CITY OF CLEARLAKE

City Council

STAFF REPORT	
SUBJECT: Discussion and Consideration of Response to 2025-26 Lake County Civil Grand Jury Report	**MEETING DATE:** Nov. 19, 2026
SUBMITTED BY: Alan Flora, City Manager	
PURPOSE OF REPORT: ☐ Information only ☒ Discussion ☒ Action Item	

WHAT IS BEING ASKED OF THE CITY COUNCIL/BOARD:

The City Council is being asked to consider approving a response to the Grand Jury Report and authorize the Mayor to sign.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The 2025–2026 Lake County Civil Grand Jury issued a report entitled *"Clearlake Animal Services — New Leash on Life,"* containing eight findings and eight recommendations regarding animal shelter operations and services. The City Council is required to respond to five recommendations (R1, R2, R6, R7, and R8) and has elected to address all eight findings to provide additional context and clarification.

The proposed response outlines the City's ongoing efforts to improve animal services through its contractual partnership with Clearlake Animal Association (CAA). It highlights the City's regular oversight and coordination, including monthly meetings, shelter site visits, and a contractual annual performance evaluation process. The response also addresses CAA's written operating procedures, clarification of responsibilities related to Cal/OSHA compliance, the City's assistance with facility maintenance and improvements, and the Police Department's procedures for responding to reported criminal activity.

The response acknowledges the importance of adequate funding and continued facility improvements while emphasizing the City's limited financial resources and the need to balance animal services with other essential municipal responsibilities. It further identifies collaboration with CAA and regional partners as a key strategy for improving services.

OPTIONS:

1. Move to approve the proposed response and authorize the Mayor to sign.
2. Other direction

FISCAL IMPACT:

☒ None ☐ Budgeted Item? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Budget Adjustment Needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, amount of appropriation increase: $

Affected fund(s): ☐ General Fund ☐ Measure P Fund ☐ Measure V Fund ☐ Other:

Comments**:** N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

☐ Goal #1: Economic Development

☒ Goal #2: Public Facilities and Infrastructure

☐ Goal #3: Celebrate Clearlake

☐ Goal #4: Clean

☒ Goal #5: Fiscal Sustainability

☐ Goal #6: Safe

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

Move to approve the proposed response and authorize the Mayor to sign.

☒ **Attachments:** 1) Draft Response Letter

2) Response letters from the Clearlake Police Department