

June 28, 2006

The Honorable Judge Rodney Melville
Superior Court
312-M East Cook Street
Santa Maria, CA 93455-5165

Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury
Attention: Foreperson
1100 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Honorable Judge Melville:

On April 27, 2006, the City received a recently released report from the 2005-06 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury, entitled, "Measure D – Progress as Promised?" The report names the City of Carpinteria as an affected agency, and requests on page 20, that the City respond to Findings 2 and 5, and Recommendation 1. (The date of the letter request was April 26, 2006.)

The following City's response to Findings 2 and 5, and Recommendation 1 are provided for your review

Finding 2, page 18

The 70% of Measure D revenues allocated to local agencies has resulted in significant improvements in road and street pavement condition, local transit shuttle services in Carpinteria and Santa Barbara, and upgrades to the transportation infrastructure of the County and cities.

Response

The City of Carpinteria concurs with Finding 2.

Finding 5, page 19

SBCAG , the cities, the County Public Works Department and the paratransit operators have not adequately publicized the positive results achieved through Measure D. This has allowed the public debate to be focused on narrow set of policy issues, such as the desirability of mass transit vs. roads.

Response

The City of Carpinteria concurs with Finding 5.

Recommendation 1, page 19

Publicize the results of Measure D to date to raise the awareness of voters and enable them to make an informed decision about reauthorizing the transportation sales tax.

Response

The City of Carpinteria concurs with this Recommendation.

The City incorporates various methods to publicize the use of Measure D funds. Presently, specifications for projects funded by Measure D require that the contractor post specially made Measure D logo signage at strategic locations within the limits of the project to emphasize that Measure D funded the improvements. See attached photograph for the City's latest Rubberized Asphalt Overlay project on Linden Avenue from Eighth Street to Carpinteria Avenue.

The fact that all City Council meetings are televised, assists in providing a public awareness of projects awarded for design and construction contracts using Measure D funds.

Another method to provide public awareness is the City Manager's Quarterly News Letter, enclosed in the Coastal View News paper, which includes articles and pictures of projects using Measure D funds.

To further support Recommendation 1 and raise public awareness about the use of Measure D funds, the City will publicize upcoming and ongoing projects on the City's web site, televised event scroll,

and the Government Access Channel 18. This includes scheduling of Measure D projects for street maintenance, storm drain improvements; the annual curb, gutter and sidewalk repair project; planting/trimming of street trees; and emphasize the use of Measure D funds to subsidize the local transit operations for the popular Electric Shuttle service, Easy Lift and HELP.

On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank the Grand Jury for the opportunity to comment on the report's Findings and Recommendation. If you have any questions regarding this response, please call me a (805) 684-5405, Extension 402.

Sincerely,

Dale E. Lipp, P.E.
Public Works Director/City Engineer

C: City Council Members
Dave Durflinger, City Manager