SEP 2 2 2015

Response to Grand Jury Report Form

VENTURA COUNTY GRAND JURY

Report Title: Final Report Detention Facilities & Law Enforcement Issues

Report Date: August 27, 2015

Response by: Greg Nyhoff Title: City of Oxnard Manager

Jeri Williams Title: Public Safety Director

FINDINGS

• I (we) agree with the findings numbered: FI-01, FI-07

• I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: <u>FI-06</u> Statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.

FI-06: The City of Oxnard's Police Department Jail is a temporary holding facility where persons under arrest are in the custody of officers for a short period of time, before being transported to the Ventura County Jail. With respect to the available space of the holding facility, on average, jail staff members monitor about 8 to 10 prisoners at a time within the holding cells (7 cells) before releasing them or transporting individuals to the Ventura County Jail. Given the current space and prisoner to holding facility staff ratio, staff members are able to function appropriately and carry out their responsibilities.

FI-07: With regards to tracking data and evaluating the impact of Proposition 47 on local law enforcement agencies and communities, additional local, county, and state-wide efforts will require more studies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendation numbered <u>R-02</u> requires more study including collaboration with local, state, and county agencies. It is agreed that the effects of the Proposition have been felt throughout the state. In order to fully understand the Proposition's impact, local, county, and state agencies will need to work together to track and analyze data,
- Recommendation numbered <u>R-03</u> has been implemented or addressed.

The Oxnard City Council encouraged the Oxnard Department Jail facility to install raised seating in its cells and as a result, two (2) of the seven (7) cells now have bench seating available for prisoners. As the Grand Jury report noted, the Oxnard Police Department did have a plan in place to have raised seating installed during the Grand Jury's last visit (Fact

FA-26). The approved benches have been installed and now offer a seating component to the cells.

Recommendation numbered $\underline{R-04}$ will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable.

The Grand Jury reviewed detention facilities within the County of Ventura and the cities within the county. The report concluded that: "more space should be allocated inside the Oxnard Police Department Jail facility to allow staff members to carry out their duties and responsibilities more efficiently." The Oxnard Police Jail falls under the definition of a "Temporary Holding facility" per 15 CCR § 1027. The current allotted space where holding facility staff work is sufficient based on the designated function and nature of a temporary holding facility.

The City of Oxnard does not have additional available space for the Oxnard Police Department Jail. Because this jail serves as only a temporary holding facility and prisoner populations are at low occupancy, the need for additional space inside the facility is not required. The current allotted amount of space is appropriate for jail staff members to carry out their required duties and responsibilities. (See response to FI-06 above)

Time Frame
Date: September 15, 2015 Signed:
Tim Flynn, Mayor
ATTEST:
Warmer Mart
Daniel Martinez, City Clerk
Date: September 15, 2015 (Signed:
Greg Nyhoff, City Manager
Date: September 15, 2015 Signed:
Jofi Williams, Police Chief
Number of pages attached: 0