



# **City Council Response to Grand Jury Report entitled “San Diego City Street Repair, Funding, and Reforms”**

**Rules Committee**

**June 13, 2012**

**Item 2**

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



- Grand Jury filed this report with the Mayor and City Council on April 24, 2012.
- Addresses issues concerning the City's management of its street repair backlog.
- Includes 10 findings and 6 recommendations.
- City Council required to provide responses to all findings and 5 recommendations by July 25, 2012.

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



- For each finding:
  - Agree
  - Disagree wholly or partially
- For each recommendation:
  - Has not been implemented
  - Has not yet been implemented, but will be
  - Requires further analysis
  - Will not be implemented

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



## City Council Response

- IBA received copy of Mayor's responses
- For each item, Council may:
  - Join the Mayor's response
  - Modify the Mayor's response
  - Respond independently from the Mayor

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



## City Council Response

- Prior to developing our response recommendation for the City Council, the IBA
  - reviewed the Mayor's response, and
  - discussed the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations with staff from the Transportation & Storm Water Department and Mayor's Office.

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



## City Council Response

- The IBA's recommended response also addresses issues raised by Council Member Gloria in a separate memorandum (Attachment 3).
- Although the IBA has not historically included background on issues or corrections to facts, we believe it is warranted in this case to ensure that accurate and updated information was provided.

# City Council Response to Grand Jury Report



## Summary of Recommended Response

Findings:	01, 02, 03, 04 05, 06, 07, 08, 10	<i>Join the Mayor's Response</i>
Findings:	09	<i>Respond Independently from the Mayor</i>
Recommendations:	12-16, 12-17, 12-19	<i>Join the Mayor's Response</i>
Recommendations:	12-15, 12-18	<i>Respond Independently from the Mayor</i>

# Respond Independently of the Mayor:

## Finding 09



***09: The City of San Diego is not allocated/spending a sufficient amount of funds to maintain streets at the industry accepted levels of 75% OCI.***

**Mayor's Response:** Disagree. There is no defined national industry standard for street network OCI. The City has adopted a five-year plan to preserve streets and prevent further deterioration to the City's street network. In addition, in Fiscal Years 2010 through 2012, the City allocated approximately \$128 million to improve its street network OCI. An additional \$50 million has been allocated for Fiscal Year 2013 with that amount increasing progressively over the following four years. While there is no industry standard regarding a network OCI, the City strives to achieve the highest possible OCI with the available level of funding.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Finding 09 (cont.)



## **IBA Recommendation:** Partially Disagree.

- The service levels established in the Five-Year Deferred Capital Program Funding Plan, approved by City Council on March 20, 2012 will slow the rate of deterioration of streets, facilities, and storm drains to 5-10% (also see Report to City Council 12-021, Attachment 2).
- Based on an average deterioration rate of 7.5%, this will result in 38.9% of streets in Good condition, 33.3% in Fair condition, and 27.9% in Poor condition.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Finding 09 (cont.)



## **IBA Recommendation:** Partially Disagree.

- This funding plan represents a reasonable level of funding given tight financial constraints, competing funding priorities in the City, and potential uncertain risks to the General Fund due to the dissolution of the former Redevelopment Agency.
- While we also could not identify an industry accepted level of 75 OCI, the City should ultimately strive to establish more reasonable services levels.
- In fiscal year 2014 and future years, the Mayor and City Council will have the opportunity to reassess planned investments in deferred capital based on financial conditions and priorities, potentially increasing funding beyond planned levels.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Recommendation 12-15



***12-15: Adopt the Excavation Ordinance proposal as presented by the Transportation and Storm Water Department and recommended by IBA to include:***

- ***Added, Clarified, and Modified Definitions of Trenching & Excavation***
- ***A structured Coordination Plan***
- ***Stricter rules for Excavation Permits***
- ***Lengthening the Moratorium Period***
- ***Redefine and enforce the Penalties for infractions.***

**Mayor's Response:** This recommendation has not yet been implemented. A proposed Excavation Ordinance incorporating this recommendation will be presented to Council this summer.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Recommendation 12-15 (cont.)



**IBA Recommendation:** This recommendation has not yet been implemented.

- In its November 2010 report on Street Maintenance (OCA-11-009), the Office of the City Auditor recommended that the Transportation & Storm Water (TSW) Department develop an excavation plan and revise City standards for trench restoration, among other things. The IBA concurs with these recommendations.
- According to the City Auditor's April 2012 Recommendation Follow-Up Report, 3 of the 11 recommendations were recently implemented (plus 3 others previously). TSW has ongoing efforts to implement the remaining eight recommendations.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Recommendation 12-18



***12-18: Perform a complete--100%--street assessment every four years using laser Road Surface Testing technology.***

**Mayor's Response:** This recommendation has been implemented. The City conducted the first comprehensive street condition assessment in 2011 and plans to conduct assessments every four years thereafter using the latest available technology. Partial street condition assessments were conducted in 2001, 2003, and 2007.

# Respond Independently of the Mayor: Recommendation 12-18 (cont.)



**IBA Recommendation:** This recommendation has been implemented.

- The first comprehensive assessment of 100% of streets was conducted in FY 2011 and TSW plans to conduct these every four years.
- However, conducting these assessments every four years is not required in the Department's Standard Operating Procedures or other policies.
- We believe this is important to demonstrate the City's ongoing commitment to the importance of the conducting comprehensive assessments every four years and ensuring that it will occur in the future.



Questions?