

February 5, 2013

The Honorable Thomas J. Borris, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana. CA 92701

Subj: Orange County Grand Jury Report
The Dissolution of Redevelopment: Where Have We Been? What Lies Ahead?
Response to Findings – City of Brea Redevelopment Agency

## Dear Judge Borris:

Pursuant to the requirements of Penal Code 933, please accept the following as the response from the City of Brea ("City") to the 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury Report, *The Dissolution of Redevelopment: Where Have We Been? What Lies Ahead?* ("Report"). This correspondence is in response to those Findings and Recommendations that relate specifically to the former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Brea ("Agency").

## **FINDINGS**

- F1. The respondent agrees with the finding. However, this response is based solely on research performed by the Grand Jury as our city staff is not certain what other cities are doing.
- F2. The respondent agrees with the finding. Again, this response is based on research performed by the Grand Jury as we are unaware what other cities are doing.
- F3. The respondent disagrees partially with this finding. Decisions made by the former Redevelopment Agency were made in public, in accordance with Brown Act provisions, and all meetings were lawfully noticed in accordance with public noticing requirements established under Redevelopment Law. Additionally, numerous and extensive community outreach efforts were conducted over the years. Although the State legislature that abolished redevelopment in California are not held to the Brown Act, local government including former Redevelopment Agencies are held to a higher level of transparency.

City Council

Ron Garcia Mayor Brett Murdock
Mayor Pro Tem

Christine Marick
Council Member

Roy Moore Council Member Marty Simonoff Council Member Presiding Judge Thomas J. Borris 2011-2012 Orange County Grand Jury Report Response February 5, 2013 Page 2

Currently, the Oversight Boards offer an opportunity for additional communication with other taxing entities. The Oversight Board is providing critical evaluation and input on existing projects as well as the management of debt during the wind down of the former Agency.

F9. The respondent agrees with the finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- R1. This recommendation has been implemented. The administrative budget was approved by our Oversight Board and Successor Agency in accordance with ABX1 26.
- R2. This recommendation has been implemented on ROPS I, II and III.
- R4. This recommendation has been implemented on ROPS I, II and III.
- R5. Based on our understanding as to the intent of this comment, this recommendation is not applicable as Brea has contractually required payments that could be considered to be incentive payments to commercial entities, which are legally not subject to elimination.

As a manager responsible for implementing Brea's redevelopment programs and its successor agency activities, I can assure you that all state laws have been followed and both programs are models for successful economic development at the local government level.

Sincerely,

Fric Nicoll

Community Development Director

City of Brea

Cc: Tim O'Donnell, City Manager