



CITY OF RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA

Mayor

Neil C. Blais

Mayor Pro Tempore

Gary Thompson

Council Members

L. Anthony Beall

Jerry Holloway

James M. Thor

City Manager

Steven E. Hayman

September 19, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**SUBJECT: Response to Grand Jury Report
"No County for Old Boomers"**

Dear Judge Wieben Stock,

This letter is in response to a letter received from the Orange County Grand Jury dated September 8, 2008, requesting that the City provide an addendum to our original response letter dated September 2, 2008, regarding the recent Grand Jury report "*No County for Old Boomers – When Orange County Baby Boomers Retire, Where Will They Live.*"

Finding 1. The Housing Elements for the cities and County of Orange do not reflect that the number of affordable senior housing units in Orange County will not accommodate the projected population.

Response 1. The City of Rancho Santa Margarita partially disagrees with this finding in that this may be true for some cities, but not for all cities. The City of Rancho Santa Margarita is only responsible for complying with State law and is not responsible for other cities Housing Elements, nor does it have sufficient information to determine whether or not the number of affordable senior housing units in Orange County will accommodate the projected population.

Finding 2. The Housing Elements for the County of Orange and the cities do not focus sufficiently on or analyze the population growth and housing needs of the aging baby boomer generation.



Response 2. While we agree that this finding may be true for some cities, we do not have sufficient information to determine whether or not this statement is true of all cities. However, the State does not require this analysis for projected needs by age group. We support the inclusion of such information in future Housing Element updates, and we will make a diligent attempt to provide the requested additional data in the current element to the extent schedule and staff resources allow, but we respectfully disagree that this additional analysis should be required in the current housing element cycle.

Finding 3. Not all Housing Elements are available on line for easy access by the public.

Response 3. We agree.

Finding 4. Municipalities are not proactive enough in encouraging the development of affordable senior housing.

Response 4. We disagree primarily because this is a generalization and the City does not have sufficient information to determine whether or not municipalities are being proactive enough in encouraging the development of affordable senior housing.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Blais
Mayor

cc: City Council
Planning Commission
City Manager

✓ Ann Avery Andres
Foreman, Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701