

SUMMARY:

Approve proposed responses to pending recommendations for FY 2004-2005 Grand Jury Reports.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In March of each year the County Executive Office prepares a follow-up response to the Grand Jury addressing pending recommendations from the prior fiscal years' reports. Pending recommendations contain original responses of "requires further analysis" or "will be implemented in the future". The exhibit in this ASR contains the follow-up responses from all departments that had pending recommendations.

Report: Harbors, Beaches and Parks: Riches to Rags
Released: June 14, 2005

Recommendation #9.1

Autonomy for HBP should be explored in light of the needs of the county.

Original Response

The recommendation requires further analysis

Current Status

The recommendation requires further analysis.

HBP is beginning a detailed strategic planning process which will include hiring a consultant to study whether or not it is feasible for HBP to be a separate department. This strategic planning process will be completed within 18 to 24 months.

Recommendation #9.3

Priority should be given to finding appropriate funding for housing the county's archeological and paleontological treasures.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

RDMD is continuing to work with the cities of Tustin and Irvine on acquiring space at the closed Tustin LTA military base that would be suitable for archeo/paleo artifacts storage.

Recommendation #9.4

A protocol for encouraging, tracking and responding to employee suggestions should be established.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

RDMD is continuing to work with other internal county partners to develop a protocol for employee suggestions and expects completion by June 1, 2006.

Recommendation #9.5

A provision for continuing HBP input on construction of projects should be established.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

RDMD has made improvements in coordination with all internal partners and will have a MOU to formalize these procedures by June 1, 2006.

Recommendation #9.6

Careful analysis of the future costs of deferring maintenance is needed to ensure projects are prioritized properly.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

HBP is requesting funding in the FY 06/07 budget to hire a consultant to perform an analysis of all facility structures and infrastructure to estimate future repair and replacement costs and create software to track deferred maintenance projects.

Recommendation #9.8

HBP, the OC Board of Supervisors, and employee unions should continue to work together to provide citation authority to park rangers.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has been implemented
Park Rangers were given citation authority as of January 3, 2006.

Recommendation #9.9

All beneficiaries of harbor patrol services, including coastal cities, should contribute to costs. HBP should be consulted about the appropriate level of service to be provided by harbor patrol at HBP expense.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future
The County Executive Office is working with HBP and the Sheriff to find new ways to fund the costs associated with Harbor Patrol.

Recommendation #9.10

The county planning department should better coordinate with HBP so RDMD speaks with one voice to ensure easements and dedicated land in new developments meet the county's needs.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
RDMD has continued to make improvements in coordination with HBP and will have a formal MOU in place by June 1, 2006.

Recommendation #9.11

HBP should establish an ongoing program to obtain and use information from visitors regarding their experiences and perceptions of parks and programs.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

Surveys will be conducted and incorporated as part of the HBP strategic plan and will continue annually once the strategic plan has been implemented.

Recommendation #9.12

HBP should hire an interpretive specialist or establish an alternative way to ensure interpretive programs are appropriate, accurate, cost-effective, and consistent system wide.

Original Response

The recommendation requires further analysis

Current Status

The recommendation requires further analysis.

RDMD is continuing to evaluate interpretive programs and will make a final decision on how to staff the programs with the next several months.

Recommendation #9.13

Business practice analysis should be extended to all levels of HBP.

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

RDMD is currently evaluating business practices to determine where if any efficiencies can be created. This process will be completed within the next several months.

Recommendation #9.15

As part of the strategic planning process, HBP lands and facilities should be analyzed for their appropriateness as county-level holdings

Original Response

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future

Current Status

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

RDMD and HBP have continued to identify lands that do not fit within the HBP core business and with Board approval have transferred some properties. This will be further evaluated with the HBP Strategic Plan that will be completed within the next 18 to 24 months.