

August 11, 2026

Honorable Sheila F. Hanson
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Mayor

George S. Brietigam
Mayor Pro Tem - District 1

Phillip Nguyen
Council Member - District 2

Cindy Ngoc Tran
Council Member - District 3

Joe DoVinh
Council Member - District 4

Yesenia Muñeton
Council Member - District 5

Ariana Arestegui
Council Member - District 6

RE: Response to Orange County Grand Jury Report, "*Wildfires Hit Home*"

Dear Judge Hanson:

The City of Garden Grove has reviewed the Orange County Grand Jury Report, *Wildfires Hit Home*. In compliance with California Penal Code section 933.05(a) and (b), the City has responded to each of the findings and recommendations included in the report. Each finding and recommendation is listed below, followed by the City's response.

Findings

F1. More frequent and severe wildfires driven by increasingly hotter, drier, and windier conditions in the Orange County wildland-urban interface are escalating impacts on financial and non-financial resources. Among the financial costs are dramatic increases in homeowners' insurance premiums, nonrenewals, and inability to obtain insurance.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F2. Actions that address conditions in the home ignition zone to significantly reduce ignition potential can prevent a community wildland-urban interface fire disaster or suburban conflagration.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F3. Expanded engagement with the community to raise awareness and provide support regarding home hardening and defensible space will increase effectiveness of wildfire risk mitigation and insurance risk reduction efforts.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F4. Achievement of community-level and property-level wildfire risk mitigation designations (such as Firewise USA Site, Fire Risk Reduction Community or Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety certification) lessens wildfire risk and helps reduce insurance premium costs.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F5. All county residents should be made aware that Safer from Wildfire regulation requires insurers to provide discounts to homeowners and communities that implement home hardening and defensible space measures regardless of whether a property is located within a Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F6. AB888, California Safe Homes Grant Program, provides financial assistance to eligible homeowners, cities, counties, and special districts for home hardening and defensible space measures. Applying for and using these grant funds will reduce wildfire losses and improve insurability and resilience of vulnerable communities.

Response: The City agrees with this finding.

Recommendations

R2. By December 31, 2026, cities and fire service agencies, including Orange County Fire Authority should commit to participation in a county-wide annual wildfire prevention fair planned by the Orange County Board of Supervisors to showcase wildfire prevention outreach programs. [F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6]

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. OCFA commits to participating in a county-wide annual wildfire prevention fair.

R4. By December 31, 2026, to ensure city residents are engaged and aware of wildfire risk reduction resources, OCFA member and non-member cities should provide information, develop their own outreach program, and establish a direct contact person(s) for their residents. This is in addition to whatever referrals or references made to OCFA outreach programs. [F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6]

Response: The recommendation has been implemented.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's report. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Shawn Park, Assistant to the City Manager, at (714) 741-5371 or by email at shawnp@ggcity.org.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Klopfenstein", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie Klopfenstein
Mayor

c: Orange County Grand Jury