



FAIRFAX FINANCING AUTHORITY

STAFF REPORT

April 6, 2016

TO: Board of Directors, Fairfax Financing Authority

FROM: Garrett Toy, Executive Director (Town Manager) *GT*

SUBJECT: Response to Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report: 2015-16 Web Transparency Report Card - Bringing Marin County's Local Government to Light

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the response for submittal to the Marin County Civil Grand Jury.

BACKGROUND

The Fairfax Financing Authority (FFA) is a Joint Powers Authority ("JPA") whose Board of Directors is the Fairfax Town Council. Town staff acts as the staff to the FFA. The FFA is included in the 2015-2016 Marin County Civil Grand Jury report issued on March 17, 2016, entitled "Web Transparency Report Card - Bringing Marin County's Local Government to Light." Pursuant to Penal Code § 933.05, the Board of Directors of the Fairfax Financing Agency is required to respond in writing to the Findings and Recommendations contained in the Grand Jury Report within 90 days of the release date, or June 15, 2016.

DISCUSSION

When the Marin County Civil Grand Jury provided their "preliminary web transparency audit" of the FFA to Town staff in late October, staff immediately posted an explanatory paragraph regarding the FFA on the Town Council's page. Because the Town Council and the FFA Board are one and the same body, this approach seemed to make sense. All of the information on the FFA - budgets, audits, officials, agendas, and minutes - is in fact on the Town website.

In early November, the Grand Jury sent a request for specific documents of the FFA, which staff complied with. Receiving no further response from the Grand Jury, staff went ahead and completed the December self-audit for the FFA using the same information as was used for the Town Council.

Unfortunately, the FFA received a failing score in the Final Report. Specifically, the Grand Jury requested responses to Recommendations R1, R2, and R3. R1 indicates the FFA should improve its website to a minimum score of B-. R2 is to file and update statement of facts (i.e., roster of Boardmembers). We will be updating the form. R3 is information on annual compensation of Boardmembers and staff. We will clarify that Boardmembers and staff receive no compensation from the FFA:

In response to the Grand Jury Report, staff reviewed the websites of similar JPA's with passing scores. Since the release of the Report, staff has been working diligently to create a new webpage for the FFA on the Town's website in order to implement the recommendations of the

Grand Jury. We anticipate this work will be done within 30 days. It should be noted that the new webpage for the FFA will be referring to information already on the Town's website.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time

ATTACHMENT

Note: Please refer to the similar Town Council agenda item for a copy of the Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report: 2015-16 Web Transparency Report Card - Bringing Marin County's Local Government to Light

1. Response to the Grand Jury

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: 2015-16 Web Transparency Report Card
Bringing Marin County's Local Governments to Light

Report Date: March 10, 2016

Public Release Date: March 17, 2016

Response By: June 15, 2016

FINDINGS

- We agree with the findings numbered: _____.
- We disagree with wholly or partially with the findings numbered: _____.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered: _____ has been implemented.
- Recommendations numbered: R1, R2, R3 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
- Recommendations numbered: _____ require further analysis.
- Recommendations numbered: _____ will not be implemented because it is not warranted or not reasonable.

DATED: _____

Signed: _____
Renée Goddard, Chair
Fairfax Financing Authority

ATTEST: _____
Michele Gardner, Secretary

ATTACHMENT /