



June 12, 2006

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

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

Dear Judge Melville:

This letter shall serve as the required response from the City of Solvang to the 2005-2006 Santa Barbara County Civil Grand Jury report entitled, *Measure D-Progress as Promised*.

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.

Response:

The City of Solvang agrees with this finding. The citizens of Solvang have realized significant improvements to their local street system. This work has extended the operational life of the local streets and kept them from deteriorating at an accelerated rate.

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.

Response:

City of Solvang agrees with this Finding although it has publicized Measure D funded project as follows:

- The City holds a public hearing annually as required by Measure D. This provides the citizens of Solvang the opportunity to review and comment on the five year plan for the use of Measure D funding.
- Measure D funding source signs are posted on roads paved with in 2005.
- "Measure D, Progress as Promised" signs are on all street maintenance vehicles that travel the public streets daily.
- The City of Solvang recently had printed "Did You Know?" informational cards on Measure D funding. They are placed in all publicly accessed city buildings.

RE: Measure D Grand Jury Response
May 17, 2006
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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.

Response:

See the response to Finding 5 for activities that the City of Solvang has done to publicize the results of Measure D. The City of Solvang will continue to utilize all of those measures to publicize Measure D.

Measure D renewal is proposed to be on the November 2006 ballot. Existing case ruling for *Stanson v Mott* 17 Cal 3d 206 precludes the City of Solvang from actively campaigning for its renewal. We are only allowed to provide factual information. Based upon City Council direction, the City plans to provide an educational brochure to each Solvang household about both the accomplishments of Measure D to date as well as what benefits Measure D renewal would provide residents of Solvang.

Sincerely,

Ken Palmer
Mayor Pro Tem

cc: Solvang City Council Members
City Manager, Marlene Demery
Public Works Director, Brad Vidro