



City of Pleasant Hill

August 8, 2017

Honorable John T. Laettner, Judge of the Superior Court
Jim Mellander, Foreperson, 2016-2017 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
725 Court Street
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553
Also via email to ctadmin@contracosta.courts.ca.gov

RE: City of Pleasant Hill's Response to Report No. 1707 "Homelessness in the Cities"

Dear Judge Laettner and Foreperson Mellander:

In June 2017, the 2016-2017 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury issued Report No. 1707 entitled "Homelessness in the Cities." Below find the City of Pleasant Hill's responses to the report's findings and recommendations.

FINDINGS

Finding 1. CORE teams are most likely to be the first point of entry for the homeless into the County's Coordinated Entry System.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 2. CORE teams can successfully identify a homeless individual in need of physical or mental health services.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 3. CORE teams have the resources to identify if there are vacant shelter beds available in the County.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 4. CORE teams are equipped and have the authorization to transport homeless individuals to a medical facility or to a homeless shelter.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 5. CORE teams build trust between the homeless and police departments.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 6. The City found various and novel ways to fund its CORE teams.

City Response: Agree. The City of Pleasant Hill and City of Martinez together requested AB 109 funding from the Contra Costa Police Chief's Association, which the Association approved, to conduct a one-year pilot joint CORE team.

Finding 9. The cities of Antioch, Concord, Pittsburg, and Walnut Creek, which are the CDBG Entitlement Cities, are the only cities in Contra Costa County that have an approved written homeless plan to end or reduce homelessness in their respective jurisdictions.

City Response: Agree.

Finding 10. The City appears to be in compliance with the California Housing Accountability Act.

City Response: Agree.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1. The City should consider establishing CORE teams either by partnering with one or more cities in the region or by funding its own team.

City Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The City of Pleasant Hill is jointly funding a CORE team with the City of Martinez.

Recommendation 2. The City should consider providing incentives for developers to construct housing for the extremely low income, very low income, and homeless populations.

City Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The City of Pleasant Hill offers a number of incentives to developers to construct housing for extremely low income, very low income, and homeless populations. The City has an inclusionary housing ordinance, offers density bonuses for projects that include additional affordable units, and provides Housing Asset Fund monies to affordable housing projects.

Recommendation 3. The City should consider using Successor Agency funds, CDBG and other federal housing funds, impact fees, and city general funds to assist in funding

housing for the extremely low income, very low income and homeless populations.

City Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The City of Pleasant Hill uses Housing Successor Agency funds (the Housing Asset Fund) and inclusionary ordinance in lieu fee funds to assist in funding housing for the extremely low income, very low income, and homeless populations.

Recommendation 4. The City should consider adopting a five-year comprehensive homeless plan, as soon as possible with a target date of January 1, 2019, to reduce the homeless population in the City.

City Response: The recommendation requires further analysis. As noted in the report, the City of Pleasant Hill is covered by the Contra Costa County Continuum of Care's Consolidated. The City would need to consider, with the County, the benefit of developing a city-specific plan.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information regarding the City's response at 925-671-5284.

Sincerely,



Andrew Murray, Assistant City Manager

Cc: Michael G. Harris, Mayor
Timothy M. Flaherty, Vice-Mayor
Ken Carlson, Councilmember
Sue Noack, Councilmember
Matthew Rinn, Councilmember
June Catalano, City Manager
Janet Coleson, City Attorney
Greg Fuz, City Planner
John Moore, Chief of Police

Attachments: - Letter from Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury Regarding Report
- Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury Report