



City of Villa Park

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September 1, 2009

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

Dear Judge Dunning:

On behalf of the City of Villa Park, I am responding to the Grant Jury Report titled "*Paper Water*" – *Does Orange County Have A Reliable Future?* We were asked to respond to findings F.1, F.2, and R.1.


F.1 – We disagree with this conclusion as it relates to Villa Park. Villa Park is virtually built-out, with only a few vacant single-family lots remaining in the City. For that reason, growth management is not a relevant issue for us, nor do we have occasion to critically evaluate the limitations of water agencies' supply projections.

F.2 – We disagree that the public is not concerned about our current water supply crisis; this may have been the case several years ago, but we believe awareness is now heightened and our community is concerned. Serrano Water District and the City of Villa Park have been educating our residents regarding the issues, and we have seen an exponential growth in the number of water conservation-related projects by homeowners. Typical water conservation projects have included the installation of artificial turf, improvements in irrigation controls, and the removal of lawns in favor of drought-tolerant landscaping. The City is supportive of these efforts.

R.1 – The City of Villa Park's General Plan contains all the elements that are required by the state of California. Since the City is virtually built-out, the City does not believe inclusion of a new Water Element in our City's General Plan is necessary or beneficial to the community or the region.

We thank and commend the Grand Jury for its work on this important issue. If you have any questions regarding our responses, please feel free to contact City Manager Lori Sassoon at (714) 998-1500.

Sincerely,



James Rheins
Mayor

Cc: City Council