"A Caring Community"

110 E. La Habra Boulevard Post Office Box 337 La Habra, CA 90633-0785 Office: (562) 383-4010

Fax: (562) 383-4474

August 20, 2024

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

RE: CITY OF LA HABRA'S TIMELY RESPONSE TO THE 2023-2024 ORANGE COUNTY REPORT ENTITLED, "E-BIKES FRIEND OR FOE"

Dear Judge Hernandez:

Please accept this letter as the City of La Habra's timely response to the 2023-2024 Orange County report entitled, "E-Bikes Friend or Foe," which was received by the City of La Habra on June 20, 2024. On August 19, 2024, the City Council of the City of La Habra reviewed the abovereferenced Grand Jury Report and authorized the delivery of this letter as the City's response to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations pursuant to California Penal Code Section 933. Each of the findings and recommendations is listed below in italics, followed by the City's response.

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: This City AGREES with this finding.

Explanation: The City of La Habra concurs with the concern of the Grand Jury and feels it is important to provide training and education to the community. The City's Police Department further understands the importance of gathering valuable statistics in E-Bike collisions and incidents to better inform the public and improve safety.

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: This City AGREES with this finding.

Explanation: The City of La Habra concurs with the concern of the Grand Jury and feels it is important to provide training and education to the community. The City's Police Department further understands the importance of gathering valuable statistics in E-Bike collisions and incidents to better inform the public and improve safety.

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

Response: This City AGREES with this finding.

Explanation: The City of La Habra concurs with the concern of the Grand Jury and feels it is important to provide training and education to the community. The City's Police Department further understands the importance of gathering valuable statistics in E-Bike collisions and incidents to better inform the public and improve safety.

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

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: The recommendation has been implemented. The La Habra Police Department currently reports accidents, injuries, and deaths through the state-controlled system maintained by the California Highway Patrol.

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

The City of La Habra appreciates the Grand Jury for its research and presentation of material as it pertains to E-bike safety. Thank you for the opportunity to provide responses to the report. Education, training, and regulation of E-bikes allow for safer communities and provide a better quality of life for all who live, work, and visit Orange County. Please contact Police Chief Adam Foster at (562) 383-4300 should you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

Daren Nigsarian

Mayor

cc: Orange County Grand Jury, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701