November 6, 2018

The Honorable Charles Margines
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA  92701

Subject: 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury Report, “Where There’s Will, There’s A Way; Housing Orange County’s Chronically Homeless” REVISED RESPONSES AS REQUESTED

Honorable Judge Margines:

The City of Anaheim is in receipt of your letter dated October 28, 2018, requesting revised responses to five Recommendations (R1, R2, R7, R8 and R9) as it applies to missing timeframes pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05(b).

As requested, we have revised our recommendation responses below and included timeframes based on the most recent information regarding that subject matter.

Recommendations:

R.1. Orange County cities and the County should develop a Permanent Supportive Housing development plan, and should consider a plan structure similar to the proposal put forth by the Association of California Cities – Orange County that proportionally allocates sites among the cities.

Response 1: The City agrees with this recommendation; however, this recommendation has not yet been implemented. Anaheim supports regional efforts to address the need for proportionate Permanent Supportive Housing. The ACC-OC is currently working on a PSH development plan for an additional 2,700 housing units countywide coming in calendar year 2019 and Anaheim looks forward to participating and being a part of the conversation and solution.

R.2. Each Service Planning Area should identify sites for Permanent Supportive Housing proportional to the allocation suggested in the Association of California Cities – Orange County proposal.

Response 2: The City agrees with this recommendation. The City of Anaheim, together with the North SPA has been proactive in not only identifying sites for emergency shelters and transitional housing, but also Permanent Supportive Housing.
R.7. To streamline shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing development, the County and its cities should establish a decision-making body, such as a Joint Powers Authority, that is empowered to identify and allocate sites and pool funding associated with housing and supportive services for the homeless.

Response 7: The City believes this recommendation requires further analysis. The City of Anaheim supports streamlining efforts, however the recommendation needs further analysis to determine the most beneficial regional approach to maximize funding and projects for our homeless. California Governor just recently signed a bill allowing the ACC-OC to create a JPA for cities to establish a decision making body and funding source to create 2,700 Permanent Supportive Housing units in this coming calendar year 2019 and Anaheim is committed to being a participate in this decision making body.

R.8. Such a decision-making body should develop a comprehensive, regional housing business plan that identifies both the number of Permanent Supportive Housing units needed as well as the associated costs of renovating existing units or building new ones.

Response 8: The recommendation has not yet been implemented and needs further analysis and the City is willing to partner and participate in developing a plan and identifying units needed along with costs associated with new and/or renovating existing units as we have experience in many projects completed in Anaheim. With the recent Governor signing allowing the creation of a JPA that Anaheim will participate in, the City will also participate in the development of a comprehensive, regional housing business plan coming in calendar year 2019.

R.9. Such a decision-making body should propose a plan for securing local, supplemental sources of funding for both Permanent Supportive Housing development and associated support services.

Response 9: The recommendation has not yet been implemented and needs further analysis and the City is willing to assist with proposing a plan, identifying resources and funding for Permanent Supportive Housing developments and support services to those housing units. This coming calendar year 2019, the City will be participating in securing funding, development and supportive services associated with the upcoming JPA for the creation of 2,700 additional PSH units.

The City of Anaheim would like to express its appreciation for the efforts of the Orange County Grand Jury. The City of Anaheim is committed to addressing homelessness within its jurisdiction and regionally with the County of Orange. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Sandra Sagert, Community Preservation & Licensing Manager and City’s Homeless Liaison, at (714) 765-4413 or ssagert@anaheim.net.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Garcia
Acting City Manager

cc: Orange County Grand Jury
City Clerk, City of Anaheim