

32400 PASEO ADELANTO  
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675  
(949) 493-1171  
(949) 493-1053 FAX  
www.sanjuancapistrano.org



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March 29, 2023

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

**RE: City of San Juan Capistrano Progress Report to Orange County Grand Jury Report Entitled “Where Have All the CRVs Gone?”**

Dear Honorable Judge Larsh:

Please accept this letter as the City of San Juan Capistrano’s progress report on the applicable recommendations in the Grand Jury’s report entitled “Where Have All the CRVs Gone?” The City was requested to report on the progress being made on each recommendation accepted but not completed (i.e., R1 and R4 for the City of San Juan Capistrano). Each recommendation is listed below in italics, followed by the City’s response.

### **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. (F3)*

City Response: The City has received funding from the CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling City/County Payment Program. These funds have been used to purchase water bottle filling stations for the Community Center, Gymnasium, and two park facilities. This option has multiple benefits that help reduce single use bottles, saves money for residents, is an environmentally friendly option, and encourages healthy habits. The City continues to research available CalRecycle CRV grant opportunities and approaches taken by other public agencies. The City has also reached out to *Recycle from Home* to explore alternative CRV program options.

*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. (F1, F3)*

City Response: This recommendation will continue to require further analysis as to the potential efficacy of additional community outreach programs to increase CRV redemption participation. The City continues to provide up-to-date information on the City’s website for residents to explore multiple recycling options and locations. City staff also provide resources and information upon request.

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Thank you for the opportunity to respond. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tom Toman, Director of Public Works, at (949) 234-4580.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Siegel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ben" and last name "Siegel" clearly distinguishable.

Benjamin Siegel  
City Manager

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