

MAYOR
Vicente Sarmiento
MAYOR PRO TEM
Phil Bacerra
COUNCILMEMBERS
Johnathan Ryan Hernandez
Jessie Lopez
Nelida Mendoza
David Penaloza
Thai Viet Phan



CITY MANAGER
Kristine Ridge
CITY ATTORNEY
Sonia R. Carvalho
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

CITY OF SANTA ANA

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
20 Civic Center Plaza • P.O. Box 1988
Santa Ana, California 92702
www.santa-ana.org

August 3, 2022

Via E-mail and U.S. Mail

Honorable Erick Larsh, Presiding Judge
Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: Response to Grand Jury Report Entitled “How is Orange County Addressing Homelessness”

Dear Honorable Judge Larsh:

Please accept this letter as the City of Santa Ana’s response to the Grand Jury’s report entitled “How is Orange County Addressing Homelessness”. This report was presented to the City Council at their meeting held on August 2, 2022, whereby the City Council authorized the City Manager to deliver the City’s response to the Presiding Judge of the Orange County Superior Court. Here are the City’s responses to the items requested by the Grand Jury specifically for the City of Santa Ana; F3, F4, R4, R5, R6.

FINDINGS:

F3. The County of Orange and cities within Orange County have been inconsistent in collaboration for support of shelters and services, which has resulted in missed opportunities to end homelessness.

City’s Response: The City agrees with this finding.

F4. There are insufficient number or rental units available to those exiting Emergency Shelters, resulting in the majority returning to homelessness when leaving the shelters.

City’s Response: The City agrees with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

R4. By July 1, 2024, the County of Orange and cities should collaborate to open facilities that can house people with severe and persistent mental illness and addiction issues in a secure setting. (F2)

City’s Response: The City of Santa Ana looks forward to the expansion of Be Well OC to provide this service beyond their existing Orange campus.

SANTA ANA CITY COUNCIL

Vicente Sarmiento
Mayor
vsarmiento@santa-ana.org

Phil Bacerra
Mayor Pro Tem, Ward 4
pbacerra@santa-ana.org

Thai Viet Phan
Ward 1
tphan@santa-ana.org

Nelida Mendoza
Ward 2
nmendoza@santa-ana.org

Jessie Lopez
Ward 3
jessielopez@santa-ana.org

Johnathan Ryan Hernandez
Ward 5
jryanhernandez@santa-ana.org

David Penaloza
Ward 6
dpenaloza@santa-ana.org

R5. By July 1, 2023, the County of Orange, cities and CoC should collaborate to encourage the development of housing affordable to individuals exiting the emergency shelter in Orange County (F3, F4, F5).

City’s Response - The City of Santa Ana regularly collaborates with the County of Orange to increase the supply of affordable housing as evidenced by the development and construction of the following projects jointly funded by the City of Santa Ana and the County or Orange.

• **In pre-development:**

- WISEPlace:
 - OCHFT = \$2,480,000
 - City = \$5,740,327 and 25 Project-Based Vouchers
 - County = \$1.5 Million
- Crossroads at Washington:
 - City = \$4,644,909 and 15 Project-Based Vouchers
 - County = \$2,650,701 and 43 Project-Based Vouchers
 - 62-year Ground Lease for County-owned land
 - 62-year Ground Lease for City-owned land
 - OCHFT = \$2,500,000
- FX Residences:
 - City = \$1,656,947 and 3 Project-Based Vouchers
 - 99-year Ground Lease for City-owned land
 - County = \$6,217,047 (includes competitive NPLH award)
 - OCHFT = \$832,015.28

• **Under Construction:**

- Westview House:
 - City = \$3,904,341 and 26 Project-Based Vouchers
 - County = \$11,570,817 (includes competitive NPLH award)
 - OCHFT = \$1,450,349.19
- Legacy Square:
 - County = \$7,527,376 (includes competitive NPLH award)
 - City = 8 Project-Based Vouchers
- North Harbor Village:
 - City = \$1,687,047 and 89 Project-Based Vouchers
 - OCHFT = \$2,217,769.14

• **Complete:**

- Heroes’ Landing
 - City= \$477,345.90 and 75 Project-Based Vouchers
 - County = \$2,912,000
- Santa Ana Arts Collective
 - City = \$7,902,631
 - County = \$4,724,430
- Depot at Santiago
 - \$3,000,000 and 8 Project-Based Vouchers
 - County = \$1,615,320

SANTA ANA CITY COUNCIL

In summary, the City of Santa Ana and the County of Orange collaborate on increasing the supply of affordable housing within the City of Santa Ana.

R6. By December 1, 2022, the County of Orange, cities and CoC should collaborate to increase the number of housing opportunities for Transitional Aged Youth (F6)

City's Response: The City of Santa Ana plans to utilize approximately \$2 million of HHAP Round 1, 2 and 3 dollars to deliver permanent housing dedicated to Youth Homelessness. The City of Santa Ana will be working with a nonprofit and the Department of Health Care Services to fund an Intergenerational project that combines senior citizen housing and youth housing to stretch these dollars to increase the effectiveness. The City of Santa Ana would welcome more collaboration between the County and the CoC toward funding innovative projects that provide housing for Transitional Aged Youth.

Note 1: Since the release of this report, the Santa Ana Navigation Center opened. The City of Santa Ana operated the temporary Navigation Center in the City of Fullerton listed on page 15 of the report.

Note 2: The City of Santa Ana fully supports Recommendation One (R1) that states "By July 1, 2023, the Continuum of Care and County of Orange should leverage funding to persuade South Orange County cities to open a regional, low-threshold emergency shelter for the homeless, in addition to the Laguna Beach Friendship Shelter". This would provide homeless individuals access to an emergency shelter in each of the three Service Planning Area's.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your request. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (714) 647-5200.

Sincerely,



Kristine Ridge
City Manager

Attachments: City of Santa Ana Staff Report dated August 2, 2022

SANTA ANA CITY COUNCIL