



# City of Villa Park

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[www.villapark.org](http://www.villapark.org)

August 24, 2022

Erick L. Larsh  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**RE: CITY OF VILLA PARK RESPONSE TO THE 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT "WHERE HAVE ALL THE CRVs GONE?"**

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the City of Villa Park, I am pleased to respond to the Grand Jury's report regarding California Refund Value (CRV) fees. The City of Villa Park provides the following responses:

Finding F-1: *Due to the reduced availability of convenient CRV redemption sites and the lack of accurate online information, it is difficult for resident consumers to redeem CRV fees.*

City Response: The City of Villa Park agrees with this finding. The closure of redemption sites across the county has made it less convenient for residents to return their recyclables and has reduced participation in the CRV program.

Finding F-2: *Because redemption site locations have diminished in number, waste haulers are the beneficiaries to the CRV fees paid originally by resident consumers.*

City Response: The City agrees with this finding and understands that the lack of convenience for residents to return recyclables at redemption sites has offloaded the process onto waste haulers who then collect those fees themselves.

Finding F-3: *CalRecycle is attempting to improve CRV redemption and reduce CRV recyclables from landfills and are offering financial incentives to do so. Orange County and its cities are not fully taking advantage of the grant or pilot program opportunities available through CalRecycle.*

City Response: The City disagrees partially with this finding. While the Grand Jury's report did note funding opportunities, the City of Villa Park does not meet all the qualifications and is therefore unable to take advantage of those opportunities. Villa Park covers approximately two square miles of Orange County, so it is not possible to identify six half-mile convenience zones

within our jurisdiction that would qualify us to apply for the CalRecycle Pilot Project Grant Program.

Recommendation R-1: *By January of 2023, each of the cities in Orange County should research and apply for available grants or pilot programs from CalRecycle for their community that focus on returning more CRV funds to their residents.*

City Response: As noted in the City's response to finding F-3, the City of Villa Park has limitations that prevent us from qualifying for some of CalRecycle's CRV grant programs. As such, this recommendation requires further analysis to find solutions and programs that work for smaller jurisdictions like Villa Park.

Recommendation R-2: *By January of 2023, the Orange County Board of Supervisors should require OC Waste & Recycling to research and apply for available grants or pilot programs from CalRecycle for the unincorporated areas of OC that focus on returning more CRV funds to their residents.*

City Response: The City of Villa Park will not be implementing this recommendation. We are an incorporated city, so the governing of unincorporated areas within Orange County does not fall within our jurisdiction.

Recommendation R-3: *When renegotiating their current waste hauler contract, all cities and the County of Orange should assess the value of the CRV funds received by the waste hauler in their jurisdiction and creatively leverage this revenue for the benefit of their residents.*

City Response: The City is currently renegotiating our contract with our waste hauler. We will inquire whether our contractor collects CRV funds and if that revenue can be repurposed to support community projects/events.

Recommendation R-4: *By January of 2023, all cities and the County of Orange should develop extensive community outreach programs aimed at educating the public about how to access CRV redemption in their jurisdiction.*

City Response: The City of Villa Park will implement this recommendation by posting information about how to locate the closest CRV redemption sites in our e-newsletter and on our social media pages.

Sincerely,  
**THE CITY OF VILLA PARK**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Zimmerman", written over a horizontal line.

Chad Zimmerman  
Mayor