



Proposed Mayor and Council Response to County Grand Jury Report: Improved Access to Land Survey Records and Monuments

**Land Use and Housing Committee
September 11, 2013**



Overview

- The Grand Jury filed this report with the Mayor and City Council on May 1, 2013.
- The goal of the report was to determine whether land survey services in the City and County were serving the public, as the law requires.



Overview

- The Report includes 12 Findings and 6 Recommendations
- The City Council is required to respond to 11 Findings and all 6 Recommendations
- Anticipated date this item will go to Council is September 24, 2013
- Mayor and City Council required to provide response to Presiding Judge by October 11, 2013



Overview

- For each item, Council may:
 - Join the Mayor's response
 - Modify the Mayor's response
 - Respond independently from the Mayor
- Our office reviewed the draft responses developed by staff and the Mayors office, and worked with staff to reach agreement on all the proposed responses.
- We are recommending that the Interim Mayor and Council provide a joint response.



Overview

Prescribed responses include:

- For each Finding:
 - Agree
 - Disagree wholly or partially
- For each Recommendation:
 - Has not been implemented
 - Has not yet been implemented, but will be in future
 - Requires further analysis
 - Will not be implemented because it is unwarranted or unreasonable



Summary of Proposed Response

- 11 Findings
 - 2 Agrees
 - 1 Disagrees
 - 8 Partially disagrees
- 6 Recommendations
 - 2 Have been implemented
 - 2 Needs further analysis
 - 2 Will not be implemented because it is not warranted



Summary of Findings

Finding 02: Many of the allegations and accusations about access to survey records were aimed at the City Records Office known as the 2nd Floor.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 02

Finding 03: Physical storage of maps and microfiche files at both Aero Drive and the 2nd Floor is chaotic to the casual observer.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 03



Summary of Findings

Finding 04: Many members of the land survey community accuse upper management of not listening or caring about the private sector surveyors who do research in City Records.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 04

Finding 05: The City land survey records system is difficult to use and results in extra work, costing both the private and public sectors additional money.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 05



Summary of Findings

Finding 06: This apparent lack of fire protection and personnel fire safety is disturbing.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 06

Finding 07: In the past there may have been failures of communication. There may have been misunderstanding about what the City can and should provide to the public and to private surveyors.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 07



Summary of Findings

Finding 08: Recent changes in personnel may help alleviate lack of communication between the City and industry workers. Cooperation is likely to improve.

The City agrees with Finding 08

Finding 09: The current City records access system is antiquated and cumbersome. The City needs to make changes to simplify the records acquisition process.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 09



Summary of Findings

Finding 10: Though IT is an important component of records keeping, an expert in IT may not have the expertise to implement a user-friendly records access system.

The City disagrees with Finding 10

Finding 11: The City has a responsibility to make sure survey monuments are being preserved properly.

The City agrees with Finding 11



Summary of Findings

Finding 12: The City Records Office should make available online access to all of the documents it manages related to development , permits and land surveying.

The City partially disagrees with Finding 12



Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation 13-13: Assign a specific individual to be responsible for identifying and implementing what type of electronic records system would be suitable for the needs of the City and serve the public by December 31, 2013.

This recommendation has been implemented.



Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation 13-14: Develop an action plan to identify suitable hardware and software to support a state-of-the-art digital geo-reference GIS records system for city public documents related to development, permits, and land surveying by June 30, 2014.

This recommendation requires further analysis.



Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation 13-15: Starting in the next budget cycle, and continuing over the next five budget cycles, allocate adequate funds to procure and implement a state-of-the-art digital, geo-referenced GIS records system for city public documents.

This recommendation requires further analysis.



Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation 13-16: Develop an action plan to improve fire protection and personnel fire safety in areas where land survey records are stored by December 31, 2013.

This will not be implemented because it is not warranted

Recommendation 13-17: Implement improved fire protection in all areas where land survey records are stored by June 30, 2014.

This will not be implemented because it is not warranted



Summary of Recommendations

Recommendation 13-18: Implement a program designed to improve customer service in the City Records and the Field Engineering Office with emphasis on providing knowledgeable, responsive customer assistance in land record survey requests by December 31, 2013.

This will not be implemented because it is not warranted



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