



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 09/03/2019

ITEM NO: 3

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DATE: August 20, 2019  
TO: Mayor and Town Council  
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: Approve the Town's Response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on "Inquiry into the Governance of the Valley Transportation Authority" Dated June 18, 2019.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the Town's response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on "Inquiry into the Governance of the Valley Transportation Authority" dated June 18, 2019.

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 18, 2019, the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury issued a report pursuant to its investigation into the governance structure of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA). This is the third Grand Jury investigation in the last twenty years on this topic. In summary, the Grand Jury found that the VTA Board is "in need of structural change to enable it to better protect the interests of the County's taxpayers and address the many complex challenges presented by emerging trends in transportation, rapidly evolving technology and the changing needs of Silicon Valley residents" (see Attachment 1).

The Civil Grand Jury Report directed jurisdictions in Santa Clara County to respond to specific findings and recommendations. Attachment 2 contains the draft Town responses to the Civil Grand Jury Report.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Town of Los Gatos is included in the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on VTA governance because it is a jurisdiction within the County of Santa Clara that has representation on the VTA Board. The West Valley cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and Saratoga have a single representative, appointed by the Mayors of these cities every two years. Currently, Los Gatos Council Member Rob Rennie represents the five West Valley cities.

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Reviewed by: Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Parks and Public Works Director

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DISCUSSION (Continued):

As a result of its inclusion in the report, the Town is required to respond by letter or electronic transmission to the Civil Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations within 90 days, pursuant to California Penal Code. The Town may respond to the Report's Findings in one of the following ways:

- *Agree*
- *Partially Agree*
- *Partially Disagree*
- *Disagree*

The Town may respond to the Report's Recommendations in one of the following ways:

- *Has been implemented*
- *Has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future*
- *Requires further analysis*
- *Will not be implemented*

The Civil Grand Jury Report included one Finding and three Recommendations that require a response from the Town (see Attachment 2). In summary, the response states that the Town partially agrees with Finding 1 and that the Recommendations require further analysis.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends approval of the letter with the detailed response as contained in Attachment 2. Once approved by the Town Council, the letter will be transmitted to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury, the Presiding Judge, and to the Clerk of the VTA Board pursuant to its request.

COORDINATION:

The City Managers of the West Valley cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, and Saratoga coordinated on the draft response. Internal coordination included the Town Manager's Office, Parks and Public Works Department, and Town Attorney's Office.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact for approving the response to the Civil Grand Jury on the matter of VTA governance.

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SUBJECT: Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report on "VTA Governance"

DATE: August 20, 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury Report dated June 18, 2019
2. Proposed response to the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury