programs provided by an individual agency, funding for senior transportation is not unlimited and must be allocated in balance with the overall financial resources available to the agency.

R-04. The VCTC, working with VCAAAA, should standardize requirements for participation in the senior transportation programs. They should also publicize the availability of programs that fulfill the transportation needs of seniors.

Response to R-04: In response to the findings in the recent VCTC Ventura County Regional Transit Study, the ten cities and the County are in the process of developing improved transportation programs, including programs for seniors, and for marketing available senior transportation services based upon needs and financial ability as determined by each jurisdiction.

R-05. The VCAAA should plan for increased staffing to accommodate a growing senior population.

Response to R-05: The City of Camarillo defers to the County of Ventura and VCAAA to make decisions on staffing of the VCAAA based upon needs and available funding.

TIME FRAME: Ongoing as described above in the Responses.