



CITY OF SAUSALITO

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September 20, 2004

The Honorable Terrence R. Boren
Marin County Superior Court
PO Box 4988
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

✓ Foreperson
Marin County Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 303
San Rafael, CA 94903

Subject: Response to Grand Jury Report Southern Marin Sewers- So Many Districts, So Few Users

Please accept my apologies for the City of Sausalito's delay in responding to your Grand Jury Report. I hope that you will be pleased to learn that both our City Engineer and I actively participated in the facilitated sessions recommended by your report and we fully concur with the recommendations.

The City of Sausalito is a strong advocate of consolidating services where it is cost-effective and in the best interest of the citizen-ratepayers to do so. We are currently working to consolidate our fire protection services with the Southern Marin Fire Protection District.

As noted in my response, we have been working with the Sausalito Marin City Sanitary District to further collaboration and coordination of services.

Thank you for giving the City of Sausalito the opportunity to respond to your report.

Sincerely,


Dana Hield Whitson
City Manager

Encl. Diskettes; Report copies

Cc: Leonard Michaels, Sewer System Coordinator
David Harlan, Senior Engineer
Tom Birse, Public Works Director

FAX NUMBERS:

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RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: SOUTHERN MARIN SEWERS – So Many Districts, So Few Users

Report Date: April 27, 2004

Response by: Dana Whitson
Sausalito

Title: City Manager, City of

FINDINGS

- I/we agree with the findings numbered: All findings and recommendations
- I/we disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: None
 - ❖ Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons therefor

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered R-1 through R-3 have been implemented; Recommendation R-4 does not apply to the City of Sausalito, although we support the concept.
 - ❖ Attach a summary describing the implemented actions
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future
 - ❖ Attach a timeframe for the implementation
- Recommendations numbered _____ 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 _____ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable
 - ❖ Attach an explanation

Date: September 20, 2004

Signed:


Dana Field Whitson, City Manager

Number of pages attached: 1

Implementation of Grand Jury Report, Southern Marin Sewers- So Many Districts, So Few Users

Agency: City of Sausalito

Implementation Actions:

Both City Engineer Gordon Sweeney and City Manager Dana Whitson participated in the forum for all eleven sewer agencies to exchange ideas and experiences (R-1 and R-2.) We concurred in and supported the recommendations (R-3.)

In furtherance of the Grand Jury's recommendations, we have held discussions with the Sausalito Marin City Sanitary District about ways in which we can further coordination and consolidation of services. SMCSO has asked the City of Sausalito to consider providing sewer maintenance services that they are unable to do themselves due to a lack of equipment and manpower. The District currently hires an outside company to do the cleaning. Sausalito has a sophisticated C-MOM program that is able to inspect the inside of sewer lines with a video camera and a trained work crew that regularly cleans sewer lines.

We also discussed innovative methods for sharing staff resources.