

June 8, 2006

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

**RE: Public Works' Response to the 2005-2006 Grand Jury Report on
'Measure D – Progress as Promised?'**

The 2005-06 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury recently released its report entitled 'Measure D – Progress as Promised?' The report names the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department as an affected agency and requires that Public Works provide responses to the relevant findings and recommendations.

Grand Jury Finding 2: 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.

Public Works Response: The Public Works Department agrees with this finding.

Grand Jury Finding 5: 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 a narrow set of policy issues, such as the desirability of mass transit vs. roads.

Public Works Response: The Public Works Department agrees with this finding. The Department has identified the positive results at various public hearings over the years but agrees that a greater effort is needed to promote a greater public awareness. However, even if the positive results had been adequately publicized, there would still be public debate on the future expenditure plan.

Recommendation 1: 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.

Public Works Response: The Public Works Department will implement this recommendation by November 7, 2006. The SBCAG Board authorized an expenditure

for a Measure D public information program in May in which the County Public Works Department will be participating. Program elements will include factual brochures, newspaper inserts, government access video and a standardized power point presentation which focuses on the success of Measure D.

Public Works staff would like to thank the Grand Jury for its efforts in preparing this report which will assist and improve the Department's outreach activities.

Sincerely,

Phillip M. Demery
Director of Public Works

Cc: Ron Cortez, Deputy County Executive Officer