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Noel Hatch Mayor

July 17, 2024

Shari L. Horne Mayor Pro Tem

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge of the Superior Court

Cynthia S. Conners Councilmember

700 Civic Center Drive West

Annie McCary Councilmember Santa Ana, CA 92701

Carol Moore Councilmember

City of Laguna Woods' Response to the 2023-2024 Orange County Grand SUBJECT:

Jury Report, "E-bikes Friend or Foe"

Christopher Macon City Manager

Dear Judge Hernandez:

Thank you for the report and for the time and effort involved in preparing it.

Per the Orange County Grand Jury's request, and in accordance with California Penal Code Section 933, please find the City of Laguna Woods' response to the subject report attached. The response was approved by the Laguna Woods City Council on July 17, 2024.

If you have any questions or would like any additional information, please contact Christopher Macon, City Manager, at (949) 639-0512 or cmacon@cityoflagunawoods.org.

Sincerely,

Mayor

Attachment: A – City of Laguna Woods' Response to the 2023-2024 Orange County Grand Jury

Report, "E-bikes Friend or Foe"

cc: Orange County Grand Jury 700 Civic Center Drive West

Santa Ana, CA 92701

ATTACHMENT A

City of Laguna Woods' Response to the 2023-2024 Orange County Grand Jury Report, "E-bikes Friend or Foe"

FINDINGS

F1. The majority of Orange County's 34 cities do not have ordinances or policies in place, which makes it difficult to address the safe operation and regulation of E-bikes leading to confusion.

Response: The City of Laguna Woods agrees with this finding.

F2. Due to the increasing incidence of E-bike injuries and deaths, there is a need for consistent and accurate tracking by law enforcement and first responders, which does not exist now.

Response: The City of Laguna Woods agrees with this finding.

F3. Training and education on E-bike use and safety varies from city to city causing confusion amongst bike riders.

Response: The City of Laguna Woods agrees with this finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. Each Orange County city should have specific policies that define the rules of the road for use of E-bikes in their communities by December 1, 2024.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, although not by December 1, 2024. The City plans to adopt an ordinance that defines the rules of the road for the use of e-bikes on public streets and on public property in Laguna Woods by June 30, 2025.

R2. Each Orange County city should have a mechanism in place to report accidents, injuries and deaths involving E-bikes by December 1, 2024.

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Accidents, injuries, and deaths involving e-bikes should be reported to the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

R3. Each Orange County city should research and develop outreach and education programs regarding the safe operation of E-bikes for their residents by December 1, 2024.

Response: This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, although not by December 1, 2024. The City plans to research and develop outreach and education programs regarding the safe operation of e-bikes for Laguna Woods residents by June 30, 2025.