
OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST REPORT

Date Issued: August 19, 2008

IBA Report Number: 08-88

City Council Docket Date: September 2, 2008

Item Number: TBD

Response to Grand Jury Report Titled “Fox Canyon and Wightman Street: A Tale of Two City Parks in Extremis”

On May 15, 2008 the San Diego County Grand Jury issued a report to the Mayor and the City Council entitled “Fox Canyon and Wightman Street: A Tale of Two City Parks in Extremis”. The stated purpose of the Grand Jury Report is “to inform the public of the two park proposals; to recommend that the city establish a clear line of policy with respect to the Fox Canyon Park and that the city find some way to get around difficulties of its own making.”

The Grand Jury Report includes four findings and three recommendations. Both the Mayor and the City Council are required to provide comments to the Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court on each of the findings and recommendations made in the Grand Jury Report within ninety days. The Mayor issued his response to the San Diego Superior Court on August 8, 2008. However, due to the legislative calendar of the City Council, Council President Peters requested an extension to the date for the City Council to respond to September 12, 2008. This report presents the City Council’s response as recommended by the IBA. If the actions are adopted by the City Council, the Council President will be authorized to deliver the Council’s response to the Superior Court.

In preparing these recommended responses, the IBA worked in coordination with the Mayor’s Office, and staff from the Park and Recreation Department and the Development Services Department. For each finding and recommendation, the City Council may 1) join the Mayor’s response; 2) respond with a modification of the Mayor’s response; or 3) respond independently of the Mayor.

In addition, in his response, the Mayor chose to correct statements which the Grand Jury Report described as facts, which is not required, but is important to ensure misstatements are not perpetuated.

Of the eight items included in the Mayor’s response, the IBA recommends that the City Council join the Mayor’s response on all eight items, and provide supplemental information regarding the current status of the Wightman Street Neighborhood Park in response to Recommendation 08-61. The table below provides a summary of the IBA’s recommendations.

Fact:		<i>Join the Mayor’s Response</i>
Findings:	1, 2, 3, 4	<i>Join the Mayor’s Response</i>
Recommendations:	08-60, 08-62	<i>Join the Mayor’s Response</i>
Recommendation:	08-61	<i>Join the Mayor’s Response with addition of supplemental information</i>

The full text of the Mayor’s responses, and the IBA’s recommended responses on behalf of the City Council can be found in the attachment to this report.

[SIGNED]

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[SIGNED]

 APPROVED: Andrea Tevlin
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Attachment