



July 1, 2009

The Honorable Kim Dunning  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Judge Dunning:

On behalf of the City of Laguna Beach, I am responding to the Orange County Grand Jury report entitled "*Paper Water*." We were asked to respond to the findings F.1, F.2 and R.1.

F.1 – We disagree that there is inadequate coordination, at least as far as the City of Laguna Beach and Laguna Beach County Water District are concerned. The City Council serves as the Board of Directors for the Laguna Beach County Water District. The water supply plans are based upon the City's General Plan to ensure adequate coordination. In addition, Laguna Beach is about 99% built out, so the issue of water supplies for future growth is not a significant issue in our community.

F.2 – While this may have been a true statement a year ago, we disagree that it is accurate today. In fact, the water crisis has a great deal of public attention at this point. Serving as the Board of Directors in the Laguna Beach County Water District, the City Council recently enacted a program to reduce water usage in our community. Previously, the City has enacted code sections that require drought tolerant native landscaping in all new construction. The Laguna Beach County Water District is also involved in the possible desalinization plan in South Orange County which illustrates the recognition of a very serious problem.

R.1 – As indicated previously, there is very little additional growth planned in Laguna Beach. Our General Plan reflects all of the mandated elements as required by the State. While the concept of a water element may be important to growing communities in Orange County, we do not believe it is essential or necessary in Laguna Beach given the close cooperation between the Water District and the City.

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While we may not agree with some of the specific findings in the report as they relate to Laguna Beach, we nonetheless appreciate the preparation of the Grand Jury's report. It does provide a cogent summary of the water issues in Orange County. Each member of our Council and key staff members will be receiving a copy of the report so that they are aware of the many facets of the issue. Please pass on our appreciation to members of the Grand Jury for preparing this helpful document.

Sincerely,



Kelly Boyd  
Mayor

cc: City Council  
General Manager, Laguna Beach County Water District