

SEP 21 2007



**CITY OF HEALDSBURG  
ADMINISTRATION**

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September 17, 2007

The Honorable Robert S. Boyd, Presiding Judge  
Sonoma County Superior Court  
600 Administration Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Re: 2006-2007 Grand Jury Final Report  
Response from City of Healdsburg

Dear Judge Boyd:

The City of Healdsburg ("Healdsburg") respectfully submits the following responses to the 2006-2007 Grand Jury Report. Healdsburg was requested or required to respond to items in the following Report topics: "**Access and Recreation in Open Space District Properties**" (*response requested*); "**Signs of the Times**" (*response required*); and "**Wastewater: Money Down the Drain?**" (*response required*).

**GRAND JURY**

SEP 27 2007

**RECEIVED**

**Wastewater: Money Down the Drain?**

**Recommendation 1.** *Begin the creation of a master plan that includes ground water, surface water and waste water.*

**Recommendation 5.** *Determine how much, realistically, should be set aside for capital improvements.*

**Recommendation 6.** *Reopen the examination of consolidation of smaller facilities and continue consolidation efforts.*

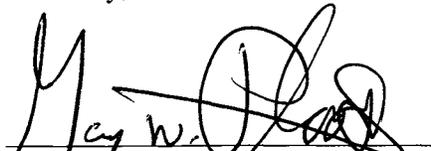
**Healdsburg's response to Recommendation 1:** The Recommendation has been partially implemented. City of Healdsburg has completed several components of its long-term plan for water and wastewater infrastructures, including the adoption of an Urban Water Management Plan which was adopted by the City Council in January of 2007. The recently completed potable water filtration plant combined with the City's senior water rights from the Russian River and Dry Creek will provide water to the City for the next thirty years and will be sufficient to handle anticipated growth. The advanced wastewater treatment plant that will be completed in January 2008 will provide the City with state-of-the-art treatment of its wastewater. The City has also prepared a water recycling plan that will be implemented in phases with the first phase identified as urban reuse on our golf course, cemetery, open spaces and play fields. The second phase will involve agricultural uses.

**Healdsburg's response to Recommendation 5:** The City of Healdsburg has implemented and completed this recommendation, which included the identification of three critical and major capital infrastructure needs: the potable water filtration plant; the AWT Wastewater Treatment Plant; and the recycled water distribution system. To date the City has funded and financed the two plants and is in the process of identifying funding sources for the recycled water distribution system estimated to be in the \$12 million range.

**Healdsburg's response to Recommendation 6:** "The Recommendation will not be implemented because it is not applicable to Healdsburg. Utilizing the Grand Jury's definition for a small facility "...serving fewer than 2,500 connections ...", Healdsburg with combined connections (residential and commercial) of approximately 5,000, appears exempt from this recommendation. Further, consolidation and/or expansion of municipal services beyond the city's boundaries has implications under Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) laws which were not discussed in the Grand Jury's report."

Please accept this letter as the response of the City of Healdsburg and thank you for your consideration of same. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary W. Plass, Mayor  
City of Healdsburg

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chet Wystepek, City Manager  
City of Healdsburg