



CITY OF MOORPARK

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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JUL 19 2013

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

July 17, 2013

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

Dear Judge Back:

The City of Moorpark has received the 2012-2013 Grand Jury report, "Senior Transportation in Ventura County". In accordance with Penal Code Section 933.05, we submit our reply in response to the Grand Jury recommendations, including recommendations for the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (VCAAA).

The City Council appreciates the efforts of the Grand Jury for its investigation into the public transportation needs of Ventura County senior citizens.

The Grand Jury has requested the City of Moorpark provide responses to the recommendations R-01 through R-05 as outlined in the Grand Jury report.

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS

The Moorpark City Council has carefully reviewed the Recommendations in the Grand Jury Report and has the following responses to each of the five Recommendations, R-01 through R-05. The Grand Jury Report statement of the Recommendation is presented first, followed by the City's response.

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.*

City Council Response: The City of Moorpark does not believe that an independent, non-elected County administrator assigned to oversee the collaborative efforts of all the senior transportation modalities in the County would simplify senior transportation. The

City of Moorpark is currently working with other transit operators in Ventura County to implement strategies to encourage simplified senior transportation. The Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) has an adopted Ventura County Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan, which includes recommendations for improved public transit. The City of Moorpark also participates in the VCTC Transit Operators Advisory Committee which discusses all transit programs, including improving senior transportation.

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

City Council Response: It is the City of Moorpark's understanding that VCTC currently provides funding for travel training through Federal and State grants both through its contractor, Mobility Management Partners, and local transit operators. Moorpark would support VCAAA also providing travel training (either directly or through a third party contractor). Ventura County transit agencies work collaboratively with the VCTC and the VCAAA in the development of programs with the focus of addressing the transportation challenges faced by Ventura County seniors. Examples of county-wide collective ventures include computer-aided dispatching software; automated vehicle locators (AVL); and, working groups such as the Transit Operators Advisory Committee; the Americans with Disabilities Act Intercity Committee; and the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee/Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee,

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

City Council Response: The City of Moorpark believes that each agency in Ventura County operating transportation services should allocate funding that best meets the needs of the residents served.

R-04. *The VCTC, working with the VCAAA, 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.*

City Council Response: The VCTC has already established standards for participation in senior transportation through the Ventura County Coordinated Public Transit – Human Services Transportation Plan. The City of Moorpark currently publicizes the availability of senior transportation services through its website, quarterly city-wide City Magazine, and Moorpark Active Adult Center. Although standards for senior transportation are beneficial, the City of Moorpark also believes that local communities should have the discretion to adjust their respective transit services to meet the local needs/desires of their respective communities.

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

City Council Response: The City of Moorpark recognizes that the staffing level of the VCAAA is dependent upon the amount of available funding and resources that Ventura County is able to provide.

SUMMARY:

The City of Moorpark wishes to thank the Grand Jury for its time in performing their review and determining their Recommendations.

Sincerely,



Janice S. Parvin,
Mayor

C: Foreperson, Ventura County Grand Jury
City Council
City Manager
City Attorney
City Engineer/Public Works Director