



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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**OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT BUDGET ANALYST REPORT**

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**Date Issued:** September 25, 2013

**IBA Report Number:** 13-37Rev

**City Council Meeting Date:** September 30, 2013

**Item Number:** TBD

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## **Response to Grand Jury Report: “Improved Access to Land Survey Records and Monuments”**

### **OVERVIEW**

On May 1, 2013, the San Diego County Grand Jury filed a report with the San Diego Mayor and City Council entitled “Improved Access to Land Survey Reports and Monuments.” The goal of the report was to determine whether land survey services in the City and County are serving the public as the law requires.

The Grand Jury Report included 12 findings and 6 recommendations; one of the findings was directed to the County of San Diego, while the remaining 11 findings and all of the recommendations were directed to both the Mayor and City Council. The Mayor and City Council are required to provide comments to the Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court on each of the findings and recommendations relating to their respective items in the Grand Jury Report within 90 days; however, the City requested and was granted a 73-day extension. The response is due to the Presiding Judge on October 11, 2013.

For each finding and recommendation directed to the City Council, the Council may (1) join the Mayor’s response; (2) respond with a modification to the Mayor’s response; or (3) respond independently of the Mayor.

In responding to each Grand Jury finding, the City is required to either (1) agree with the finding or (2) disagree wholly or partially with the finding. Responses to Grand Jury recommendations must indicate that the recommendation (1) has been implemented; (2) has not yet been implemented, but will be in the future; (3) requires further analysis; or (4) will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. Explanations for responses are requested when applicable.

Our office was provided a copy of the Mayor's draft response and worked collaboratively with City staff to reach agreement on all responses. The full text of our responses is included as Attachment 1. The original grand jury report is provided as Attachment 3.


The proposed responses were presented to the Land Use and Housing (LU&H) Committee on September 11, 2013. During the LU&H Committee meeting discussion, Councilmember Cole inquired about a potential cost estimate related to a possible upgraded computer system and Councilmember Lightner inquired about the findings and recommendations of the audit report for the Development Services Department's Project Tracking System completed in June 2012 by the Office of the City Auditor. The LU&H Committee forwarded the proposed responses to the full City Council for consideration without a recommendation.

We are recommending amending our responses to address the inquiries from Councilmembers Cole and Lightner. We are recommending amending our responses for Finding 05 and Finding 12 from the originally proposed responses to include an estimated range for the potential cost associated with an upgraded computer system, and a brief discussion related to the audit report from June 2012. The proposed amendments are shown in Attachment 2.

Based upon the inclusion of the provided amendments, the IBA is recommending that Interim Mayor Todd Gloria and the City Council provide a joint response to this Grand Jury report as contained in Attachment 1 and amended by Attachment 2.



Chris Ojeda  
Fiscal & Policy Analyst



APPROVED: Andrea Tevlin  
Independent Budget Analyst

Attachments:

1. Originally proposed City Council Responses to Findings and Recommendations in San Diego County Grand Jury Report entitled "Improved Access to Land Survey Records and Monuments" as presented to Land Use and Housing Committee on September 11, 2013.
2. Recommended amendments to the proposed Mayor and City Council Responses to San Diego County Grand Jury Report entitled "Improved Access to Land Survey Records and Monuments" in response to Land Use and Housing Committee input on September 11, 2013.
3. San Diego County Grand Jury Report entitled "Improved Access to Land Survey Records and Monuments"