

April 22, 2020

Honorable Kirk H. Nakamura Presiding Judge of the Orange County Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

SUBJECT:

CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH RESPONSE TO THE 2019-2020 ORANGE COUNTY JURY REPORT ENTITLED "ELECTRIC VEHICLES ARE HERE – IS ORANGE COUNTY CHARGED UP?"

Dear Judge Nakamura:

The City Council of the City of Laguna Beach (City) has authorized me to submit the City's response to the 2019-2020 Orange County Grand Jury report regarding streamlining the permitting process for electric vehicle charging stations. In accordance with the California Penal Code, the following response addresses the Grand Jury Report findings and recommendations pertaining to the City of Laguna Beach.

Responses to Finding F1

<u>Finding F1:</u> Eight Orange County cities, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Laguna Beach, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Placentia, Seal Beach, and Yorba Linda, have not fully complied with AB 1236 that requires cities to implement a streamlined process in obtaining permits to install EVCS and make it available to the public on their city websites, thus impeding residents' ease of installation of EVCS.

<u>Response</u>: The City of Laguna Beach agrees with this finding as of the March 5, 2020 Grand Jury's report. Since that time, the City has fully complied with AB 1236.

Responses to Recommendations R1, R2 and R3

Recommendation R1: Cities, that have not already done so, should update their municipal code to add an ordinance streamlining their EVCS permitting process by May 1, 2020.

Response: The City of Laguna Beach has implemented this recommendation. On March 31, 2020, the Laguna Beach City Council adopted an Ordinance amending the City's Municipal Code to streamline the permitting of electric vehicle charging stations.

Recommendation R2: Cities, that have not already done so, should create a streamlined permit process for single family residences, multi-family residences and businesses to obtain

Honorable Kirk H. Nakamura April 22, 2020 Page 2

permits to install EVCS that includes an easy to use checklist by May 1, 2020.

Response: The City of Laguna Beach has implemented this recommendation. A streamlined process has been established and an EVCS application checklist has been created. The checklist is available at the City's Community Development Department and on the City's website.

Recommendation R3: Cities, that have not already done so, should describe the streamlined EV charging installation permit application process and have the checklists and forms available on their website by May 1, 2020.

<u>Response</u>: The City of Laguna Beach has implemented this recommendation. In addition to the creation of an application checklist, the City's website has been modified to explain the streamlined EVCS application process.

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The City of Laguna Beach appreciates this opportunity to respond to the findings and recommendations contained in the Orange County Grand Jury's report.

Sincerely,

John Pietig

City Manager

cc: City Council

Orange County Grand Jury