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Date:
September 13, 2022

**Presiding Judge of the
Superior Court**

700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Honorable Judge Erick L. Larsh,

The City of Stanton received the 2021-2022 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled "Where Have All the CRVs Gone?". As required by California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the City of Stanton is responding to the findings and recommendations included in the report.

Findings

F1: 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.

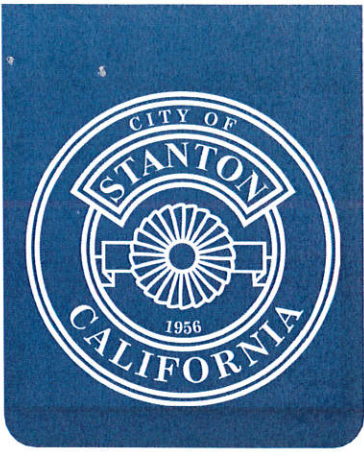
Response: The Respondent partially disagrees with the findings.

The City of Stanton has a public buyback recycling center located within City limits, operated by CR&R. The facility accepts CRV beverage containers for redemption, and accurate information on the recycling center is easily found online. However, based on the information provided in the report, this finding may be true for other residents throughout Orange County.

F2: Because redemption site locations have diminished in number, waste haulers are the beneficiaries to the CRV fees paid originally by resident consumers.

Response: The Respondent partially disagrees with the findings.

Without additional data for all 33 Orange County cities, it is difficult to affirm this finding is reflective of each city's situation; however, based on the information provided in the report, there are trends that support the finding.



F3: 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.

Response: The Respondent partially disagrees with the findings.

The City of Stanton seeks out and applies for CalRecycle programs and grants for which the City is eligible. Without additional data for all 33 Orange County cities, it is difficult to affirm this finding is reflective of each city's situation.

Recommendations

R1: 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.

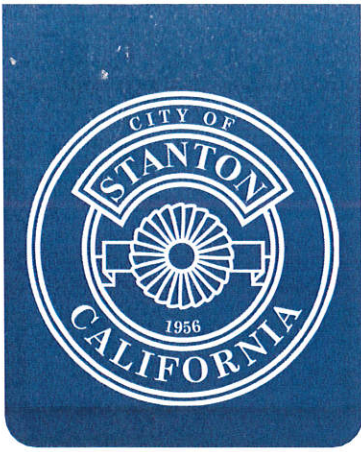
Response: The recommendation has been implemented.

The City of Stanton regularly applies for, receives, and utilizes CalRecycle's Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program on an annual basis. Additionally, the City reviews and applies for similar grants for which the City is eligible.

R2: 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.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable.

The City of Stanton will not implement this recommendation because both the Agency (OC Waste & Recycling) and the focus areas (unincorporated Orange County) are not within the City's jurisdiction, control, or authority.



R3: 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.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

The City is currently negotiating a new Franchise Agreement with its waste and recycling hauler and will review CRV funds and revenues as part of the overall process.

R4: 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.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

The City currently includes general recycling information on its website and will work with the City's communication team to develop a more focused outreach program within the next four to six months.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Hannah Shin-Heydorn, City Manager, at (714) 890-4277 or via email at hshinheydorn@StantonCA.gov.

Respectfully,

David J. Shawver
Mayor

Cc: Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701