



MEMORANDUM
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
ADMINISTRATION
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: David Boesch, County Executive Officer
By: Bryan Hacker, Senior Management Analyst
DATE: September 13, 2016
SUBJECT: 2015-16 Placer County Grand Jury Final Report Responses

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve and sign a letter in response to the Placer County Grand Jury's 2015-16 Final Report.

BACKGROUND

On June 23, 2016, the Placer County Grand Jury issued its 2015-16 Final Report. The report included findings and recommendations based on the Grand Jury's investigations, as required by law. Included in the Final Report is one individual report to which the Board of Supervisors are asked to respond: *Closing Our Libraries, A Look at Recent Library Decisions*.

Also, included for your reference are responses from other County officials and department heads requested by the 2015-16 Grand Jury. The Placer County Board of Supervisors, Community Development Resource Agency, County Library, Department of Health and Human Services, Sheriff's Office, and the County Executive Office were also asked to provide responses to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations.

Details of the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations are included within the attached response letters. Upon approval by your Board, the responses will be provided to the Presiding Judge of the Placer County Superior Court and to the Placer County Grand Jury.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no County fiscal impact from this action.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Board of Supervisors 2015-16 Grand Jury Response Letter: *Closing Our Libraries, A Look at Recent Library Decisions*

Other County Officials and Department Head Response Letters:

Attachment 2 - Placer County Code Enforcement Complaint Feedback and Tracking - Inconsistency and Confusion (Community Development Resource Agency)

Attachment 3 - *Closing Our Libraries, A Look at Recent Library Decisions* (Library)

Attachment 4 - Homelessness in Placer County, Developing a Long Term Strategy (Health and Human Services)

Attachment 5 - Placer County Implements Assisted Outpatient Treatment "Laura's Law" (Health and Human Services)

Attachment 6 - Child Abuse and Neglect, Law Enforcement Referral Process, Training and Coordination with the Placer County Children's System of Care (Sheriff)

Attachment 7 - Placer County Jails and Holding Facilities: A Consolidated Report Annual Inspection (Sheriff's Office)

Attachment 8 - Homelessness in Placer County, Developing a Long Term Strategy (County Executive Office)

County of Placer Board of Supervisors

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JACK DURAN
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JIM HOLMES
District 3

KIRK UHLER
District 4

JENNIFER MONTGOMERY
District 5



September 13, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – *Closing Our Libraries*

Dear Judge Nichols,

This letter is in response to the 2015-16 Grand Jury's Findings & Recommendations from the report titled *Closing Our Libraries, A Look at Recent Library Decisions*. The Placer County Board of Supervisors would like to thank the members of the 2015-16 Grand Jury for their efforts associated with the Library.

Findings of the Grand Jury

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors agrees with the findings, numbered F2, F3, F4, F5, F7.

(F1) Other than rent for the Meadow Vista facility, no substantial money will be saved by closing these two libraries.

(F6) Loomis and Meadow Vista residents' needs regarding library services were not addressed. These communities were not included in the community conversations as conducted by the Placer County Library Services consultants.

Board of Supervisors Response: The Board of Supervisors disagrees partially or wholly with the findings, numbered F1, F6. Closing the Loomis and Meadow Vista Libraries was not intended to resolve the County Library's structural budgetary challenges. However, the closures do allow resources and staffing to be distributed throughout the County Library system, including libraries that remain open near the Loomis and Meadow Vista communities. In recognition of County Library budget sustainability challenges, the Board of Supervisors directed \$868,470 of County General Fund dollars to the County Library in the FY 2016-17 Proposed Budget.

The Board of Supervisors heard reports from County staff on April 7, 2015 regarding the County Library Strategic Plan and Department Challenges, and on May 19, 2015, regarding Countywide fiscal "Challenges and Choices" including the future of library services. As a result of discussions specific to the Loomis and Meadow Vista Library closures, on May 19, 2015, the Board provided an additional six months for the communities to provide proposals for continued operation. On December 8, 2015, the Board further extended the time period to June 2016 to allow both communities to complete discussions and develop comprehensive solutions. During this time, the Board directed County staff to work with both communities regarding future service delivery, including a Town of Loomis lease of the Loomis facility, and increased bookmobile or other mobile library services in Meadow Vista.

E-mail: bos@placer.ca.gov — Web: www.placer.ca.gov/bos

Recommendations of the Grand Jury

Since the closure date for these libraries is June 2016, no Grand Jury recommendation will have a bearing on these closures. However, going forward, prior to closing any additional libraries, the Grand Jury recommends:

(R4) The Supervisor of the impacted district should solicit input from their constituents prior to making library decisions.

Board of Supervisors Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Constituent input was vital to the County’s decision-making process. At Board member direction County staff were deeply engaged with constituents from early 2015 through June of 2016. Staff engaged in dozens of outreach efforts over hundreds of hours including Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) presentations, MAC subcommittee meetings, town council meetings, Friends of the Library meetings, conducting constituent surveys, and individual conversations with Board members.

Regarding the actual closure dates, both libraries remained open well past June 2016 to allow the Summer Reading program to be completed. The Loomis Library remained open through July, 2016, while the Meadow Vista Library remained open through August, 2016. The Board of Supervisors will continue to receive input from our constituents through regular public Board meetings. It should also be noted that the County continues to expand opportunities for direct engagement so that citizens may provide vital input across a variety of County services.

The Placer County Board of Supervisors appreciates the work of the 2015-16 Placer County Grand Jury.

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER

Robert M. Weygandt,
Chairman, Placer County Board of Supervisors

cc: David Boesch, CEO
Sharon Stanners, Foreperson of Placer County Grand Jury
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel

September 13, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

**Re: Response to 2015-2016 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Code Enforcement
Complaint Feedback and Tracking**

Dear Judge Nichols:

This letter is in response to the 2015-2016 Grand Jury Recommendations from the report entitled "Placer County Code Enforcement Complaint Feedback and Tracking". Please note the Grand Jury did not request a response to the Findings, therefore this letter will address recommendations only.

Summary of Responses to Recommendations of Grand Jury:

- Recommendations numbered 1, 3, and 4 have been implemented.
- Recommendations numbered 2 and 5 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
- Recommendation numbered 6 will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

Detailed Responses to Recommendations of Grand Jury:

**R1: Have the Code Enforcement Supervisor's sole responsibility be to manage this department.
Recommendation number 1 has been implemented.**

Response: More than a year ago, a full-time Code Compliance Supervisor was employed to support the Code Compliance team. In that first year, the permanent Code Compliance Supervisor was in the process of transitioning from CDRA's Engineering and Surveying Division (ESD), where he performed grading and mine/reclamation enforcement, to CDRA's Code Compliance team in an effort to centralize CDRA's compliance efforts.

During the Grand Jury's investigation the supervisor was actively resolving grading and mine/reclamation related cases while he trained the officers to resolve those specific case types.

The Code Compliance Supervisor solely manages the team and does not carry a caseload.

R2: Implement a standard procedure to issue a Letter of Receipt to the complainant, within 10 days of the complaint receipt. The letter should indicate if the complaint:

- Will be actively investigated
- Is outside the scope of Code Enforcement
- Has been forwarded to another department
- Include general information regarding the code enforcement process with the letter.

Recommendation number 2 has not yet been implemented.

Response: The team has developed a "Letter of Receipt" and commencing September 1, 2016 the Code Compliance team will distribute the letter to each complainant in an effort to communicate the status of the complaint. In addition to the "Letter of Receipt" it's important to point out the team is in the process of implementing a "Citizen Relationship Management" (CRM) tool. CRM is a web-based technology that facilitates complaints through on-line complaint registration. CRM has capabilities of and is intended to keep the complainant informed of case status automatically if registered through CRM. This technological tool will ease the distribution process by creating an efficient and effective automated approach. When complaints are received traditionally, a hard copy, the "Letter of Receipt" will be distributed to indicate the complaint status as well as sharing CRM capabilities with the complainant.

R3: Staff the full-time positions of Code Enforcement Technician and permanent clerical support. Recommendation 3 has been implemented.

Response: Historically Code Compliance was supported by a Technician although that has since changed due to an analysis completed by the County's Human Resources Department. As background, the Code Compliance Technician was promoted to an officer a couple years ago. After that promotion, the division requested a permanent technician to replace the vacancy. During the request process, the County's Human Resource Department conducted a "Position Inventory Questionnaire" (PIQ) process in an effort to identify the most effective position to support the team's needs.

From the PIQ process, it was determined a Senior Administrative Clerk was best suited for the type of work necessary to support the Code Compliance team. For this reason, the team utilized a temporary clerk until a permanent Senior Administrative Clerk was employed. Today, a permanent, full-time, Senior Administrative Clerk supports the Code Compliance team. Upon development of workload metrics, and a workforce analysis, management can best determine if one support staff is sufficient, or if additional support staff are necessary. If additional support staff is necessary, the team will request those additional staff members during the upcoming budget preparation process for fiscal year 2017/18.

R4: Develop and integrate a complaint tracking system in the Community Development Resources Agency's Accela software program.

Recommendation 4 has been implemented.

Response: Effective resources are critical to the success of the team. Management recognizes the importance of staffing resources as well as technological resources. For this reason, the County underwent a permit and case tracking technological system upgrade (Accela) recently which in turn

allowed code compliance an opportunity to develop an electronic tracking system. While during the Grand Jury investigation the tracking system was being configured, it's important to point out the system is now functioning as the team's main tracking system--we are now making full use of the Accela database. All cases are being tracked in Accela, as well as every action related to the case as completed by the code compliance officer. This tacking method will allow metrics and workforce analysis to occur ensuring a properly balanced team.

**R5: Implement training of Code Enforcement staff to use Accela compliant tracking system.
Recommendation 5 has not yet been implemented.**

Response: Code Compliance staff has been informally trained on the functionality of Accela, with formal training scheduled in the fall of 2016. Management commits to working with CDRA-IT to develop a training packet that covers Accela's workflow and overall functionality ensuring each Code Compliance staff member is capable of navigating, searching, inputting and retrieving data from the system.

**R6: While R4 and R5 are in the process of being implemented, create an independent tracking system, such as a simple spreadsheet, for management to review, which lists all incoming complaints, dispositions and final resolutions.
Recommendation numbered 6 will not be implemented because it is not warranted.**

Response: As stated in R4 above, the Accela system is currently tracking each code compliance case. For this reason, a spreadsheet or other tracking system is not necessary.

Sincerely,



Paul Thompson
Interim Director
Community Development Resource Agency

9/6/16
Date

cc: Placer County Board of Supervisors
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Mr. Tim Wegner
Chief Building Official
3091 County Center Drive, Suite 160
Auburn, CA 95603

Mr. David Boesch
Executive Officer, Placer County
175 Fulweiler Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Ms. Sharon Stanner
Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603



PLACER COUNTY LIBRARY

Applegate Library • Auburn Library • Bookmobile • Colfax Library • Foresthill Library • Granite Bay Library
Kings Beach Library • Loomis Library • Meadow Vista Library • Penryn Library • Rocklin Library • Tahoe City Library

August 4, 2016

Placer County Grand Jury
11532 B Avenue
Auburn, CA 95603

Re: 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – *Closing Our Libraries: A Look at Recent Library Decisions*

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to the 2015-16 Grand Jury's Findings & Recommendations from the report titled *Closing Our Libraries: A Look at Recent Library Decisions*. The Library Services Department would like to thank the members of the 2015-16 Grand Jury for their efforts.

Findings of the Grand Jury

- I (we) agree with the findings, numbered: F2, F3, F4, F5, F7
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings, numbered: F1, F6.

(F1) Other than rent for the Meadow Vista Library, no substantial money will be saved by closing these two libraries

We disagree partially with the finding numbered (F1). Library administration has been consistently candid regarding the need to shift Loomis and Meadow Vista Library resources to other libraries in the system. Shifting (not saving) resources will help to reduce a budgetary structural deficit in the library fund and help to reverse the deterioration of services. Budget shortfalls for the past eight years have forced the library to dip into reserves to maintain services throughout the county. The use of reserves to cover operational costs has caused the entire system to fall behind in its ability to improve library infrastructure and facilities, offer customers desirable materials in various formats, provide adequately trained staff, and offer convenient branch hours. The flat budgeting has also hindered the library's ability to add new technologies such as e-resources and increased broadband Internet. Closing the Loomis and Meadow Vista Libraries does not create a sustainable library budget or solve the library's budgetary structural deficit. The closures do, however, shift resources that help reduce system-wide costs, stabilize the staffing, and provide resources to libraries in the system where constituents are using the library most often.

Mary L. George, Director of Library Services

Library Administration • 350 Nevada St. • Auburn, CA 95603-3789

Telephone (530) 886-4551 • Fax (530) 886-4555

Email mgeorge@placer.ca.gov • Website www.placer.ca.gov/library

(F6) Loomis and Meadow Vista residents' needs regarding library services were not addressed. These communities were not included in the community conversations as conducted by the Placer County Library Services consultants.

We disagree wholly with the finding numbered (F6). Since 2011, long before the closures were recommended and considered, monthly discussions regarding the seriousness of the deficit in the library fund took place multiple times at Friends of the Library meetings in all the Placer County Library communities. Both the Loomis and Meadow Vista Friends of the Library were aware of the fiscal crisis and donated funds to the library budget to help offset the deficit. Additionally, since 2011, bi-monthly budget reports were issued and discussed in public at each Library Advisory Board meeting. Since determining that library closures may be necessary to stop the continued deterioration of the library system, the county has engaged the public on the issue and given concerned citizens the opportunity to discuss at numerous forums, public meetings, and presentations. In fact, the Board of Supervisors delayed action for over a year in order to allow closure opponents time and opportunity to fully develop alternate funding and operational plans.

In 2012, a consultant was contracted by the library to facilitate four community conversations to inform what would become the *Placer County Library Strategic Plan*. County library services are spread over 1,500 square miles from Granite Bay in South Placer to the North Shores of Lake Tahoe. The conversations were designed to discuss multiple library needs at one convenient geographic location. Meetings were held in Applegate, Foresthill, Kings Beach, and Rocklin. Members of the Applegate, Auburn, Colfax and Meadow Vista communities were encouraged to attend the community conversation held in Applegate. The Applegate and Meadow Vista Libraries are approximately three miles apart. Tahoe City patrons traveled to Kings Beach to participate in their conversation. The Granite Bay, Loomis, Penryn, and Rocklin communities were encouraged to attend the community conversation held in Rocklin. The Rocklin and Loomis Libraries are approximately three miles apart.

The community conversations were widely publicized by distributing flyers and postcards, with the Library Advisory Board, and at Friends of the Library meetings. Additionally, presentations regarding the library's strategic planning process were made by the Director of Library Services to the City of Auburn, the City of Colfax, the City of Rocklin and the Town of Loomis. Councilmembers were personally invited to attend an additional community conversation held in Auburn specifically for stakeholders including other county agencies, the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive, and the Friends of the Library.

Recommendations of the Grand Jury

(R1) Placer County Library Services make the wants and needs of each community a major priority.

- Recommendation numbered (R1) has been implemented and will continue to be implemented. The Placer County Library system is designed to react to the changing needs of its communities. Librarians are educated and trained to actively listen and respond to the wants and needs of both library users and non-users. A librarian's value is rooted in a vision of service; a covenant to provide all people access to information whether those people are visitors to Placer County, permanent residents, or tax payers. Libraries contribute significantly to the success of their communities and their communities are made up of any person who walks through the doors or visits virtually 24/7 through the library's website. Library services and the response to the community's wants and needs are limited only by the money allocated to the library's budget each

year whether the community has a brick and mortar library or not. In addition to library professionals, the Friends of the Library groups work toward generating community interest in the library's services & facilities. These groups meet regularly in communities throughout the County.

(R2) Placer County Library Services revise the strategic plan to reflect those wants and needs of the affected communities rather than, "moving beyond an interconnected system of small "town" libraries to a fully independent network of County library service outlets."

- Recommendation numbered (R2) will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The quote from the *Placer County Library Strategic Plan* should read, "Moving beyond an interconnected system of small "town" libraries to a fully interdependent (not independent) network of County library service outlets." This sentence is often misunderstood as the justification for recommending the closure of the Loomis and Meadow Vista libraries. Consolidating service outlets does not affect the interdependent relationship between these outlets. Permanently reducing the library's infrastructure helps to ease the impossible task of the library not having enough resources to maintain 11 libraries over 1,500 square miles. Library administration, with the support of the County Executive's Office, recommended to the Board of Supervisors a permanent change to the library infrastructure that in combination with additional property tax revenues and a County General Fund contribution would begin to mitigate the budgetary structural deficit and improve services to the community. The library will continue to work cooperatively with its stakeholders and the Board of Supervisors to seek and evaluate ways to deliver modern and sustainable library services.

(R3) At least six months prior to proposing a library closure that the Placer County Library Services must hold local public forums and perform input surveys in every affected community.

- Recommendation numbered (R3) has been partially implemented with more implementation to come in the near future. Placer County is committed to improving the level and quality of citizen engagement and to that end is working to develop a comprehensive strategy by December 2016 that outlines a more proactive philosophy, one that enables citizens to partner with the county and help inform the recommendations and decisions much earlier in the processes. One tool that the county is launching as of July 2016 to help with engagement, is a survey tool called Flashvote. Flashvote allows the county to issue stock surveys about things like communications, budget priorities, and the quality of area roads, among other things. It also allows for custom surveys, so departments such as the Library can seek input about potentially controversial projects or issues from residents to help inform the way ahead. Unlike other survey tools where the audience is randomly selected or self-nominated from receiving a link in our newsletter, this tool asks people to sign up to participate in all the surveys. Their pitch is simple: "Do you have one minute a month to help make Placer County better?" When people sign up, they receive an email asking for their participation in whatever survey the county is putting forth at that time, and they know it will only take a minute or two to participate. As a result, Flashvote has had excellent response rates. This can help give a voice to the silent majority who is often too busy to participate in the public process. It can also help staff better understand the needs and desires of the public served.

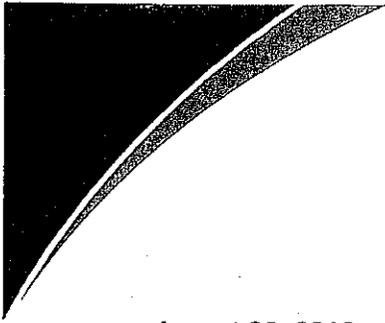
The library will utilize Flashvote and any other citizen engagement meeting or tool introduced by the county to inform the library community at least six months prior to proposing future library closures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary L. George". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Mary L. George
Director of Library Services

cc: Sharon Stanners, Foreperson of Placer County Grand Jury
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel



August 26, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: 2015-2016 Grand Jury Final Report – Homelessness in Placer County

Dear Judge Nichols,

This letter is in response to the 2015-2016 Grand Jury's Finding and Recommendations from the report titled "*Homelessness in Placer County*". The Department of Health and Human Services would like to thank the members of the 2015-2016 Grand Jury for their efforts in researching homelessness in Placer County, as well as making recommendations to better address this significant social issue.

Our department respectfully submits the following as a response to this important report.

FINDINGS

We agree with the findings, numbered F1, F4, F5 and F6

We disagree partially with the findings, numbered F2 and F3

F2 – This process began in 2004 with the *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Placer County* and continues today without a stated strategy for resolution.

While Placer County's initial *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness* completed in 2004 was not fully implemented, it was successful in accessing federal grants to expand safety net services, including emergency shelter and permanent, supported housing beds, and the creation of a regional continuum of care in conjunction with Nevada County. However, similar to other rural and urban areas across the nation, it has not been successful in fully eliminating homelessness. The Plan remains a guide, outlining strategies that would end homelessness. Strides continue to be made toward ending homelessness with more vital parties becoming involved.

While the total number of homeless individuals as measured by the Biannual Homeless Point-In-Time Count remains close to 600 countywide, significant reductions in homeless families and veterans have been noted over the past five years. However, the numbers of chronically homeless individuals has steadily increased. As a result in 2014, the County employed a nationally recognized, homeless consultant, Dr. Robert Marbut, to make a number of recommendations to strengthen our County's homeless service efforts. The County continues to build upon Dr. Marbut's recommendations, and is engaged in a planning effort to develop additional strategies to better serve our county's homeless population.

F3 – The counting of the homeless occurs one day every two years. This methodology is inadequate due to the mobility of the homeless, difficulty locating them, and possible duplicate counting of individuals.

While the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Biannual Point-In-Time Count methodology has limitations, it is a universal measure employed by continua of care across the nation and is an important tool to establish the magnitude of homelessness within a community. Other local data include safety net service utilization from our county's Homeless Management Information System. However, this information only includes homeless individuals who actually use local services, a subset of the total local homeless population. Data from both sources are helpful to measure progress in decreasing homelessness, and aid in planning efforts to identify strengths and reduce gaps in our county's current homeless assistance system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation numbered R1, has not yet been implemented.

R1 - Placer County adopt and implement a comprehensive long term strategy to address the needs of the homeless, including shelter, before the close of Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

Placer County Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras, is in the process of conducting a planning effort to develop a long-term strategy to address homelessness in Placer County. It currently has engaged four separate groups to explore the expansion of the County's Homeless Management Information System, the development of 24/7 shelter, supports and service centers and the development of permanent supportive housing options for homeless individuals. The results of these planning efforts will be shared with the Board of Supervisors in Spring 2017.

Recommendations numbered R2, R3 and R4 have been implemented.

R2 – Placer County continue to work with the various stakeholders (municipalities, county private agencies, medical facilities, etc.) to develop a wide range of innovative and proven services addressing the cycle of homelessness.

Placer County will continue to work with its engaged stakeholder group, including representatives from local cities, Sutter Hospitals, local community health centers, substance use disorder treatment providers and safety net service providers. If funded through either the federal Medicaid 1115 Waiver Whole Person Care grant and/or Mental Health Services Act Innovation funding, it will coordinate efforts across our local continuum to provide treatment services and housing to serious mentally ill homeless individuals who are frequent utilizers of government and/or hospital services.

R3 – Placer County continue to support the public – private partnerships that provide services for the homeless in the County.

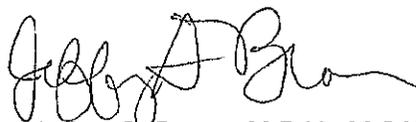
Placer County will continue to coordinate program efforts with homeless safety net providers, public safety agencies, local cities, faith-based organizations, medical providers and other key stakeholders. It will support the efforts of the County's Homeless Continuum of Care, led by the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras.

It will also work to support efforts to promote and expand housing opportunities for the homeless, as well as other low-income individuals and families. In addition, the County, community providers, Social Security Administration and California Department of Health Care Services will continue to work together to implement SOAR (Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Outreach, Access, and Recovery) to increase access to SSI and SSDI benefits for people who are homeless.

R-4 – Placer County continue to work with citizens that have concerns about the issues that accompany homeless individuals.

Placer County will continue to solicit input into the operation of existing homeless service programs and planning of new programs. It will hold quarterly meetings during the fiscal year in North Auburn to continue to share information and gather neighborhood feedback regarding the temporary homeless shelter located at the Placer County Government Center. It will also solicit input from key stakeholders and local residents as part of its on-going planning processes as described above.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W.
Health and Human Services Department Director

cc: Sharon Stanner, Foreperson of Placer County Grand Jury
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel



August 29, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
 Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
 County of Placer
 P.O. Box 619072
 Roseville, CA 95661

Re: **2015-2016 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Implements Assisted Outpatient Treatment “Laura’s Law”.**

Dear Judge Nichols,

This letter is in response to the 2015-2016 Grand Jury’s Findings and Recommendations from the report titled *“Placer County Implements Assisted Outpatient Treatment”*. The Department of Health and Human Services would like to thank the members of the 2015-2016 Grand Jury for their efforts in reviewing our County’s implementation of Laura’s Law and highlighting the need to expand current outreach efforts to the public.

Our department respectfully submits the following as a response to this report.

FINDINGS

We agree with the findings, numbered: F1, F2, F3, F4, and F5.

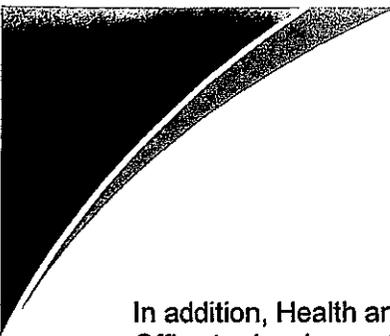
RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation numbered R1 has begun to be implemented.

R1 – Placer County Health and Human Services expand current information outreach efforts to make medical and education professionals, as well as the general population, more aware of Laura’s Law. This would include the Law’s benefits, qualifications and operational policies.

At this time there has been an updated power point presentation developed. The presentation provides information on the current program statistics, how this program fits into the current system of care, benefits of this law, criteria for entry into the program and operational policies.

Presentations are currently scheduled with the National Alliance on Mental Health, the Community Collaborative of Tahoe Truckee, the Campaign for Community Wellness and a local support group.



In addition, Health and Human Services staff will work with the Placer County Public Information Office to develop material that can be distributed through the current county public distribution channels such as the Placer County News. It is anticipated that the development of this material will occur late this summer with distribution transpiring periodically throughout the upcoming fall and spring.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey S. Brown, M.P.H., M.S.W.
Health and Human Services Department Director

cc: Sharon Stanner, Foreperson of Placer county Grand Jury
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel



PLACER COUNTY
SHERIFF
CORONER-MARSHAL



MAIN OFFICE
2828 RICHARDSON DR.
AUBURN, CA 95603
PH: (530) 889-7800 FAX: (530) 889-7899

TAHOE SUBSTATION
DRAWER 1710
TAHOE CITY, CA 96145
PH: (530) 581-6300 FAX: (530) 581-6377

EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

DEVON BELL
UNDERSHERIFF

August 10, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Response to the 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – Child Abuse and Neglect

Dear Judge Nichols:

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – Child Abuse and Neglect.

FINDINGS

I agree with the findings, numbered F1, F2, F3 & F4.

- **F1.** Sworn personnel and dispatchers in all five law enforcement agencies receive mandatory reporting and investigation training regarding child abuse/neglect.
- **F2.** All five law enforcement agencies work closely with the Placer County Children's System of Care in the reporting and investigation of child abuse/neglect allegations.
- **F3.** All agencies have a cooperative working relationship and coordination of child abuse/neglect reporting and investigation. This is reflected in the establishment of the Multi-Disciplinary Interview Center and Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Team. This enhances the effectiveness and efficiency of child abuse/neglect reporting and investigation.
- **F4.** The Grand Jury was unable to verify that the agencies provide training for volunteers related to child abuse/neglect reporting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **R1.** All five law enforcement agencies establish written policies and procedures for all non-sworn and volunteer personnel regarding child abuse/neglect reporting.
- **R2.** The law enforcement agencies ensure that all new and current volunteers and staff have received training on child abuse/neglect reporting.

Response: Recommendations R1 & R2 have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. While not required by law, we agree that all non-sworn and volunteer Sheriff's personnel should receive appropriate training on child abuse and neglect reporting. The Sheriff's

Office will establish policies and procedures and provide this training through a web-based module. This recommendation will be implemented within the next 12 months.

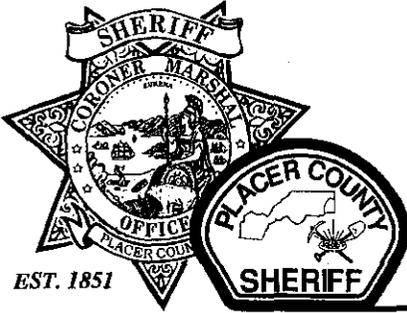
I wish to thank the members of the 2015-16 Placer County Grand Jury for their dedication to the community, and for their work during the past year.

Sincerely,



Edward N. Bonner
Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

c: Board of Supervisors
David Boesch, Placer County Executive Officer
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel
Sharon Stanners, Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury



PLACER COUNTY
SHERIFF
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August 10, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: Response to the 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Jails and Holding Facilities: A Consolidated Report

Dear Judge Nichols:

After careful review of the findings and recommendations of the Placer County Grand Jury, I am pleased to submit the following responses to the 2015-16 Grand Jury Final Report – Placer County Jails and Holding Facilities: A Consolidated Report.

FINDINGS

I agree with the findings, numbered F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6 & F7.

- **F1.** All six Placer County Jails and Holding Facilities were clean, well-maintained, and well-managed with the exceptions noted. It was apparent that staff takes great pride in their facilities.
- **F2.** The Burton Creek Substation Jail/Holding Facility is functional and operational, in spite of its age and the fact that it is not ADA compliant. The staff does an exceptional job in utilizing a very outdated facility.
- **F3.** AB109 has impacted Auburn Mail Jail and the South Placer Mail Jail. With some inmates now spending up to 8 years in a county facility, long-term rehabilitation and medical services, as well as educational/vocational opportunities are more critical than ever.
- **F4.** The opening of the booking facility at the South Placer Mail Jail will enable south county law enforcement officers to return to duty more quickly than the current system. It will also enable smaller facilities run by cities to expedite their own booking routines.
- **F5.** The floor of the kitchen area in the South Placer Adult Correctional Facility has missing, torn, and/or worn non-slip floor tapes in the food storage and preparation areas.
- **F6.** The floor in the kitchen area of the South Placer Adult Correctional Facility has cracks that could harbor bacteria.
- **F7.** On the day of the inspection of the Historic Courthouse, exposed and damaged drywall or plaster was observed on the bottom right of the doorjamb entering the facility through the sally port.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Auburn Historic Courthouse Recommendation:

- **R1.** Repair the drywall or plaster that is exposed on the bottom right of the doorjamb entering the facility from the sally port.

Response: Recommendation R1 has been implemented. The Judicial Council authorized a work order to repair the damaged area.

Burton Creek Recommendation:

- **R2.** Implement changes to make the facility ADA compliant.

Response: Recommendation R2 requires further analysis. While we recognize the Burton Creek facility is outdated, the Sheriff's Office defers to the County Executive Officer and the Board of Supervisors to pursue the most feasible option to either implement renovations to make the facility ADA compliant, or the option of a new Sheriff's Station.

South Placer Main Jail Recommendation:

- **R3.** Repair or replace missing, torn, or worn non-slip floor tapes in the kitchen, food storage, and food preparation areas.
- **R4.** Repair the floor cracks throughout the building with special emphasis in sealing the cracks in the kitchen area.

Response: Recommendations R3 & R4 have been implemented. There are no longer missing, torn or worn non-slip floor tapes in the food storage and preparation areas, and no cracks in the floor in the kitchen area. The entire kitchen floor was resurfaced with epoxy non-slip flooring.

I wish to thank the members of the 2015-16 Placer County Grand Jury for their dedication to the community, and for their work during the past year.

Sincerely,



Edward N. Bonner
Sheriff-Coroner-Marshal

- c: Board of Supervisors
David Boesch, Placer County Executive Officer
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel
Sharon Stanners, Foreperson of the Placer County Grand Jury

August 29, 2016

The Honorable Colleen Nichols
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Placer
P.O. Box 619072
Roseville, CA 95661

Re: 2015-2016 Grand Jury Final Report – Homelessness in Placer County

Dear Honorable Judge Nichols,

This letter is in response to the 2015-2016 Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations from the report titled "*Homelessness in Placer County*". On behalf of Placer County and the County Executive Office, I would like to thank the members of the 2015-2016 Grand Jury for their efforts in researching homelessness in Placer County, as well as making recommendations to better address this significant social issue.

The County Executive Office respectfully submits the following as a response to this important report.

Findings of the Grand Jury

F1. Placer County has done a good job in soliciting and gathering input from homeless individuals, general public, homeless advocates, city and county governmental agencies.

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office agrees with this finding.

F2. This process began in 2004 with the *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness In Placer County* and continues today without a stated strategy for resolution.

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office disagrees to some extent with this finding.

The County's *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness* was successful in accessing federal grants to expand safety net services in Placer County, including emergency shelter and permanent, supportive housing beds, and the creation of a regional

continuum of care in conjunction with Nevada County. Placer has experienced similar challenges faced in other jurisdictions. While the plan outlines various strategies, homelessness has not been fully eliminated. Strides continue to be made toward ending homelessness and engaging additional community partners.

The total number of homeless individuals as measured by the Biannual Homeless Point-In-Time Count remains close to 600 and notes significant reductions in homeless families and veterans over the past five years, along with a steady increase in chronically homeless individuals. In 2014, the County employed a nationally recognized homeless consultant, Dr. Robert Marbut, to make a number of recommendations to strengthen our County's homeless service efforts. The County continues to build upon Dr. Marbut's recommendations and is engaged in a planning effort on additional strategies to better serve our County's homeless population.

F3. The counting of the homeless occurs one day every two years. This methodology is inadequate due to the mobility of the homeless, difficulty locating them, and possible duplicate counting of individuals.

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office disagrees to some extent with this finding.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Biannual Point-In-Time Count methodology is an approach applied across the nation and is an important tool to establish the magnitude of homelessness within a community. Other local data include safety net service utilization from our county's Homeless Management Information System. Data from both sources are helpful to measure progress in decreasing homelessness and aid in planning efforts to identify strengths and reduce gaps in our County's current homeless assistance system. Conducting the count on the same day actually minimizes duplicate counting of individuals.

F4. There is insufficient affordable housing available throughout the county.

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office agrees with this finding.

F5. Due to various circumstances affecting the homeless population there is no simple solution to meet all the needs and concerns in Placer County

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office agrees with this finding.

F6. It is unlikely that any decision related to the location of a homeless shelter will satisfy all concerned.

County Executive Office Response: The County Executive Office agrees with this finding.

Recommendations of the Grand Jury

R1 - Placer County adopt and implement a comprehensive long term strategy to address the needs of the homeless, including shelter, before the close of Fiscal Year 2016-2017.

County Executive Office Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented. Placer County Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras, is in the process of conducting a planning effort to develop a long-term strategy to address homelessness in Placer County. It currently has engaged four separate groups to explore the expansion of the County's Homeless Management Information System, the development of 24/7 shelter, supports and service centers and the development of permanent supportive housing options for homeless individuals. The result of this planning effort is expected to be presented to the Board of Supervisors in spring 2017. In the meantime, the County continues to fund homeless shelter operations at a temporary location on the Placer County Government Center campus and works closely with other jurisdictions and non-profit organizations in South Placer County and Eastern Placer County to address homelessness.

R2 – Placer County continue to work with the various stakeholders (municipalities, county private agencies, medical facilities, etc.) to develop a wide range of innovative and proven services addressing the cycle of homelessness.

County Executive Office Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Placer County will continue to work with its engaged stakeholder group, including representatives from local cities, Sutter Hospitals, local community health centers, substance use disorder treatment providers and safety net service providers. If funded through either the federal Medicaid 1115 Waiver Whole Person Care grant and/or Mental Health Services Act Innovation funding, Placer County will coordinate efforts to provide treatment services and housing to serious mentally ill homeless individuals who are frequent utilizers of government and/or hospital services.

R3 – Placer County continue to support the public – private partnerships that provide services for the homeless in the County.

County Executive Office Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Placer County will continue to coordinate program efforts with all homeless safety net

providers, public safety agencies, local cities, faith-based organizations, medical providers and other key stakeholders. It will support the efforts of the County's Homeless Continuum of Care, led by the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras.

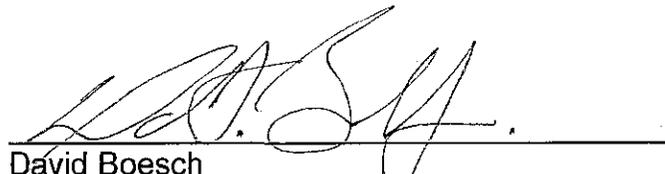
It will also work to support efforts to promote and expand housing opportunities for the homeless, as well as other low-income individuals and families. In addition, the County, community providers, Social Security Administration and California Department of Health Care Services will continue to work together to implement SOAR (Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Outreach, Access, and Recovery) to increase access to SSI and SSDI benefits for people who are homeless.

R-4 – Placer County continue to work with citizens that have concerns about the issues that accompany homeless individuals.

County Executive Office Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Placer County will continue to solicit input into the operation of existing homeless service programs and planning of new programs. It will hold quarterly meetings during the fiscal year in North Auburn to continue to share information and gather neighborhood feedback regarding the temporary homeless shelter located at the Placer County Government Center. It will also solicit input from key stakeholders and local residents as part of its on-going planning processes as described above.

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER



David Boesch
Placer County Executive Officer

cc: Jerry M. Henry, Foreperson of Placer County Grand Jury
Gerald O. Carden, Placer County Counsel

