

August 18, 2015

The Honorable Glenda Sanders Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: City of Brea Response to the 2014-2015 Grand Jury Report: "The Orange County Animal Shelter: the Facility, the Function, the Future."

Dear Judge Sanders:

This letter is the City of Brea's response to the findings and recommendations contained in the Grand Jury's Report, "The Orange County Animal Shelter: the Facility, the Function, the Future." The Mayors of the 18 Animal Shelter contract cities were the only asked to respond to Recommendations R4.

Grand Jury Recommendation

R-4: The 18 contracting cities need to review their long-term commitment to be part of Orange County Animal Care as opposed to pursuing animal-care opportunities on their own or joining with neighboring cities that have shelters. The contracting cities need to demand that the County provide them a viable plan with cost and schedule estimates for a new facility or facilities to evaluate as part of their commitment review.

<u>City Response</u>: The recommendation requires further analysis to determine the benefits of a countywide animal shelter/animal control or smaller animal shelters and animal control enforcement on a more localized level.

The City of Brea is committed to providing reliable animal care services to our residents and welcomes the Grand Jury's Report on this subject. The City of Brea is part of a collaborative effort with other North Orange County Cities to find alternative options to animal services in the region. We are exploring either forming a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to provide animal control services in our area or to enter into a service contract with a local animal shelter operator. We were recently engaged in high-level conversations with two well-known non-profit animal services operators in the region about their interest in providing animal services to our residents. Unfortunately, the providers indicated that upon further evaluation of our data and review of their capacity,

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they have decided not to expand their services. Despite this setback, we continue to explore other options that may offer a viable alternative that is cost effective and efficient. To that end, we recently went on a site visit to the Mission Viejo Shelter to learn more about their service model. Finally, as part of this evaluation process, we plan to review our long-term commitment to be part of the Orange County Animal Shelter in order to make sure all options have been considered.

On behalf of the City of Brea, I want to thank you for your service and efforts. We hope that our response will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Marty Simonoff

Mayor

cc: Paul S. Borzcik, Foreman

2014-2015 Orange County Grand Jury

700 Civic Center Drive West

Santa Ana, CA 92701