

Stephanie Moulton-Peters
Mayor

Jim Wickham
Vice Mayor

Sashi McEntee
Councilmember



John McCauley
Councilmember

Jessica Sloan
Councilmember

James C. McCann
City Manager

June 19, 2018

The Honorable Judge Paul Haakenson
Marin County Superior Court
PO Box 4988
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

Ron Brown, Foreperson ✓
Marin County Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room #275
San Rafael, CA 94903

RE: 2017-2018 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report: "Consolidation of Sanitation Districts", April 2018

Dear Judge Haakenson and Mr. Brown,

Attached is the requested response from the City of Mill Valley Public Works Department regarding the referenced topic. The response to the report's recommendations was approved by the City of Mill Valley City Council on June 18, 2018.

The City appreciates the time and effort the Grand Jury invested in developing this report. Our staff strives to meet our community's desires and needs in a proactive and cost effective manner. The City of Mill Valley regularly collaborates with our SASM colleagues and is open to exploring ideas for improving efficiencies. Staff will continue to reach out to the member agencies to see if there are alternate means or methods that may help improve our levels of service or efficiency in an effort to address the intent of the report's recommendations.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Mayor
City of Mill Valley

Andrew D. Poster, PE
- Public Works Director

cc: James C. McCann, City Manager Andrew Poster, Director of Public Works.

AGENCY RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

Report Title: **Consolidation of Sanitation Districts**

Report Date: **April 13, 2018**

Response Date: **July 13, 2018**

Agency Name: City of Mill Valley Agenda Date: June 18, 2018

Response by: Andrew Poster Title: Director of Public Works

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: N/A
- I (we) disagree *partially* with the findings numbered: N/A
- I (we) disagree *wholly* with the findings numbered: N/A

(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor.)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered N/A have been implemented. (Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A have not yet been implemented but will be implemented in the future.
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
- Recommendations numbered N/A require further analysis.
(Attach an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
- Recommendations numbered R3 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: June 21, 2018 Signed: 

Number of pages attached 1

ATTACHMENT 1

Per page 14 of 20 in the Grand Jury Report, the City of Mill Valley Department of Public Works is only required to respond to Recommendation R3.

Recommendation R3 reads as follows:

Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin (JPA), Almonte Sanitary District, Alto Sanitary District, Richardson Bay Sanitary District, Homestead Valley Sanitary District, Public Works Department of the City of Mill Valley, and Tamalpais Community Services District should reorganize into a single sanitary/sanitation district. Each entity should initiate a reorganization application with Marin LAFCO and announce this action on the agenda of the next board meeting for public involvement.

Response:

The Public Works Department is not an independent organization, but rather a Department within a full service city. The Department of Public Works is responsible for a multitude of functions including, but not limited to the design, maintenance and operations of all public infrastructure within the City of Mill Valley. The sewer collection system is one of the many public facilities that the Department is responsible for. The Department does not have the authority to dissolve itself of its responsibilities.

The City of Mill Valley does support each Department in providing excellent customer service in a cost effective manner to their customers. City staff will continue to work with our SASM colleagues to share services and responsibilities where feasible to improve our efficiencies. SASM member agencies have indicated that they are not willing to consolidate. As such, the City of Mill Valley is not in a position to reorganize into a single agency, but is open to the idea of improving efficiencies.

