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City of Santa Barbara

Office of Mayor

BY: _____

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August 2, 2016

Helene Schneider
Mayor

Honorable James Herman
County Courthouse
1100 Anacapa St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

City Hall
735 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA
93101-1990

Santa Barbara County Grand Jury
1100 Anacapa St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA
93102-1990

Reference: Response to Santa Barbara Civil Grand Jury Report Titled "City of Santa Barbara, Commissions, Committees, and Boards"

Judge Herman and Grand Jury Members:

Tel: 805.564.5323
Fax: 805.564.5475

The City of Santa Barbara City Council is providing its responses to the above-referenced Civil Grand Jury Report.

The City appreciates the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury Report.

In accordance with the Grand Jury's direction, answers are provided below pursuant to Section 933.05 of the California Penal Code.

Findings, Recommendations and Responses

Finding 1:

The City of Santa Barbara has at least 38 commissions, committees and boards, some of which may have outlived their purpose. No review process exists concerning their relevance.

Recommendation 1 (Sunset Rule):

That the City of Santa Barbara City Council review at least every five years the functioning, productivity, and relevance, of all advisory groups and continue, merge, or delete their mandates.



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City Response:

The City Council will undertake to review the statuses of Advisory Group every two years, as part of the biannual Advisory Groups guidelines review.

Finding 2:

The City of Santa Barbara's website does not make a clear distinction between decision making and advisory bodies.

Recommendation 2:

That the City of Santa Barbara City Council makes a clear distinction which Committees and Boards have decision-making mandates and those that are advisory only to the City of Santa Barbara City Council.

City Response:

At times, certain Committees are decision-making, and some are advisory. The City of Santa Barbara Charter and Municipal Code are available online for review of the role of a given body's role and responsibilities.

Finding 3:

The City of Santa Barbara's website does not contain current information about committees, boards and commissions.

Recommendation 3:

That the City of Santa Barbara City Council update the section of the website dealing with Committees, Boards and Commissions.

City Response:

The City will continue to update the website as appropriate.

Sincerely,



Helene Schneider, Mayor
City of Santa Barbara

Cc: City of Santa Barbara Councilmembers
Maria Millsaps, Foreperson, 2016-16 Santa Barbara Civil Grand Jury



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