



City of Sebastopol

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Dave Brennan, City Manager

GRAND JURY

DEC 27 2007

RECEIVED

December 20, 2007

Judge Robert S. Boyd
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
Hall of Justice
P.O. Box 5109
Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Re: Response to the Sonoma County Grand Jury Report of FY 2006-07

Dear Judge Boyd:

My office was contacted this week requesting the City of Sebastopol's response to the Grand Jury's report on billboards in Sonoma County entitled, "Signs of the Times". Since we did not receive a copy of the report, we were unaware that a response from the City was expected. So, as required under the California Penal Code Section 933 I am now responding to the request and submitting to you our responses to the Grand Jury report of FY 2006-07.

In regard to each of the findings in the report:

F1 / F2 / F3: We can neither agree or disagree with these findings as we have no knowledge of how the County Assessor's office conducts their assessment program

F4: We can neither agree or disagree with this finding as we have no knowledge as to how ownership information of billboards may be maintained in other jurisdictions. However, any billboard that is constructed under a building permit in the City of Sebastopol would have the owner's name in the file.

F5: We can neither agree or disagree with this finding as we have no knowledge of how the County Assessor may notify owners of their annual assessment for billboard ownership.

F6: We agree with this finding as other jurisdictions have not exchanged information with our city on billboards located outside the city limits of Sebastopol.

F7: We partially disagree with this finding because if a billboard were to be located in the City of Sebastopol, it would be monitored for content and construction safety.

F8: We disagree with this finding because if a billboard were to be constructed in Sebastopol, it would have to meet the zoning and building regulations currently in place which would be enforced by our Planning and Building Departments.

F9: We can neither agree or disagree with this finding as we have no knowledge of this.

In regard to the requirement that we respond to recommendation R6, we have the following comment:

R6: *The legality of all billboards in the county should be examined and any illegal billboards should be removed.*

Since we do not have any billboards located in the City of Sebastopol, we cannot implement this recommendation, but should an illegal billboard be installed in the City, we will order it removed or brought into compliance with all building and planning standards subject to penalties and conditions of approval.

I believe this response fulfills our requirements under the California Penal Code sections 933(b), 933.05(a) and 933.05 (b). Should the grand jury desire responses to grand jury findings in the future, please send us a copy of the report at:

City of Sebastopol
Attention: City Manager
1776 Bodega Ave.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Yours Truly,



David Brennan
City Manager

C City Council
Department Heads