



CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

(714) 741-5104

March 14, 2017

Carrie L. Carmody, Ph.D.
Foreperson
2016-2017 Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Steven R. Jones

Mayor

Phat Bui

Mayor Pro Tem - District 4

Kris Beard

Council Member - District 1

John R. O'Neill

Council Member - District 2

Thu-Ha Nguyen

Council Member - District 3

Stephanie Klopfenstein

Council Member - District 5

Kim Bernice Nguyen

Council Member - District 6

RE: Progress Report on Recommendations from 2015-16 Grand Jury Report "Drones:
Know Before You Fly"

Dear Foreperson Carmody:

The following update is provided in response to your letter dated January 25, 2017, requesting a progress report on recommendations agreed to by the City of Garden Grove regarding drone regulations.

R.1. Each City Council should direct its City Attorney to provide a report to the city's police department and City Council on existing laws that can be applied to the use of recreational drones in the city's jurisdiction by December 30, 2016.

Update: This recommendation was implemented through a verbal update provided by the City Attorney regarding existing laws that apply to the use of recreational drones. A written report will also be provided in conjunction with the proposed recreational drone ownership and operation ordinance that is planned to be brought before the City Council on March 28, 2017.

R.2. Each City should adopt a recreational drone ownership and operation ordinance, with regulations similar to those found in Los Angeles City ordinance #183912, by March 31, 2017, to the extent not preempted or superseded by Federal law or Federal Regulations.

Update: The City is working in cooperation with the Association of California Cities-Orange County (ACC-OC) to develop a model recreational drone ownership and operation ordinance. A draft ordinance has been submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for feedback and is anticipated to be presented to the ACC-OC Board for ratification on March 22, 2017. Upon receipt of a final model ordinance, the City will schedule the appropriate approval process. At this time, it is anticipated the ordinance will be brought before the Garden Grove City Council for consideration and approval on March 28, 2017.

R.3. Each City should inform its citizens about laws and ordinances that apply to recreational drone operators through print media, city-related websites, social media sites and/or public forums by March 31, 2017.

Update: Information regarding recreational drone operators has been posted on the Garden Grove Police Department website with links also added to the City and Fire Department websites: <https://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/police/information-on-drones>; <http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/OpenGov>; <http://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/fire>. Additional information will be posted on the City's social media sites and in print media following adoption of the proposed City drone ownership and operation ordinance later this month.

R.4. Each City should establish and publish on its website a point of contact for drone-related citizen complaints by December 30, 2016.

Update: The City's website has been updated to provide information outlining how community members can report complaints about drone activity. Specifically, the public can contact Sergeant Pete Arriano at 714-741-5857 or pedroa@ci.garden-grove.ca.us for non-emergency complaints and inquiries. To report an emergency, the public can contact Garden Grove Police Dispatch at 911 or 714-741-5704.

R.5. Each City should post FAA drone ownership and operation educational links on city-related websites, newsletters, and flyers by December 30, 2016.

Update: Information on drone operation and ownership has been posted on the City's website and includes links to FAA data and other educational information, including rules and regulations pertaining to drones: <https://www.ci.garden-grove.ca.us/police/information-on-drones>. Additional information will be included in City print media following adoption of the proposed City drone ownership and operation ordinance later this month.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update to the Grand Jury regarding this important issue. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Maria Stipe, Deputy City Manager, at (714) 741-5106.

Sincerely,


Steven R. Jones
Mayor